

**Administrative Resolution No. (112) of 2017**  
**Concerning the**  
**Professional Conduct Committee for**  
**Advocates and Legal Consultants<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**”); and

Administrative Resolution No. (122) of 2012 Forming the Professional Conduct Committee for Advocates and Legal Consultants,

**Does hereby issue the following Resolution:**

**Formation of the Committee**

**Article (1)**

A permanent committee named the “**Professional Conduct Committee for Advocates and Legal Consultants**” (the “**Committee**”) shall be formed at the Department. Members of the Committee shall be named by a resolution issued by the Director General of the Department for this purpose.

**Powers of the Committee**

**Article (2)**

a. The Committee shall be required to monitor the professional conduct of Advocates and Legal Consultants, by considering the inspection reports, investigating complaints submitted to the Department against them, court judgements issued against them, and imposing the appropriate penalties on them. For this purpose, the Committee may:

1. Investigate, and obtain evidence and information relating to the violation which is allegedly committed by the Advocate or Legal Consultant;

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<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.

2. Take the statement of the Advocate or Legal Consultant concerning the allegedly committed violation;
  3. Take the statement of those submitting a complaint against an Advocate or a Legal Consultant; and
  4. Summon witnesses and take their statements.
- b. In exercising its powers, the Committee shall comply with the legislation in force in the Emirate, applicable bylaws of the Department, principles of justice and equity and traditions governing the ethics of the Advocacy and Legal Consultancy profession.

### **Procedure for Considering Violations and Complaints**

#### **Article (3)**

Upon considering violations committed by an Advocate or Legal Consultant and the complaints submitted against them, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. The Advocates and Legal Consultants Directorate of the Department shall take action against contraventions committed by an Advocate or Legal Consultant in violation of the legislation regulating the Advocacy and Legal Consultancy profession;
2. The Advocates and Legal Consultants Directorate shall receive complaints submitted against Advocates and Legal Consultants, in the forms prescribed by the Directorate for such purpose, and shall verify the information set out in such forms and obtain relevant papers and documents;
3. The Advocates and Legal Consultants Directorate shall refer the reported violation and the complaint received in accordance with Clauses (1) and (2) above to the Committee along with a report that contains the particulars of the violator or the respondent, the relevant facts, and any recommendations that the Directorate may deem appropriate;
4. The Committee shall verify the violation allegedly committed by the Advocate or Legal Consultant and investigate the complaint submitted against them as deemed appropriate. This shall include the appointment of any member of the Committee to inspect the place in which the violation was committed, request any documents or papers, take the statements of the complainants, the witnesses and the respondent Advocate or Legal Consultant.

## Disciplinary Penalties

### Article (4)

If an Advocate or Legal Consultant is found to have committed a professional or behavioural violation or acted in such a way that contravenes the professional ethics and duties, the Committee shall impose any of the following penalties against such Advocate or Legal Consultant:

1. Serve a written notice containing the details of the violation and instructions not to repeat such violation in the future;
2. Serve a written warning;
3. Suspend the Advocate or Legal Consultant from practice for a period not exceeding two (2) years;  
or
4. Strike off the Advocate or Legal Consultant from the roll of Advocates or Legal Consultants.

## Judicial Conviction

### Article (5)

- a. The Committee shall impose any of the penalties referred to in Article (4) hereof against an Advocate or Legal Consultant convicted pursuant to a final judgement of an offence involving breach of honour or trust.
- b. The Committee may impose any of the penalties referred to in Article (4) hereof against an Advocate or Legal Consultant convicted by virtue of a final judgement of an offence that prejudices his professional ethics and duties.

## Committee Meetings

### Article (6)

- a. The Committee shall convene, where necessary, by invitation from the Chairman or, in the Chairman's absence, the Vice Chairman.

- b. Committee meetings shall be valid if attended by the majority of its members, provided that the Chairman or the Vice Chairman is in attendance.
- c. Resolutions of the Committee shall be issued with the majority votes of attending members, and in the event of a tie, the chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote. The resolutions of the Committee must contain the reasons for the decision.
- d. Resolutions of the Committee shall be recorded in minutes of meetings signed by the Chairman of the meeting and attending members.
- e. The Committee may seek assistance from whoever it deems appropriate, whether an employee of the Department or a person from outside the Department to carry out the functions assigned to it.

### **Committee Rapporteur**

#### **Article (7)**

The Rapporteur shall send the invitations for the meetings of the Committee, prepare the minutes of its meetings, follow up the implementation of its resolutions and undertake any other duties assigned to him by the Committee.

### **Confidentiality of Committee Deliberations**

#### **Article (8)**

The deliberations of the Committee shall be confidential and may not be disclosed and no information contained in the minutes of meetings may be copied unless a resolution to that end is issued by its Chairman.

### **Grievances against Committee Resolutions**

#### **Article (9)**

An Advocate or Legal Consultant may submit a written grievance to the Director General of the Department against the disciplinary penalties imposed against him, within one month of being notified of such resolution. The decision of the Director General regarding the grievance shall be final.

**Repeals**  
**Article (10)**

This Resolution shall supersede Administrative Resolution No. (122) of 2012 Forming the Professional Conduct Committee for Advocates and Legal Consultants and its amendments.

**Commencement**  
**Article (11)**

This Resolution shall come into force on the date of its issuance and shall be communicated to those concerned to put it into effect.

**(Signed)**

**Dr. Lowai Mohamed Belhoul**  
**Director General**

Issued on 25 October 2017

Corresponding to 5 Safar 1439 A.H.