



## PROFILE

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SINCE 2016

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# THE ART OF **ADVOCACY**

AmerBON, Advocates offers fully integrated legal services within the framework of a set of chambers, with a focus on litigation and dispute resolution. Amer and Edmund's select group of specialist lawyers are "book smart" and "street smart", devising winning strategies that combine a mastery of the law, familiarity with procedural tactics, and political and client sensitivity. The firm is aggressive in delivering the best outcomes for clients, in the shortest time and most cost-effective manner. AmerBON advises on high-value transactions at pre-action stages and provides legal representation in arbitrations, the High Courts, the Court of Appeal, and the Federal Court. The firm is engaged by federal and state governments, public-listed and government-linked companies, media, as well as high net-worth public figures, for strategic corporate and litigation advice on complex cases.

**AmerBON**  
ADVOCATES



"Over the course of 22 years, Edmund Bon has appeared in more than 60 major cases involving, fraud, industrial relations, contractual breaches, shareholder-director disputes, and cases relating to difficult questions of law and fact."



"AmerBON offers specialist transactional and advisory services, and legal representation to major corporations and public-listed companies in the High courts, Court of Appeal and Federal Court."



"Amer Hamzah is a walking encyclopedia on criminal law. Coupled with him being so approachable, he makes an excellent choice for us when we are in need of a good criminal lawyer."



**AmerBON**  
ADVOCATES

# PROFILE

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AmerBON advises on high-value transactions at pre-action stages, and provides legal representation in arbitrations, the High Courts, the Court of Appeal, and the Federal Court. The firm is engaged by both federal and state governments, public-listed and government-linked companies, media and high net-worth public figures, for strategic corporate and litigation advice on complex cases.

This is a unique law practice. First, the firm only takes on a limited number of cases a year to ensure its lawyers are highly responsive to its clients.

Second, the firm is able to holistically advise on both the civil and criminal aspects of the cases it handles. The lawyers have the expertise to conduct criminal defence litigation when required to.

Third, each lawyer is motivated by social causes, such as indigenous peoples' rights and the abolition of capital punishment. Through the firm's Collective of Applied Law & Legal Realism (CALR), the lawyers devote up to 40% of their time to pro bono work in service to the community. The CALR also manages the firm's in-house pupillage and case-engineering curriculum, runs a graduate student "Street Law" programme providing free legal aid to the public, and undertakes research and development through its "DIYLaw" and "Total Law" solutions.

Fourth, the firm's lawyers are well-known players in public interest cases. Media outlets routinely seek out AmerBON lawyers for quick and accurate commentary on fast developing stories with legal implications. For clients, this means that AmerBON lawyers bring to the table a high degree of social capital - public trust, influence, profile, and networks, which could be tapped on where appropriate.

# RECOGNITION

For more details, see:  
<https://www.amerbon.com/recognition>

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YEAR  
2023



## **The Legal 500 Asia-Pacific 2023**

AmerBON handles a diverse range of disputes, from commercial and criminal defence cases to constitutional and public interest litigation. The 'meticulous' practice is instructed by government-linked companies and statutory commissions. Praised as 'confident, knowledgeable and reliable', Edmund Bon Tai Soon, who has experience in civil litigation, jointly leads the team alongside Amer Hamzah Bin Arshad, who regularly advises and defends clients in criminal trials and appeals.



## **Chambers & Partners Asia-Pacific 2023 (Dispute Resolution | Ranked Individuals)**

Edmund Bon Tai Soon of AmerBON Advocates has a diverse practice acting on civil litigation, corporate litigation, fraud and human rights matters.

