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Index Reference :

Regulations: Legal Practitioners Ordinance, Practice Directions and Rules

CIRCULAR 23-264 (SD)

4 May 2023

## 23-264 (SD) GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATIONS FOR REMOVAL OF SUPERVISION CONDITION FROM THE CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION AS A FOREIGN LAWYER

- 1. An applicant may apply to the Law Society to remove the supervision condition from his certificate of registration as a foreign lawyer by statutory declaration. The guidelines for this kind of applications as set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Circular 10-66 have been updated and the application procedures streamlined. The statutory declaration must include the following information:-
  - (a) The jurisdiction upon which the applicant's registration as a foreign lawyer is based;
  - (b) The period(s) of supervised practice completed by the applicant in the foreign firm(s) and/or Hong Kong firm(s) ("**firm(s**)") for the purpose of calculating the period of "at least 2 years of post-qualification experience in the full-time practice of foreign law", as required under section 5(2) of the Foreign Lawyers Registration Rules, stating:
    - (i) the exact dates of commencing and ceasing of employment(s);
    - (ii) the position(s) held;
    - (iii) the law(s) of the jurisdiction(s) which the applicant has practised full-time under supervision;
    - (iv) the nature of work undertaken or practice area(s); and
    - (v) the name(s) of the applicant's direct supervisor(s).

The applicant's statutory declaration should exhibit certified copies of letter(s) issued by a principal of each of the firm(s) to support the information in the above paragraphs(a) and (b).

- 2. The Law Society reserves its right to ask for more supporting information and documents.
- 3. The application fee is HK\$3,800.
- 4. This Circular is mandatory and superseded paragraphs 8 and 9 of <u>Circular 10-66 (SD)</u>.