

Legal Profession (Regulated Individuals) Rules 2015

Table of Contents

Enacting Formula

Part 1 PRELIMINARY

1 Citation and commencement

2 Definitions

3 Registration required to provide legal services

4 Permitted areas of legal practice

Part 2 REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN LAWYERS AND RELATED MATTERS

5 Application for registration of foreign lawyer under section 36B of Act

6 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36B of Act

7 Application for registration of foreign lawyer under section 36C of Act

8 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36C of Act

9 Application for registration of foreign lawyer under section 36D of Act

10 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36D of Act

11 Qualification to be consultant of, or use title of foreign law consultant in, Singapore law practice

12 Part not to apply to solicitor with practising certificate

Part 3 REGISTRATION OF SOLICITORS PRACTISING IN JOINT LAW VENTURES AND FOREIGN LAW PRACTICES

13 Application for registration of solicitor under section 36E of Act

14 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36E of Act

15 Application for registration of solicitor under section 36F of Act

16 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36F of Act

Part 4 REGISTRATION OF REGULATED NON-PRACTITIONERS

17 Application for registration of regulated non-practitioner under section 36G of Act

18 Privileges and conditions relevant to registration under section 36G of Act

Part 5 GENERAL

19 Forms and fees

20 Period of validity and renewal of registration

21 Power to waive or modify conditions or requirements

22 Power to require information, etc.

23 Register

24 Amendment and issuance of certificates, etc.

25 Cancellation of registration in certain circumstances

26 Consultation with Council

27 Appeal against decision of Director of Legal Services

28 Savings and transitional provisions

FIRST SCHEDULE Specified quasi-judicial and regulatory bodies, authorities and tribunals

SECOND SCHEDULE Fees

No. S 701

**LEGAL PROFESSION ACT
(CHAPTER 161)**

**LEGAL PROFESSION
(REGULATED INDIVIDUALS) RULES 2015**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 36M of the Legal Profession Act, the Minister for Law makes the following Rules:

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Regulated Individuals) Rules 2015 and come into operation on 18 November 2015.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“general threshold requirements” means the following requirements, all of which must be satisfied by a Singapore law practice:

- (a) the number of solicitors practising in the Singapore law practice is at least 2 times the total number of regulated foreign lawyers (if any) who practise in, are directors, partners or shareholders in, or share in the profits of, the Singapore law practice;
- (b) the number of solicitors who are partners, directors or managers (as the case may be) of the Singapore law practice is at least 2 times the total number of regulated foreign lawyers (if any) who are partners or directors (as the case may be) of the Singapore law practice;
- (c) the managing partner, managing director or manager (as the case may be) of the Singapore law practice is a solicitor;
- (d) the regulated foreign lawyers (if any) who practise in, who are directors, partners or shareholders in or who share in the profits of the Singapore law practice, and the foreign law practices (if any) which have approval under section 176(9) of the Act to be shareholders in or to share in the profits of the Singapore law practice, collectively —
 - (i) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than one-third of the total voting rights exercisable in respect of the management of the Singapore law practice;
 - (ii) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than one-third of the total voting rights exercisable by the partners or shareholders (as the case may be) of the Singapore law practice; and
 - (iii) hold not more than one-third of the total value of equity interests in the Singapore law practice;
- (e) the regulated non-practitioners (if any) in the Singapore law practice —
 - (i) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than 25% of the total voting rights exercisable in respect of the management of the Singapore law practice;

- (ii) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than 25% of the total voting rights exercisable by the partners or shareholders (as the case may be) in the Singapore law practice; and
 - (iii) hold not more than 25% of the total value of equity interests in the Singapore law practice;
- (f) where there are one or more regulated foreign lawyers who practise in, who are directors, partners or shareholders in, or who share in the profits of, the Singapore law practice, or one or more foreign law practices which have approval under section 176(9) of the Act to be shareholders in or to share in the profits of the Singapore law practice, and there are one or more regulated non-practitioners in the Singapore law practice, all of them collectively —
 - (i) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than 35% of the total voting rights exercisable in respect of the management of the Singapore law practice;
 - (ii) are entitled to exercise or control the exercise of not more than 35% of the total voting rights exercisable by the partners or shareholders (as the case may be) in the Singapore law practice; and
 - (iii) hold not more than 35% of the total value of equity interests in the Singapore law practice;

“profit threshold requirements” means the following requirements, all of which must be satisfied by a Singapore law practice that distributes its profits to any person who is not a solicitor practising in the Singapore law practice:

- (a) the total amount of payments made by the Singapore law practice, during any financial year of the Singapore law practice, to all of the following does not exceed one-third of the total profits of the Singapore law practice during that financial year, based on the audited financial statement of the Singapore law practice for that financial year:
 - (i) foreign lawyers (if any) who have approval under section 176(1) of the Act to share in the profits of the Singapore law practice;