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YEAR  
2022



## **Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific 2022**

AmerBon Advocates is renowned for its civil and human rights, and criminal litigation practices. Particularly, its specialist business and human rights (BHR) team has been advocating with the Malaysian government to formulate national action plans on BHR. The firm is also experienced in handling advocacy on a wide range of other legal issues, from international law, and constitutional and administrative law, to commercial and corporate disputes, and construction and land claims. Last year, the team was engaged in

various contentious matters involving corporate fraud, white-collar crimes and anti-money laundering prosecutions. Its criminal law set has been busy defending clients in high-profile, high-stakes criminal prosecutions. For example, the team counselled Sabah's former Chief Minister and won him an acquittal last June of nearly 50 corruption and money-laundering charges. The firm spends nearly 40% of its time and income on pro bono work in public interest cases.

Co-founders and partners Amer Hamzah and Edmund Bon are leading and respected figures in the market, particularly for criminal law and human rights law, respectively.

In the white-collar crime space, the firm has been representing Datuk Seri Panglima Abdul Azeez bin Abdul Rahim (Azeez) at the Kuala Lumpur Sessions Court in defending several charges, including three offences under the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act (MACCA), nine offences under the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001 (AMLA). The total sum involved is RM144.5 million.

In commercial and transactions, the firm is representing the majority shareholder of GS Realty, one of the biggest estate agencies in Malaysia, in defending a suit on minority oppression filed by a minority shareholder of the firm. This matter is significant because it raises the question of whether the effect of the Valuers, Appraisers and Estate Agents Act 1981 would apply to a case of minority oppression under a select section of the Companies Act 2016.

In a notable triumph, the firm successfully represented a number of ex-employees of Menteri Besar Incorporated (MBI) in defending claims alleged by MBI over breaches of trust and fiduciary duties, and conspiracy to injure. This landmark ruling of a seven-year litigation was a groundbreaking judgment that established the legal position on a 'corporation sole'.

Recent publishable clients of the firm include FGV Holdings, Kimberly-Clark Corporation, NWP Holdings and SWM Greentech.



### **The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2022**

The disputes practice at AmerBON is comprised of a criminal law set led by Amer Hamzah Bin Arshad and a civil set led by Edmund Bon Tai Soon. The firm stands out for handling corporate fraud, white-collar crime and money laundering prosecutions, as well as shareholder disputes, public interest litigation and occupational health and safety cases.



### **Chambers & Partners Asia-Pacific 2022 (Dispute Resolution | Ranked Individuals)**

Edmund Bon Tai Soon of AmerBON Advocates has a diverse practice acting on civil litigation, fraud and human rights matters. One client praises his "*clear understanding of institutional structures in Malaysia.*"



# SELECTED CLIENT LIST



Bloomberg



For further listings and more details, see: <https://www.amerbon.com/clients>





# EDMUND BON


ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF CHAMBERS (CIVIL)

Edmund read law at University College London, and was called to the English Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1997. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1998, and has been in active practice since then. Edmund is a Chevening scholar and has a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University.

Edmund routinely represents individuals, financial institutions, law enforcement authorities, governments, corporations and trade unions at all stages of complex transactions, from negotiations to dispute resolution and mediation. He has long-standing experience advising on matters involving industrial relations, corporate, commercial, tax, contract, professional negligence, business, trusts, water and environment law.

In 2008, Edmund was appointed to advise a Chief Minister and State Government and since then has been dealing with – both as a contract negotiator and litigator – major issues pertaining to the management of State resources, land development projects and construction of State infrastructure.

For more than 20 years in practice, Edmund has appeared as solicitor and lead counsel in cases ranging from corporate and



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# EDMUND BON

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ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF  
CHAMBERS (CIVIL)

commercial law to property disputes and defamation actions. He has conducted trials in a myriad of cases under laws such as the Industrial Relations Act, Employment Act, Trade Unions Act, National Land Code, Contracts Act, Companies Act Penal Code and Securities Industry Act (now repealed).

Edmund has appeared in more than 70 major cases involving fraud, industrial relations, contractual breaches, shareholder-director disputes, and construction cases relating to difficult questions of law and fact. Edmund's cases have been reported on numerous occasions in law journals and news media.

