

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

PRACTICE DIRECTION 9.1.1

[Formerly PDR 2013, para 35; PDR 1989, chap 1, para 26(b)]

COUNCIL RULING: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Various authorities, such as the Comptroller of Income Tax, Commercial Affairs Department, and Official Assignee have in recent years called upon members of the Bar to supply certain particulars or to produce certain documents in respect of matters which the solicitors (as defined by the Act) in question were acting for the client.

The requests by these authorities were made pursuant to their powers under the relevant legislation.

The Council's stand is that it is a legal practitioner's ethical duty to satisfy himself/herself that the power invoked exists and has been validly exercised, and to make the necessary submissions on the client's behalf (in the absence of the client's instructions to the contrary) if there is anything more than a frivolous argument that these conditions are not met if the particulars or documents sought are protected by legal professional privilege.

Date: 1 June 2018

THE COUNCIL OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE