

FROM :

PHONE NO. :

SEP. 17 2001 10:27AM P1

LC Paper No. CB(2)2312/00-01(02)

Tso & Associates, Solicitors

曹希聖律師事務所

Principal
曹希聖律師
Peter H. S. Tso
LLB, CDipAF, ATHK, MHKTS

香港北角電氣道 168 號柏宜大廈 602 室
Rm.602, Union Park Tower, 168 Electric Road, North Point, Hong Kong.
Tel: (852) 25033967 Fax: (852) 25032271 29008778
E-mail: tsoslaw@sinatown.com

September 17, 2001

Ms. Margaret Ng
Legislative Councilor,
Hong Kong.

Dear Ms. Ng,

Re: Legal Services and Risk to Justice

I am a sole legal practitioner in Hong Kong and would like to address to you a serious danger to the equality of justice, taking into account to what recently happened in the legal profession.

Every solicitor in private practice is required to pay annual insurance premium under the present Professional Indemnity Scheme in order to cover any risk of loss to the clients from malpractice of the practitioners. However, a recent proposed substantial increase in the amount of insurance premium to about 260% will certainly bring forth a danger to the achievement of justice in Hong Kong.

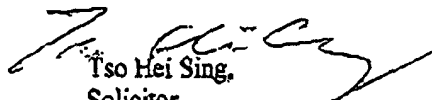
There are totally about six hundred law firms in Hong Kong but over 80% of them are sole practitioners and firms of small and middle size. They provide legal services to the individuals and small organizations of the general public. The drastic increase in such premium amount will impose severe cost burden on these small firms and possibly drive them out from the local market. What will happen then? Only the giants will remain in the legal jungle and they represent all those big corporations and strong persons. In such circumstances, justice will exist in vacuum.

In view of this serious danger to the whole society, I have contacted a number of small law firms and they have given their affirmative support to my address. A list of the supporting law firms is attached herewith for your reference.

I therefore have written a letter of address to the Chief Executive for his urgent attention. A copy of the letter is enclosed herewith for your information. I hereby also request the Councilor to pay urgent attention to this matter and take appropriate action as necessary to avoid this potential danger to the society at large since the subsidiary legislation for increasing the premium will soon be implemented.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely,



Tso Hei Sing,
Solicitor,
Fellow, International Society for Lawyers of Public Service (U.S.A.)
Encl.

FROM :

PHONE NO. :