In construction law, Edmund has acted as counsel for both claimants and respondents in adjudication matters under the Construction Industry Payment and Adjudication Act 2012. He has extensive experience in adjudication litigation and is an Adjudicator on the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) panel.

Edmund is frequently consulted by private clients, multinational companies, the Malaysian Bar Council, public authorities, and governmental bodies on legal issues and law reform. He was previously a 5-time elected member of the Malaysian Bar Council and chaired the Constitutional Law (2009-2011), Human Rights (2007-2009) and National Young Lawyers (2006-2008) committees. After a break of five years, Edmund recently stood for election and was elected to the Bar Council for the term of 2016-2017. He then chaired the Innovation and Future of Law Committee.

Edmund is regularly invited to speak at local and international conferences on constitutional and human rights law. He has conducted more than 900 hours of training for young lawyers and activists on similar topics.

Edmund's articles and papers have been published in law journals and by news media. Edmund's latest published work is in the Halsbury's Laws of Malaysia, entitled "Citizenship, Immigration, National Security and the Police".

In 2016, the Government of Malaysia appointed Edmund as the Representative of Malaysia to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). One component of his work was to promote the adoption and operationalisation of the 'Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework' by States and corporations. The AICHR is now moving ahead to seek a consensus among ASEAN Member States to adopt a 'Regional Strategy on Business & Human Rights'.

IN BRIEF

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EDUCATION &  
QUALIFICATIONS

- MSt in International Human Rights Law, University of Oxford, England (British Chevening Scholarship)
- LLB Laws Honours, University College of London, England (Malaysian Scholarship)
- Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya
- Utter Barrister, The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn

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CAREER

- Current:
  - Head of Chambers (Civil), AmerBON Advocates, Kuala Lumpur
  - Lecturer (on the subjects of the 'International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' and 'Business & Human Rights'), International Human Rights Law (LLM), University of Malaya
- 2018: Adjudicator, Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)
- 2016-2018: Representative of Malaysia to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)
- 2011-2015: Tutor, International Human Rights Law (LLB), University of Malaya
- 2011: Co-founder and Director, the Malaysian Centre for Constitutionalism & Human Rights (MCCHR) [PusatRakyatLoyarBurok]
- 2010: Co-author of Halsbury's Laws of Malaysia on "Citizenship, Immigration, National Security & the Police" (Volume 27)
- 2016-2017: Chairperson, Innovation and Future of Law Committee, Bar Council
- 2009-2011: Founder and Chairperson, Constitutional Law Committee, Bar Council

# EDMUND BON

ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF  
CHAMBERS (CIVIL)

- 2007-2009: Chairperson, Human Rights Committee, Bar Council
- 2006-2008: Chairperson, National Young Lawyers' Committee, Bar Council
- 2006-2011; 2016-2017: Elected member, Bar Council, Malaysia
- 2014-2016: Head of Chambers, BON Advocates, Kuala Lumpur
- 2012-2014: Partner, Chooi & Company, Advocates & Solicitors, Kuala Lumpur
- 2002-2012: Senior Associate, Chooi & Company, Advocates & Solicitors, Kuala Lumpur
- 1998-2002: Associate, Chooi & Company, Advocates & Solicitors, Kuala Lumpur
- 1998: Advocate and Solicitor, the High Court of Malaya (Admitted to the Bar of Malaya in June 1998)
- 1997: Utter Barrister, the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn (Admitted to the Bar of England & Wales in September 2007)

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## PROFESSIONAL & WORK EXPERIENCE

### AmerBON, Advocates, Kuala Lumpur

1.1.2016 – Present

Head of Chambers (Civil)

### BON, Advocates, Kuala Lumpur

1.1.2014 – 1.1.2016

Head of Chambers

### Chooi & Company, Advocates & Solicitors, Kuala Lumpur

2012 – 2014

Partner

2002 – 2012

Senior Associate

1998 – 2002

Associate

# EDMUND BON

ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF  
CHAMBERS (CIVIL)

