

'Choose your own Assigned Solicitor' PILOT PROGRAMME

From 1 August 2023, the Legal Aid Bureau (LAB), a department of the Ministry of Law, is running a pilot programme which allows applicants of legal aid to choose their preferred Assigned Solicitors.



Who can take part?

The pilot programme is open to applicants who wish to initiate civil divorce proceedings, and have not commenced proceedings yet. If your spouse has started divorce proceedings against you, you cannot participate in this pilot programme. Please file your Memorandum of Appearance (MOA) at CrimsonLogic Service Bureau (located at the State Courts) within 8 days from the day you were served the court documents. Thereafter, you may come to LAB to apply for aid.

How can I participate?

First, please register for a case on our Applicant's Portal (go.gov.sg/mlawlabesvc) and complete a financial questionnaire. You will be notified if you are eligible for legal aid, and may approach your preferred Assigned Solicitor directly thereafter. If the Assigned Solicitor agrees to act for you, he/she will submit the application on your behalf.



After your legal aid application is submitted, you will need to pass the means and merits tests before the Assigned Solicitor starts work on your case. Please note that you may be required to pay a first contribution towards your case. Your Assigned Solicitor is not obliged to commence work for you before aid is granted and the first contribution is fully paid.

Can I choose any Assigned Solicitor?

The Assigned Solicitor you wish to appoint must be on the panel for the pilot programme. Visit go.gov.sg/mlawlabpilotas to find out more.



How will this pilot programme benefit me?

Apart from being able to choose your preferred Assigned Solicitor, your application process for legal aid will be more streamlined as you will no longer need to provide a statement on your legal issue to LAB first. Less time will also be required to assign an Assigned Solicitor to take on your case.



What if I cannot find or do not have a preferred Assigned Solicitor?

Don't worry, you can still apply for legal aid with LAB. As long as you pass the means and merits tests, we will assign a lawyer to assist you. If you have further queries, please call us or submit an online enquiry form at the contact details below.

Assigned Solicitors in the Pilot Programme




Amy Lim

Partner, Amy Lim Law Practice

1 North Bridge Road #08-08
High Street Centre
Singapore 179094

Amy obtained her Law degree from the National University of Singapore in 2003 after giving up her childhood dream of striking the lottery and travelling the world. She decided to start her own firm in order to pursue her interest in **family law**. She brings to the table a unique perspective, having survived an acrimonious and protracted divorce which took 7 years to finalise. Despite all that, she managed to retain her sanity, sense of humour and faith in the justice system. Amy is a strong advocate of the 'peace approach' to resolving family disputes. She is an **accredited family mediator** and is **trained in mediating cross-border family disputes**. She is also a **trained Collaborative Family Practice lawyer**. Amy has been an Assigned Solicitor with the Legal Aid Bureau (LAB) since 2017.

Languages spoken: **English, Malay**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 6.00pm

 Email: amy@amylimlaw.com





Aye Cheng Shone

Sole Proprietor, A C Shone & Co

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Havelock 2
Singapore 059763

Aye Cheng graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Law) and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1994. Her main areas of practice are **family and probate matters**, with **primary focus on family matrimonial law**. Aye Cheng has more than 27 years of experience with the last 20 in family law, with **experience in handling simplified divorces to complex cross-border issues over children and/or high net worth clients**. She has represented clients in divorce trials, ranging from contested divorce hearings, personal protection orders, maintenance orders and division of matrimonial assets hearings in Court. Aye Cheng has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2003.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 5.00pm

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Chong Yue-En

Managing Director, Bethel Chambers LLC


3 Shenton Way #15-09
Shenton House
Singapore 068805

 Wheelchair-accessible


Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.30am to 11.30am and
2.30pm to 4.30pm

Yue-En is the Founder of Bethel Chambers LLC, a boutique law firm specialising in **private client, family and estate law**. His Law degree is from the National University of Singapore and he has a Master of Counselling degree from Monash University (Australia) and Master of Laws degree (Social Care Law) from Cardiff University, UK. His main areas of practice are **mental capacity law and probate and estate law**. He has over 10 years of practice. Yue-En has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2013.

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 Walk in during office hours

 LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/yueen/>



Gloria James-Civetta
Head Lawyer,
Gloria James-Civetta & Co

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Gloria is the Head Lawyer of a law firm dedicated to the practice of **family law**. She is a Barrister-at-Law in UK and an Advocate and Solicitor in Singapore called to the Bar in 1995 and 1996 respectively. She is a **court volunteer mediator** with the State Courts and Family Justice Courts. She is also an **accredited mediator** with Singapore Mediation Centre, and a **family and international cross-border mediator** with MiKK. She was trained as a Mediator at Harvard Law School and an Oxford University trained Negotiator. She is also an **accredited collaborative family practitioner, a court appointed child representative lawyer, a parenting coordinator and a divorce coach**. Gloria is actively practicing in all aspects of family law including both **local and international matrimonial and complex cross-jurisdictional matters pertaining to stay proceedings, child abduction matters, relocation and contested custody cases**. She also handles cases relating to **Child Protective Service, domestic violence and Protection from Harassment Act, adoption, estate and elder law**. Gloria has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2019.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 5.00pm

