



**Choose Your  
Divorce Lawyer**  
**Get Legal Aid Faster**



## What is the Choose Your Own Assigned Solicitor Programme (“the Programme”)?

The Legal Aid Bureau (“LAB”), a department of the Ministry of Law, offers eligible applicants the option to choose their preferred lawyer (“Assigned Solicitor”) for their civil divorce cases (i.e. not for Syariah divorce cases).

### How will this Programme benefit me?

This Programme is faster and simpler than the usual process. You do not need to explain your case to LAB first, which means that your chosen lawyer will be assigned to you more quickly.

### Who can take part?

You can join the Programme if you wish to divorce your spouse and have not started court proceedings yet.

You cannot join this Programme if your spouse has started a divorce case against you. You will need to file your Notice to Contest at the Courts’ E-filing Service Bureau (located at the State Courts) within 14 days of receiving the court documents.

Once completed, you may come to LAB as we can still provide legal aid for your divorce case if you pass the means and merits tests.

To find out if you qualify for our services, scan this QR code.



**Means Test:** We check if your financial situation qualifies you for legal aid.

**Merits Test:** We review if your case has a fair chance of succeeding in Court.

# How can I participate?

We'll guide you on your next steps during your appointment.

## STEP 1

- Register your case on **LAB's Applicant Portal**.
- Complete the application and financial forms.
- Book an appointment with us via the **OneMinLaw Portal**.
- Attend your appointment so Counter Service Officers can check your eligibility.



Register your case on **LAB's Applicant Portal\***

Book an appointment with us via the **OneMinLaw Portal**.

\* You will need a SingPass account. If you do not have one, please visit [www.singpass.gov.sg](http://www.singpass.gov.sg), or visit any SingPass counter at a Community Centre near you to register.

## STEP 2

- If you are eligible, you will receive the Programme letter and Assigned Solicitor (AS) list.
- Contact your preferred AS from our panel within 3 days.
- Book an appointment with the AS to discuss your case.
- If AS agrees to act for you, AS will submit the application to LAB on your behalf.

### What if AS refuses to act for you?

- Make an appointment to see our Duty Officer via the OneMinLaw Portal.
- Attend your appointment

## STEP 3

- Our officers will contact you to assess your eligibility through two steps:

### **3A: Means Test**

**PASS**

- LAB will proceed to determine if your case has merit

*Continue to Merits Test ▼*

**FAIL**

- You are ineligible for legal aid.

### **3B: Merits Test**

**PASS**

- You will be informed of your results and if AS assignment is confirmed.
- You will need to pay contribution to LAB, where applicable
- AS starts working on your case.

**FAIL**

- You are ineligible for legal aid.

## What documents do I need to bring to the Assigned Solicitor for my first appointment?

Please bring all documents related to your case, including:

- Marriage Certificate and your Child(ren)'s Birth Certificate(s)
- Court documents (if you have any), including court documents from other cases involving your spouse (e.g. Expedited Orders, Personal Protection Orders, Maintenance Orders)
- Your Spouse's NRIC number and contact details
- Latest HDB/bank mortgage and CPF Public Housing statements (if you have them)
- Your Programme Letter (which will be given to you if you pass the preliminary means test)

## What if I do not have a preferred Assigned Solicitor?

You can still apply directly with LAB by making an appointment to see our Duty Officer via the OneMinLaw Portal and we will assign a lawyer to you if you pass the means and merits tests.

If you have questions, call us or submit an online enquiry form.





**PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS**

01

**Amy Lim**

PARTNER, AMY LIM LAW PRACTICE

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 was eventually finalised after 7 years. 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

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02

**Aye Cheng Shone**

SOLE PROPRIETOR, A C SHONE & CO

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-borders 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

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03

**Chong Yue-En**

MANAGING DIRECTOR, BETHEL CHAMBERS LLC

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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin

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## PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS

04

### Gloria James-Civetta

HEAD LAWYER, GLORIA JAMES-CIVETTA & CO

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 crossjurisdictional 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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin

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05

### Jenny Lai

SOLE PROPRIETOR, JENNY LAI & CO

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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin, Cantonese, simple Hakka

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06

### Jeyanthi d/o Adaikalasamy

MANAGING DIRECTOR, HELIUS LAW LLCO

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

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## PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS

07

### **K Jayakumar Naidu**

MANAGING DIRECTOR, JAY LAW CORPORATION

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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Tamil

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08

### **Lim Charmaine Jillian Phipps**

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, TRACY WANG LAW PRACTICE

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.

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin


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### **Krishna Ramakrishna Sharma**

MANAGING DIRECTOR, FLEET STREET LAW LLC

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

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Tamil

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## PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS

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### Loh Wai Mooi

PARTNER, BIH LI & LEE LLP

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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin, Cantonese

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### Malcus Poh

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, CHUNG TING FAI & CO

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

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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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Malay

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## PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS

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### **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.

Languages spoken: English, Tamil

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### **N K Anitha**

DIRECTOR, ANITHA & ASOKA LLC

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.

Languages spoken: English, Tamil

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### **Ng Lee Chye John**

PARTNER, MICHAEL KHOO & PARTNERS

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.

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin, Teochew

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## PANEL OF ASSIGNED SOLICITORS

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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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

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.

Wheelchair-accessible office 

Languages spoken: English, Mandarin

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### Wang Yishi Tracy

MANAGING DIRECTOR, TRACY WANG LAW PRACTICE

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

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### **Ministry of Law Services Centre**

Visits to the Ministry of Law Services Centre are by appointment only.

Make an appointment via the OneMinLaw Portal at [go.gov.sg/omp](https://go.gov.sg/omp) before visiting us.

### **Operating Hours**

Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Closed on weekends & public holidays

### **Location**

45 Maxwell Road

#07-11 The URA Centre (East Wing)

Singapore 069118

Tel: 1800 2255 529\*

\*Airtime charges may apply to calls made from mobile phones to '1800' local toll-free numbers.

For overseas callers, please use +65 6225 5529

### **Enquiry Line Operating Hours**

Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Closed on weekends & public holidays