

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ORDINANCE (Chapter 159)

ORDER THAT A SOLICITOR BE SUSPENDED FROM PRACTISING  
CHENG CHUN CHUNG

In accordance with section 12(2) of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Chapter 159), I hereby give notice that on 20 June 2023 the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of the Applicant, the Law Society of Hong Kong from the Order of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal ('Tribunal') dated 13 September 2021 ('the Appeal'), whereby it was ordered that:—

- (1) The 1st Respondent (the Respondent in the Appeal) be suspended from practice as a solicitor for a period of 30 months from the date of filing of this order, followed by a temporal restriction from practising as a partner or principal of a firm but only as an assistant solicitor under the supervision of a solicitor of not less than 15 years standing with no disciplinary record for a period of 3 years commencing from the date when the 1st Respondent resumed practice as a solicitor for Complaints 1 and 3;
- (2) The 1st Respondent be censured and fined HK\$30,000 for Complaint 2;
- (3) The 1st Respondent be fined HK\$100,000 for Complaint 4;
- (4) The 1st Respondent be fined HK\$30,000 for Complaint 5;
- (5) The 1st Respondent be fined HK\$50,000 for Complaint 6;
- (6) The 1st Respondent be fined HK\$40,000 for Complaint 7; and
- (7) The costs of and incidental to these proceedings, including the costs of the Applicant in investigating into the matter and in prosecuting the Complaints and the costs of the Clerk, which have been summarily assessed in the sum of HK\$28,271 to the Clerk, HK\$189,740.55 to the Law Society and HK\$120,000 to the Prosecutor, be borne and paid by the 1st and 2nd Respondents in the apportionment of 70% and 30% respectively.

Upon the Respondent's undertaking that in respect of Complaints 1 and 3 laid down in the Complaint Sheet dated 22 June 2020, the Respondent be suspended from practice as a solicitor for a period of 30 months from the date of the Order dated 13 September 2021, followed by a temporal restriction from practising as a partner or principal of a firm but only as an assistant solicitor for a period of 5 years commencing from the date when the Respondent resumes practice as a solicitor on the following conditions:—

- (i) the Respondent shall not be permitted to handle money in the clients' accounts;
- (ii) the Respondent's duties shall be limited to civil litigation works;
- (iii) the Respondent shall not sign any outgoing letters or other documents on behalf of the firm; and
- (iv) the Respondent shall be under the supervision of a solicitor of not less than 15 years standing with no disciplinary record.

The Court of Appeal on 20 June 2023 ordered that:—

- (1) The Appeal be dismissed; and
- (2) Costs of the Appeal together with costs of application for leave to appeal be to the Respondent.

The Order of the Court of Appeal dated 20 June 2023 was filed by the Clerk to the Tribunal with the Registrar on 24 July 2023.

27 July 2023

Simon KWANG Registrar, High Court