

## Press statement on the Intervention into the Practice of Messrs. Wong, Fung & Co. by The Law Society of Hong Kong

- 1. The attention of the Council of the Law Society of Hong Kong ("the Council") was drawn to the irregularities in the practice of Messrs. Wong, Fung & Co. ("the Firm").
- 2. As a result of an investigation, the Council had reason to suspect the dishonesty of a former clerk of the Firm who had misappropriated the Firm's client money. The matter has been reported to the Police.
- 3. Further, the Council was satisfied that the Firm had committed serious breaches of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules (Cap 159 sub leg) including, among others, overdrawing on client accounts and allowing unqualified persons to be authorized signatories of client accounts.
- 4. The Law Society is empowered under the Legal Practitioners Ordinance Cap 159 ("Ordinance") to intervene into the practice of a law firm to protect the interests of the public or the clients of the firm. The funds of an intervened firm are vested in the Law Society under the Ordinance.
- 5. Taking into account the seriousness of the findings of the investigation on the Firm, the Council had no alternative but to exercise its statutory powers to intervene into the practice of the Firm under sections 26A(1)(a)(ii) and 26A(1)(c) of the Ordinance for the protection of the clients of the Firm and the public.
- 6. Messrs. Chui And Lau Solicitors were appointed as the Intervention Agent ("the Intervention Agent") and the intervention took place on 24 December 2020.
- 7. The Intervention Agent will contact clients appearing on the records of the Firm to advise them of the situation and of the need for them to engage alternative solicitors. Some clients of the Firm may have paid money into the Firm's bank accounts and the Intervention Agent will contact them to advise them how to lodge claims for the return of such money. Claims for return of money will be dealt with on an individual case-by-case basis.
- 8. The Intervention Agent is Messrs. Chui And Lau Solicitors. For enquiries in respect of the following specific offices from clients and other concerned parties, please direct them as follows: -

## For enquiries relating to

the Firm's head office in	Firm:	Messrs. Hui & Lam LLP
Central	Contact Person:	Mr. Lam Ching Wan William
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the Firm's branch offices in	Firm:	Messrs. Kevin Ng & Co., Solicitors
Kowloon and Tsuen Wan	Contact Person:	Mr. Ng Kin Wah
	Address:	Suit B, 13/F., Two Chinachem Plaza, 135 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong
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the Firm's branch office in	Firm:	Messrs. Tang, Lai & Leung
Yuen Long	Contact Person:	Mr. Leung Shek Lim
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