

LAWSOCIETY 香港律師會

115_{th}

3/F WING ON HOUSE · 71 DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL · HONG KONG DX-009100 Central 1 香港中環德輔道中71號汞安集團大廈3字樓

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From the President 會長信箋

致 傳媒編輯/ 採訪主任:

香港律師會會長就傳媒報道有關律師事務所收費投訴之回應

本人留意到有傳媒報道有關律師事務所收費的投訴。律師會不評論個別個案,但我希望藉此機會強調,律師會非常重視會員的操守,當中包括律師如何收費。

在不評論個別個案的前提下,我希望指出《香港事務律師專業操守指引》就律師收費作出了明確指示。當中第 4.01 條規定,律師應盡量向當事人提供關於代表當事人處理有關事宜所可能牽涉的費用的最佳資料;第 4.10 條規定,律師的事務費單必須載有收費詳情,亦即足以辨別該帳單所涉事宜的資料;第 4.13 條規定,律師不得濫收費用;第 4.12 條則規定,假如律師與當事人就帳單出現爭拗或當事人對帳單提出疑問,則當事人應獲告知(最好以書面獲告知)他有權申請由法庭對該帳單進行評定。

若律師會有理由相信任何律師違反了相關規定,本會將按照符合《法律執業者條例》 的程序進行調查。如有需要,律師會會將案件轉介至律師紀律審裁組召集人安排進行 紀律聆訊。由於所有專業操守調查均屬保密,律師會不能透露詳情。

> 香港律師會會長 陳澤銘 2023年2月8日



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From the President 會長信箋

To Editor/ Assignment Editor:

Response from President of The Law Society of Hong Kong to Media Reports about a Complaint related to Legal Fees Charged by a Law Firm

I note from media reports about a complaint related to legal fees charged by a law firm. The Law Society will not comment on individual cases, but I would like to take this opportunity to stress that the Law Society attaches great importance to the conduct of its members, including how they charge clients.

Without reference to any individual cases, I would like to point out that the Hong Kong Solicitors' Guide to Professional Conduct provides clear guidelines on solicitors' fees. Principle 4.01 provides that a solicitor should normally give his client the best information he can under the circumstances about the likely costs of the matter; Principle 4.10 provides that the bill of costs must contain sufficient information to identify the matter to which it relates; Principle 4.13 provides that a solicitor must not overcharge; Principle 4.12 provides that if a dispute arises on a bill or a query is raised about a bill, the client must be told, preferably in writing, of his right to apply to have the bill taxed.

If there is reason to believe that any solicitor has breached any rules, the Law Society will investigate in accordance with the procedures under the Legal Practitioners Ordinance. The Law Society may also refer a case to the Tribunal Convenor of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal for a disciplinary hearing where necessary. As all professional conduct investigations are confidential, the Law Society will not disclose any relevant details.

Yours sincerely,

C. M. Chan President of The Law Society of Hong Kong 8 February 2023