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## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- 1998: Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court in Malaya  
Admitted to the Bar of Malaya
- 1997: Utter Barrister, The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn  
Admitted to the Bar of England & Wales

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## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- 2006 - 2008: University of Oxford, England  
Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law
- 1993 - 1996: University College London, England  
LLB Laws Honours

A portrait of Amer Hamzah bin Arshad, a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a dark pinstripe suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is standing with his arms crossed against a light grey background. A solid red square is visible in the top left corner of the page.

# AMER HAMZAH

ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF CHAMBERS (CRIMINAL)

Amer read law at University of Leeds, United Kingdom, where he was awarded an LLB (Hons) in 1997. He obtained his Certificate of Legal Practice in 1998, and was admitted to the Malaysian Bar in 1999. His areas of practice cover both criminal and civil litigation.

His criminal law practice is primarily focused on defence work and appeals at the High Court, the Court of Appeal, and Federal Court of Malaysia. Amer has been involved in several landmark trials and appeals, which were widely covered by the media and reported in law journals. He has vast experience in the following areas:

- commercial crime cases (including criminal breach of trust, cheating, anti-money laundering, and market manipulation)
- corruption cases
- capital punishment cases (murder and kidnapping)
- drug offences (drug trafficking and possession)
- sexual offences
- offences against the public order
- offences relating to national security and terrorism

Amer Hamzah bin Arshad  
E [amerh@AmerBON.com](mailto:amerh@AmerBON.com)



# AMER HAMZAH

ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF  
CHAMBERS  
(CRIMINAL)

- immigration cases (involving asylum seekers and refugees)

He regularly advises and defends individuals and corporations prosecuted for breaches of various penal and regulatory laws relating to, among others, companies, securities, co-operative societies, employment, environmental and occupational safety.

Amer is a human rights advocate and has participated as defence counsel in cases involving human rights issues and violations. He has deep expertise in public interest litigation.

In respect to civil litigation, Amer's areas of practice include public and administrative law, relating to matters such as whistleblower protection, contracts, defamation, tort, commercial law, employment, and industrial relations.

Amer has previously served as an officer bearer at the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Kuala Lumpur), and as a member of the Bar Council's Criminal Law Committee and Human Rights Committee. He is deeply committed to advocacy work aimed at abolishing the death penalty.

Amer believes that a true lawyer is one who is willing to represent his client's perspective zealously within the bounds of law by subordinating all other interests, be it ideological, career, or personal.

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## EXPERIENCE

September 1999 – December 2006	Legal Assistant at <b>Messrs Zain &amp; Co</b>
January 2007 – March 2011	Partner at <b>Messrs Zain &amp; Co</b>
April 2011 – May 2013	Partner at <b>Messrs Ranjit Singh &amp; Yeoh</b>
June 2013 – December 2013	Partner at <b>Messrs Nizam Bashir &amp; Amer Hamzah</b>
January 2014 – February 2015	Partner at <b>Messrs Nizam, Amer &amp; Sharizad</b>
March 2015 – December 2015	Partner at <b>Messrs Amer Hamzah &amp; Sharizad</b>



# AMER HAMZAH

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ADVOCATE &  
HEAD OF  
CHAMBERS  
(CRIMINAL)

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## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Amer has given talks as well as delivered papers at seminars and conferences on numerous issues, among others:

