



Statement by The Law Society of Hong Kong
in Response to Concerns regarding the Disciplinary Proceedings and Findings against
Mr. Yam Kin Fung, also known as Kevin Yam

The Law Society of Hong Kong (“The Law Society”) wishes to address recent concerns regarding the disciplinary proceedings and findings against Mr. Yam Kin Fung, also known as Kevin Yam (“Mr. Yam”).

As a statutory self-regulatory body for solicitors in Hong Kong, The Law Society is entrusted with the duty to uphold the highest professional standards and maintain public confidence in the legal profession. The Law Society acts independently and apolitically, faithfully carrying out its regulatory responsibilities in accordance with the law.

On 11 May 2023, Mr. Yam appeared via video link at a hearing of the United States Congress’ Congressional-Executive Commission on China (“CECC Hearing”), as part of which Mr. Yam provided both oral testimony (“Oral Testimony”) and written testimony (“Written Testimony”) to the CECC. In both testimonies, Mr. Yam identified himself as a Hong Kong legal professional who has practised law in the jurisdiction. In the Oral Testimony, Mr. Yam called for sanctions to be imposed by the United States Government on judges and/or prosecutors in Hong Kong for their involvement in national security and/or politically related cases. In the Written Testimony, Mr. Yam called for sanctions to be imposed by the United States Government on prosecutors in Hong Kong for their involvement in national security and/or politically related cases. The CECC Hearing was open to the public and the live recording is publicly available on CECC’s YouTube channel. The Written Testimony was also (and still is) publicly available.

When Mr. Yam undertook the above acts, he was a solicitor and an officer of the Court¹ within the meaning of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap.159 of Hong Kong) (“the Ordinance”).

Following receipt of 228 public complaints, including one from the Secretary for Justice, The Law Society referred the matter concerning Mr. Yam’s conduct to the independent Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal (“the Tribunal”). The Tribunal which operates independently from The Law Society and whose members are appointed by the Chief Justice, found that a *prima facie* case had been established against Mr. Yam in respect of the complaint that he had on 11 May 2023 engaged in conduct unbefitting a solicitor by calling for sanctions against Hong Kong

¹ Section 3(2) of the Legal Practitioners Ordinance provides that every solicitor shall be an officer of the Court.

judges and prosecutors, thereby compromising his integrity, his own reputation and the reputation of the profession, contrary to common law. Accordingly, a notice of hearing was issued to the parties including Mr. Yam and a hearing was subsequently fixed. Documents relating to the Tribunal proceedings were duly served on Mr Yam.

Proceedings were conducted before the Tribunal in accordance with the due process of law, with Mr. Yam represented by an Australian law firm. Both Mr. Yam and his legal representatives were absent at the Tribunal hearing on 16 July 2025. On 22 July 2025, the Tribunal considered that Mr. Yam's misconduct was grave and serious and ordered that:

1. the Respondent be struck off from the Roll of Solicitors; and
2. the Respondent do pay the costs and disbursements of the Law Society, the Prosecutor and the Clerk to the Tribunal, in a total sum of HK\$816,600 within 28 days from the date of service of the Order.

The Tribunal's decision was subject to appeal to the Court of Appeal. After the expiry of the time of filing an appeal by Mr. Yam, the Registrar of the High Court of Hong Kong published an order for striking off from the Roll of Solicitors in the Gazette on 22 August 2025.

It is important to clarify that the Tribunal's findings were based solely on professional conduct and not on any alleged criminal offence or political opinion. The Law Society reiterates that solicitors, as officers of the Court, are bound to uphold the integrity of the profession and the rule of law. The disciplinary process is designed to protect the public, maintain the reputation of the profession, and maintain public confidence in the administration of justice.

Hong Kong remains a common law jurisdiction under the principle of "One Country, Two Systems". Article 8 of the Basic Law expressly provides for the maintenance of the common law system, which is characterized by its reliance on judicial precedent and case law. The disciplinary standards applied in this case are consistent with those established in leading common law jurisdictions, ensuring that the legal profession in Hong Kong continues to operate with integrity and in accordance with international standards.

The Law Society remains committed to its statutory role as an independent, self-regulatory professional body, to perform faithfully its important duty as gatekeeper of standards and regulator of the profession in the interest of the public, and to uphold the highest level of professional conduct and the rule of law in Hong Kong.

The Law Society of Hong Kong

1 September 2025