WhatsApp: 82923100

Walk in during office hours



Jenny Lai
Sole Proprietor, Jenny Lai & Co

101A Upper Cross Street #08-20
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Singapore 058358

Wheelchair-accessible

Jenny set up Jenny Lai & Co in 1998, helmed by Jennifer Lai and herself. Jenny was called to the UK Bar in 1993 after graduating with a Honours degree in Law and Economics (2nd class uppers). She was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1995. Jenny has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2002.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin, Cantonese, simple Hakka**

Office hours: Monday to Saturday,
10.00am to 5.00pm

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Call: 62277347



Jeyanthi d/o Adaikalasamy
Managing Director, Helius Law LLC

135 Middle Road #04-10
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Jeyanthi graduated from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK in 1994 and did her Bar Exams in England. She was admitted to the Singapore Bar as an Advocate and Solicitor in February 1999. Jeyanthi is a compassionate and experienced **family lawyer** with over 22 years of expertise in her field. With her extensive work in **divorce, custody, maintenance, and personal protection orders**, Jeyanthi has helped countless individuals navigate through some of the most challenging times of their lives. But what sets Jeyanthi apart is her unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable individuals. She believes in empowering her clients to take control of their situations, and always goes above and beyond to ensure they receive the best possible outcome. Jeyanthi has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2021.

Languages spoken: **English, Tamil**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.30am to 5.00pm

WhatsApp: 98382301



Jayakumar graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the University of London in 1995. He was admitted to the UK Bar in 1996 and called to the Singapore Bar in 2002 where he commenced his practice as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore, after a 30-year career with the Singapore Police Force. His main areas of practice are **criminal matters, family & probate matters and accident and civil matters**. He has been an Assigned Solicitor for LAB for over 5 years.

K Jayakumar Naidu

Managing Director, Jay Law Corporation

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Wheelchair-accessible

Languages spoken: **English, Tamil**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 6.00pm

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Sharma graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (London). He has 12 years of experience and his areas of practice are **civil, family, criminal and non-contentious matters including wills and probate**. He is an **accredited mediator and arbitrator**. Sharma has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB for 11 years.

Krishna Ramakrishna Sharma

Managing Director, Fleet Street Law LLC

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Languages spoken: **English, Tamil**
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9.00am to 5.00pm

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Charmaine was called to the Bar in 2015 and her main areas of practice are **family and estate work**. With a focus on practical and fair solutions, Charmaine works together with clients to achieve amicable outcomes to all parties involved where possible. She firmly believes in therapeutic justice that the Family Justice Court envisions for divorcing couples and is a patient and understanding listener to those requiring legal assistance and advice. Charmaine has been an Assigned Solicitor with the LAB since 2020. In 2021, Tracy Wang Law Practice was awarded LAB's Outstanding Contribution Award - Law Firm for their contributions to the Bureau.

Lim Charmaine Jillian Phipps

Associate Director, Tracy Wang Law Practice

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Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
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9.00am to 6.00pm

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Loh Wai Mooi

Partner, Bih Li & Lee LLP

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Singapore 179803

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Wai Mooi graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree from the National University of Singapore in 1984 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1985. Her main areas of practice are **family, estate, trust and mental capacity**. Wai Mooi is also a **mediator and child representative**. She has more than 30 years of experience in **family law** and has been actively involved in handling **complex divorce cases** for her clients. She has represented clients in numerous contested trials involving **children matters and the division of matrimonial assets**. Wai Mooi has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB for many years.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin, Cantonese**



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Malcus Poh

Associate Director,
Chung Ting Fai & Co

138 Robinson Road #18-03
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Malcus graduated with a Law degree from the University of Sheffield in 2015 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 2018. His main areas of practice are **family and probate matters**. Malcus has a keen interest and passion for **family law** and has been actively involved in handling **complex divorce cases** for his clients. He has represented clients in numerous contested hearing involving **children matters and the division of matrimonial assets**. Malcus has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2018.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 6.00pm



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Mohamed Fazal Bin Abd Hamid

Partner, IRB Law LLP


Fazal's main areas of practice revolve around **commercial, family, probate and criminal matters**. Commended by a district judge for "passionately advocating" for his client in a particular case, Fazal strives to achieve the best outcome for all his clients. Since getting called to the Bar in 2014, he has appeared in numerous open court contested trials from the High Court, State Court, Family Justice Court, Syariah Court and MUIS Appeal Board of Singapore. He is an **accredited mediator** with the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) and Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI). He is also an **accredited member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCI Arb)**. Fazal holds a Master of Laws (with Merit) specialising in international dispute resolution from the University of London. Fazal also holds a Master of Human Resource Management and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Murdoch. He is pursuing two diplomas in Islamic Studies and in Syariah law. Fazal currently lectures at a tertiary institution on two legal modules namely "Introduction to the Singapore Legal System" and "Singapore Family Law". As a lecturer, he recognises the importance of ensuring that his clients understand their complex legal situations in a manner they can comprehend. Fazal has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2014.


