



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF SINGAPORE

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**MEDIA RELEASE
(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)**

NEW LEGAL CLINICS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

The Law Society of Singapore will be launching a new initiative, known as the “Community Organizations Legal Clinic” (COLC) on 17 September 2010 to provide free basic legal advice and information for non-profit organizations. The COLC offers charities, voluntary welfare organizations, non-profit organizations and social enterprises in Singapore which are meeting community concerns or needs, an opportunity to consult a volunteer lawyer on a one-to-one basis for 30 minutes.

The Community Organizations Legal Clinics will be held twice a month at the Law Society Pro Bono Services Office, located in the Subordinate Courts level 5, between 1pm - 2pm every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month (excluding public holidays and eve of public holidays).

President of the Law Society, Mr Wong Meng Meng SC, says, “With the increased regulations governing the charity and non-profit sector in recent years, many organizations are facing more complex legal issues. The Community Organisation Legal Clinics is a timely and much-needed community project by the Law Society to provide an accessible and free avenue for the non-profit sector to obtain basic legal advice. It also provides an additional opportunity for lawyers, especially corporate lawyers, to contribute to society in their areas of expertise.”

Organisations will need to pre-register for the clinic by downloading the application form from the Law Society’s website at www.lawsociety.org.sg and returning the same via fax at 6534 5237 or emailing to probonoservices@lawsoc.org.sg.

About the Law Society’s Pro Bono Services

The Law Society’s Pro Bono Services Office was launched in 2007 as part of the Society’s mission of ensuring access to justice. The Office administers all pro bono initiatives of the Law Society. In addition to the Community Organisation Legal Clinics, our programmes include:

1. The **Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS)**, which provides free legal representation for needy people facing non-capital criminal charges. Our volunteer lawyers have assisted thousands of

people under this scheme and the Law Society commemorates the 25th anniversary of CLAS this year.

2. The **Community Legal Clinics**, which provide free basic legal advice to Singaporeans and Permanent Residents on personal legal problems. These clinics, which are again manned by volunteer lawyers, run 4 nights a week from Mondays to Thursdays (except for PH and eve of PH) and have helped nearly 7,000 people since its inception in 2007.
3. The **Project Law Help** initiative, which matches qualifying non-profit organisations with law practices willing to offer voluntary legal services; and
4. The **Law Awareness** initiative, which is a continuing public education effort to raise public awareness of the law by way of exhibitions, publications and talks to community organisations;

To find out more about the above mentioned schemes, you may wish to log on to the Law Society website at www.lawsociety.org.sg.

About the Law Society

Established in 1967, the Law Society of Singapore is a body established under the Legal Profession Act. It carries out various statutory functions prescribed under the Legal Profession Act, including maintaining and improving the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Singapore, the facilitation of the acquisition of legal knowledge by members of the legal profession, and protecting and assisting the public in all matters ancillary or incidental to the law.

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