SEP. 17 2001 10:27AM P2

Sole Practitioners and Partners of Solicitors

Ellen Au & Co.	Lau & Leung
William Au & Company	H.H. Lau & Co.
Au Yeung, Cheung, Ho & Tin	Simon Lau & Company
Au Yeung, Lo & Chung	Law Pui King & Company
Beiten Burkhardt Mittl & Wegener	Eddie P.L. Law & Co.
Bough & Co.	Martin Law & Co.
Allen Chan & Co.	Hong Lee & Co.
Chan & Cheng	Lee Shing Fung & Co.
Chan & Kong	Albert Leung & Co.
Chan Tong & Co.	Leung Kin & Co.
Raymond Chan, Kenneth Yuen & Co.	C.M. Li, Chow, Pang & Chan
Jackie Cheung & Co.	James W.L. Li & Co.
Oliver C. M. Chan & Co.	Philip W.I. Li & Co.
Cheng & Lo	Ricky Li & Co.
Peter Cheung & Co.	Thomas Li & Yu
Raymond Cheung & Chan	Leung, Chan & Pang
Johnny Chu & Co.	Peter W.K. Lo & Co.
Joseph Chu, Lo & Lau	Winnie Lo & Leung
S.Y. Chu & Co.	Lousich, Lau & Ngan
Jack Fong & Co.	Lui, Choi & Chan
Fung, Lam & Ng	Ng & Lam
Osbert Fung & Co.	Eugene J.H. Oh & Co.
M. Grewal & Co.	Katherine Y.W. Or & Co.
Hide & Pun	Pang & Associates
Alan Ho & Co.	Pang Wan & Choi
Anthony Ho & Co.	Miller Peart
John Ho & Tsui	Y.T. Szeto & Co.
Keith Ho & Co.	M.L. Tam & Co.
Rene Hout & Co.	Ivan Tang & Co.
Ho Wong Tai & Partners	Philip S.T. Tang & Co.
Belinda Ip & Co.	K.C. Tsang & Co.
Ip & Willis	N.K. Tsang & Co.
Christine F.L. Ip & Young	Eli K.K. Tsui & Co.
Karbhari & Cham	Wat & Co.
Jal N. Karbhari	Philip T.F. Wong & Co.
M.F. Ko & Co.	Christopher K.Y. Wong & Associates
Francis Kong & Co.	Jimmie K.S. Wong & Co.
Kong & Tang	Roger S.K. Wong & Co.
L.H. Kwan & Co.	Susanna Wong & Co.
Kwong & Lam	Y.T. Wong & Co.
Kevin L.H. Kwong & Co.	Patrick Wu & Co.
Phyllis K.Y. Kwong & Associates	Yem & Associates
Dominic Y.K. Lai & Co.	Erwin Young, Chu & Law
Eric Lai, Jason Cheung & Co.	W.L. Yuen & Co.
Tommy Lai & Co.	Eric Yu & Co.
Danny Lau & Lam	
T.C. Lau & Co.	
Van Langenberg & Lau	
William Lam & Co.	
Lau & Chan	

18-09-01 14:26
FROM :

PHONE NO. :

SEP. 17 2001 10:28AM P3

Tso & Associates, Solicitors

曹希聖律師事務所

Principal
曹希聖律師
Peter H. S. Tso
LLB, CDipAF, ATIIK, MHKTS

香港北角電氣道 168 號柏宜大廈 602 室

Rm.602, Union Park Tower, 168 Electric Road, North Point, Hong Kong.

Tel: (852) 25033967 Fax: (852) 25032271 29008773

E-mail: tsoalaw@sinatown.com

September 12, 2001

Mr. Tung Chee Hwa,
The Chief Executive of HKSAR,
Office of the Chief Executive,
S/F., Central Government Office,
Main Wing, Lower Albert Road,
Hong Kong.

Dear Mr. Tung,

Re: Legal Services and Risk to Justice

I am a sole legal practitioner in Hong Kong and would like to address to you a serious **danger to the equality of justice** related to what recently happened in the legal profession.

Every solicitor in private practice should pay annual insurance premium under the present Professional Indemnity Scheme in order to cover any risk of loss to the clients from malpractice of the practitioners. However, a recent proposed substantial increase in the amount of insurance premium to about **260%** will certainly bring forth a danger to the achievement of justice in Hong Kong.

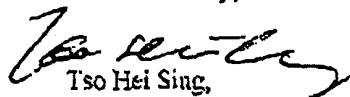
There are totally about six hundred law firms in Hong Kong but over **80%** of them are sole practitioners and firms of small and middle size. They provide legal services to the individuals and small organizations of the general public. The increase in such premium amount will greatly impose severe cost burden on these small firms and possibly drive them out from the local market. What will happen then? Only the giants will remain in the legal jungle and they represent all those big corporations and strong persons. Justice will exist in vacuum.

In view of this serious danger to the whole society, I have contacted with a number of small law firms for supporting my address to you and they have given their affirmative support. A list of the supporting law firms is attached herewith for your reference.

I therefore request The Chief Executive to pay urgent attention to this matter and take appropriate action as you think fit to avoid this potential danger to the society at large **since the subsidiary legislation for increasing the premium will soon be implemented.**

Thank you for your kind attention.

Yours sincerely,



Tso Hei Sing,
Solicitor,
Fellow, International Society for Lawyers of Public Service (U.S.A.)
Encl.