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Languages spoken: **English, Malay**
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 Walk in during office hours



Mohammad Shafiq Bin Haja Maideen


Managing Director, M Shafiq Chambers LLC

Shafiq graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from the National University of Singapore in 2016 and was admitted to the Supreme Court of Singapore as an Advocate and Solicitor in 2017. Shafiq has invaluable experience across a broad and diverse range of litigation matters, including **commercial and civil disputes, family law practice, criminal law as well as corporate practice**. His broad knowledge base and legal experience mean that he is well-equipped to handle civil disputes in various areas such as **contractual disputes, tenancy matters, and defamation claims amongst others**. Shafiq is also actively involved in **family matters including maintenance of spouse and children, personal protection orders, Syariah and civil divorce, as well as wills and probate**. Shafiq has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2017.

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Languages spoken: **English, Tamil**
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Anitha has two degrees and a Masters in Law from London University. She was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 2018. Prior to private practice, Anitha worked at the Attorney General's Chambers and the then-Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. Her main areas of practice are **family law (marriage, probate and children related matters) and criminal law**. She has extensive trial experience and has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2019.

N K Anitha

Director, Anitha & Asoka LLC

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Languages spoken: **English, Tamil**
Office hours: Monday to Friday,
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John holds a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Master of Laws from the National University of Singapore. He graduated in 1982 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1983. His main areas of practice are **matrimonial, probate and commercial matters**. He has more than 20 years of experience in **family law**. He handles **divorce cases, contested and uncontested which include custody, care and control, maintenance and division of matrimonial assets**. John is a Singapore International Mediation Institute **certified mediator**. He is an executive master mediator with the Community Mediation Centre, a senior mediator with the Law Society Mediation Scheme and an associate mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre. John has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 1993.

Ng Lee Chye John

Partner, Michael Khoo & Partners

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Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin, Teochew**
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Richard Siaw Kin Yeow
Director, R. S. Solomon LLC

Richard graduated in 1994 from Monash University Australia with a 1st Class Honours degree in Business and obtained a Master's degree in Management from the University of Cambridge in 1998. He was conferred with a Juris Doctor degree (High Merit) by the Singapore Management University in 2013 and was admitted to practice Singapore law in 2014. He is a general litigator and focuses his practice on **commercial, criminal and family matters**. He also advises high net worth clients on **legacy planning and migration issues**. He has more than 8 years of experience in family law, representing clients in **matters involving children and the division of matrimonial assets**. Richard has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2014. He was awarded the LAB NOVO Award in 2018 and the 5-year Appreciation Award in 2021.

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Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin, Teochew, Hokkien, Cantonese**



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Soh Yan Ru Samantha
Senior Associate, Derrick Soh Law Corporation

Samantha was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 2016. She has almost 7 years of experience in dealing with both contested and non-contested divorce cases. She has represented clients (including expatriate clients) in **contested divorce and ancillary matters such as division of assets, maintenance and child-related issues**. As divorce proceedings can be emotional and stressful, Samantha provides her clients with practical solutions and helps them navigate the murky waters of family law. Samantha has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2017.

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Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
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Walk in during office hours




Steven Lam
Director, Templars Law LLC

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Having graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Second Class Honours (Upper Division)) in 1994, Steven pursued his English Barrister qualification on a scholarship and was called to the Singapore Bar in 1996. Steven is a litigator and **certified arbitrator, mediator, and neutral evaluator, specialising in commercial, employment, international trade, insurance, personal injury, medical malpractice, shipping, and construction disputes**. Steven also practices **community law**, which includes areas such as **estate, probate, family law, mental capacity disputes, and cases relating to the Protection from Harassment Act** (both contested and uncontested basis). Steven appears regularly as Counsel for many of the matters conducted at all levels of the Singapore Court system. Steven has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since the late 1990s.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin, Hokkien, Teochew, Cantonese**

Office hours: Monday to Friday,
9.00am to 6.00pm

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Wang Yishi Tracy
Managing Director,
Tracy Wang Law Practice

1 North Bridge Road #08-08
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Tracy's main practice areas are in **community law** such as **family law, criminal law and general litigation**. Since she was admitted to the Singapore Bar as an Advocate and Solicitor in 2015, Tracy has represented clients from all walks of life on a wide variety of legal matters. With these experiences, she is well-equipped to deliver advice with depth and confidence which is tailored to each and every case distinct. Tracy takes pride in her friendly neighbourhood qualities and ensures that her clients understand their legal rights before providing them with down-to-earth solutions. Tracy is also a Defence Counsel with the Law Society's Criminal Legal Aid Scheme and has been an Assigned Solicitor with LAB since 2017. In 2020, Tracy was awarded the LAB NOVO award in recognition of her efforts and contribution to pro bono work.

Languages spoken: **English, Mandarin**
By prior appointment only

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