- i) **“In Defence of an Alleged Rapist”** - paper delivered at the Consultation on Rape Investigation Procedures at Kuala Lumpur on 17 June 2003, organised by All Women’s Action Society (AWAM).
- ii) **“To Leave or Not To Leave: The Refugee Dilemma”** - paper delivered at the Bar Council’s seminar on the Aceh Conflict on 9 August 2003, jointly organised by the Bar Council and Solidarity for Aceh.
- iii) **“Rights of Accused Persons: Are Safeguards Being Reduced?”** - paper delivered at the 12th Biennial Malaysian Law Conference at Kuala Lumpur on 11 December 2003.
- iv) **“The Protection of Refugee Children in Malaysia: Wishful Thinking or Reality?”** - paper delivered at the Conference on Refugees, Migrants and The Law, jointly organised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Bar Council, at Kuala Lumpur on 9 July 2005.
- v) **“Inquest: Guidelines from the English Coroners Rules 1984”** - paper delivered at the Workshop on “Inquests into Deaths in Police Custody”, organised by the Bar Council on 1 April 2006.
- vi) **“Citizens of Nowhere: the Stateless Community in Malaysia”** - paper delivered at the 14th Biennial Malaysian Law Conference at Kuala Lumpur on 31 October 2007.
- vii) **“Statutory Rape Laws: Is There a Need for a Change?”** - speaker at the Medico-Legal Society’s “Law, Ethics & Medicine: Friends or Foes?” Conference on 24 November 2013.
- viii) **“SOSMA - Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing”** - a panel speaker at the forum on Security Offences (Special Measures Act) 2012 (SOSMA) organised by the Bar Council on 3 November 2015.



# NEW SIN YEW

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**SENIOR  
ADVOCATE**

Sin Yew read law at Cardiff University and was called to the English Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 2010. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2011.

Sin Yew has acted as solicitor and counsel in numerous cases spanning an array of areas: contract, consumer protection, construction, medical negligence, personal injury, land, immigration, capital markets, corporate insolvency and constitutional law. He is also regularly consulted by boards of directors on matters involving directors' duties, shareholders' disputes, good governance, fraud and breach of trust.

Currently, his portfolio includes advising public and private corporations on legal and regulatory compliance in the areas of company and securities law, representing a state government in three major disputes before the courts over land, water and the construction of a university, and advising a firm of consulting engineers in an on-going Royal Commission of Enquiry into the tragic collapse of a high-rise structure.

Sin Yew's clients have ranged from Members of Parliament in election petition hearings to refugees resisting deportation and seeking asylum. Sin Yew is one of the first Malaysian lawyers to have been consulted on the use of the Whistleblower Protection Act and to have argued on its application in the superior courts.

**New Sin Yew**

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# JOSHUA TAY

SENIOR  
ADVOCATE

Joshua completed his law degree in 2011 and obtained his Certificate in Legal Practice the following year. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2013.

Joshua specialises in the area of criminal law which has always been the subject of his interest. His choice is rooted in his firm belief that every person is entitled to a free and fair trial and that the death penalty is a form of cruel, inhumane and degrading form of punishment.

Joshua has appeared as solicitor and counsel in criminal trials and appeals involving white-collar elements (such as corruption, cheating, breach of trust and stock market manipulation), terrorism, firearms, murder, dangerous drugs, fatal accidents and immigration.

With regard to tax law, Joshua is currently advising two clients – an investment company and a medical practice – on a tax-based corporate dispute and a tax investigation being conducted by the authorities. In the area of public interest litigation against law enforcement agencies, Joshua is frequently instructed to handle the criminal law elements of the briefs.

Joshua Tay H'ng Foong  
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# MICHAEL CHEAH

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ADVOCATE

Michael read law at the University of Leeds and graduated in 2015. He obtained his Certificate in Legal Practice the following year. He was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2018.

Michael is a promising junior whose practice encompasses family, employment, and criminal law. He is second chair in all areas of the firm's work and brings with him a solicitor's skill set. He routinely reviews documents, renders legal opinions and deposes witnesses. He is currently assisting the National Water Service Commission (SPAN) to revise its rules and regulations to enhance water governance in the country.

In 2016, Michael worked with the secretariat of the electoral reform movement, BERSIH 2.0. He was involved in the programming of its activities including organising BERSIH 2.0's mass rallies and protests. He continues to serve as a volunteer to date.

