

**Administrative Resolution No. (23) of 2017**  
**Concerning the Procedure for the Management of an Advocacy Firm**  
**in the Event of the Death of the Licence Owner<sup>1</sup>**

**The Director General of the Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department,**

After perusal of:

- Law No. (32) of 2008, Establishing the Government of Dubai Legal Affairs Department (the “**Department**”);
- Executive Council Resolution No. (22) of 2011 Concerning Fees and Fines Prescribed for the Advocacy and the Legal Consultancy Profession in the Emirate of Dubai;
- Administrative Resolution No. (233) of 2015 Adopting the Bylaw Concerning the Registration of Advocates in the Emirate of Dubai;
- Administrative Resolution No. (234) of 2015 Adopting the Bylaw of the Registration of Legal Consultants in the Emirate of Dubai, and
- Article No. (14) of Administrative Resolution No. (235) of 2015 Adopting the Bylaw Concerning the Licensing of Advocacy Firms in the Emirate of Dubai,
- And for purpose of protecting the interests and rights of clients for the Advocacy Firm and managing their files in the case of the death of the License Owner.

**Does hereby issue this Resolution:**

<sup>1</sup> Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purposes of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict the Arabic text shall prevail.

## Article (1)

### Scope of Application

This Resolution shall apply to Advocacy Firms taking the form of sole establishment in the event of the death of the Licence Owner.

## Article (2)

### Management of an Advocacy Firm

#### **First: in the event there is Advocate or Legal Consultant working in the Advocacy Firm:**

1. Immediately after becoming aware thereof, the Advocate or Legal Consultant shall notify the Department of the death of the Licence Owner.
2. Once notified, the Department shall take the following steps:
  - a. Issue a resolution extending the Licence of the Firm for one month renewable for a similar period and notify the commercial licensing entity.
  - b. Assign an Advocate or a Legal Consultant working in the firm to prepare a complete list of the clients' files and notify the clients of the death of the Licence Owner and, of the Department's approval to extend the Licence of the Firm.
3. The Advocate or Legal Consultant assigned by the Department shall, in coordination with the heirs of the deceased, notify the clients in writing and provide them the following options:
  - a. Receiving all files and relevant documents and setting date for receiving these documents by them.
  - b. Continue representing the clients during the license extension period whilst maintaining the interests of the clients in accordance with the legislation in force in the Emirate, provided that all relevant documents are returned to the clients before the expiry of such extension period.
4. The assigned Advocate or Legal Consultant may not accept any new legal work during the extension period.
5. The assigned Advocate or Legal Consultant must submit to the Department a periodic report that includes all actions taken regarding the files of the clients during the extension period.

**Second: in the absence of another Advocate or a Legal Consultant working in the Advocacy**

**Firm:**

1. The heirs of the deceased and the administrative employees of the Firm shall immediately notify the Department of the death of the Licence Owner.
2. The Department shall assign an administrative employee of the Firm, in coordination with the heirs of the deceased, to undertake the following:
  - a. Prepare a complete list of all clients' files and submit this to the Department.
  - b. Notify the clients of the death of the Licence Owner.
  - c. Return all relevant files and documents to the clients.
3. The administrative employee must submit to the Department a periodic report that contains all actions taken regarding the files of the clients.
4. The Department must notify the commercial licensing entity of the death of the Licence Owner and the revocation of the professional Licence.

**Article (3)**

**Commencement**

This Resolution shall come into force on the date of its issuance.

**(Signed)**

**Dr. Lowai Mohamed Belhoul**

**Director General**

Issued on 26 March 2017

Corresponding to 27 Jumada Al Thani 1438