



Forum on the Prevention of Crime Act 1959

3 Dec 2013 (Tuesday)
5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Shahzan Inn Kuantan
Lot Pt 240, Jalan Bukit Ubi/Jalan Masjid
25000 Kuantan, Pahang

Training Category: General
Practice Area: General

On 25 Sept 2013, the Government tabled the amendments to the Prevention of Crime Act 1959 ("PCA"). These amendments to the PCA were subsequently passed by Parliament on 11 Oct 2013 as the Prevention of Crime (Amendment and Extension) Act 2013.

The amendments have wide and serious ramifications to civil liberties, the criminal justice system, and the administration of justice as a whole. In essence, the new PCA contains provisions that revive some of the most offensive elements of the Internal Security Act 1960 ("ISA") and Emergency (Public Order and Prevention of Crime) Ordinance 1969 ("EO"), through the re-introduction of preventive detention without trial, repeated renewals of such detention without trial, the denial of basic rights of suspected persons to due process of law including the denial of the right to legal representation, and the right to be heard before any adverse direction or decision is made. It is therefore necessary to understand that the purported safeguards, such as the establishment of the Prevention of Crime Board and the right of judicial review against any orders imposed by the Board for preventive detention without trial, are insufficient or illusory.

The Malaysian Bar takes the view that the amendments to the PCA are, as a whole, abhorrent and a gross violation of the rule of law and the constitutional safeguards enshrined in the Constitution. These amendments are unnecessary in the fight against serious and organised crime. The Malaysian Bar has always been, and still is, against detention without trial.

What if someone you know is deprived of his or her freedom or civil liberties without due process? Detention without trial runs counter to the rule of law, the rules of natural justice, and the basic principle of the criminal justice system, namely, that a person is innocent until proven guilty.

It is on this premise that the Bar Council is embarking on public forums in various states, to brief and hold dialogues on the amendments to the PCA, with Members of the Bar and the public.

About the Speakers

Christopher Leong is the President of the Malaysian Bar. He has extensive experience in the area of constitutional and administrative law.

Steven Thiru is the Vice-President of the Malaysian Bar. He has appeared at all levels of the courts in Malaysia and has argued a number of administrative law and native rights points.

Richard Wee Thiam Seng, the Secretary of the Malaysian Bar, will be speaking in his capacity as Chairperson of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee, a committee formed to combat the country's escalating crime rate.

Registration for the forum will begin at 4:30 pm.

Admission is free but advance registration is required

CPD Code: T3/03122013/BC/PHG3787/2

I would like to register for the event (all fields must be completed):

Name: _____

☐ Member ☐ Non-Member (Tick where applicable)

Email Add: _____

Membership No (for Members of the Bar only): _____

Name of Firm/Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____ Fax No: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Places are limited and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Points for the Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") Scheme will not be awarded to Members of the Bar who arrive more than 15 minutes late, are not present throughout the event, or leave before its scheduled end.

Please direct all correspondence and enquiries to:

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