Michael Cheah Ern Tien

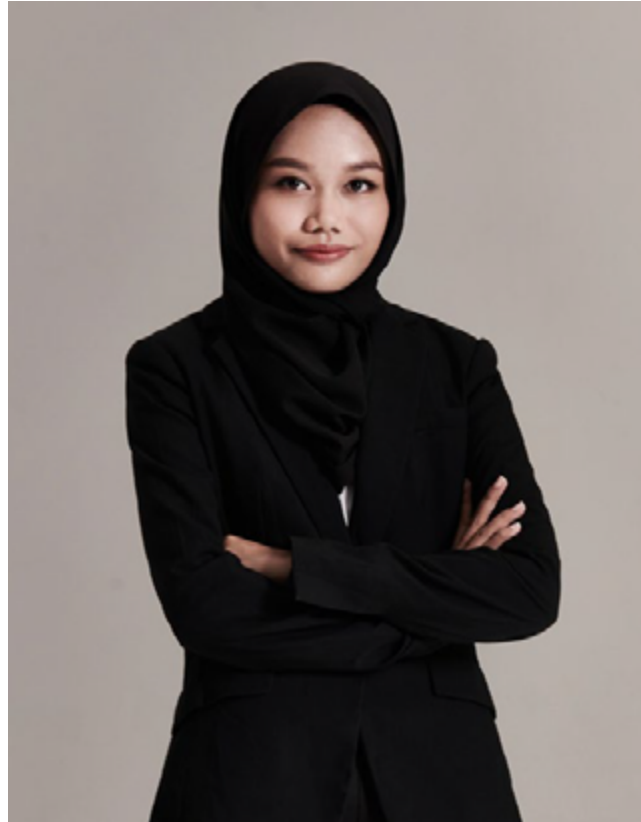
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**ADVOCATE**

Jacqueline Hannah Albert

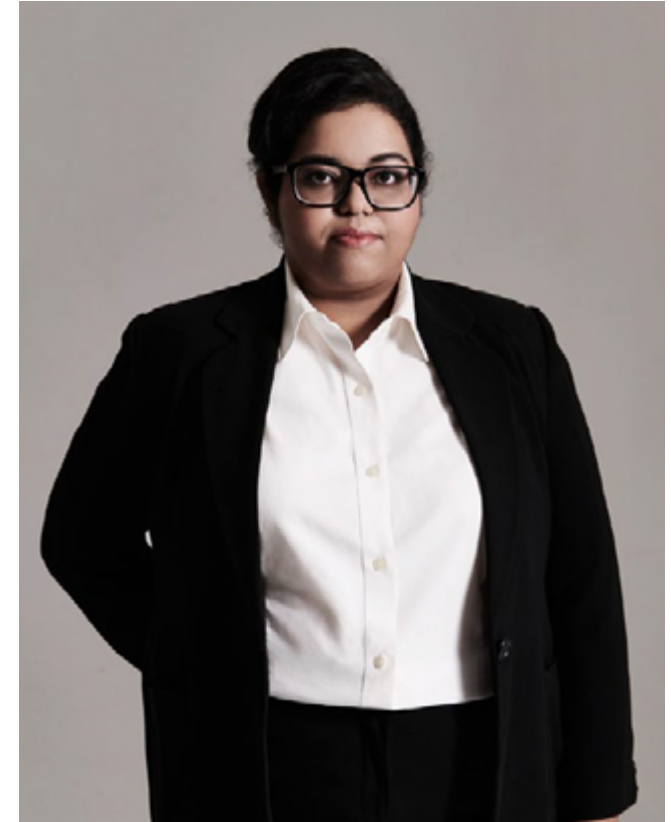
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## **TREASURER**

Jenn Yong Yoon Mei

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# NORHAYATI JAMARI

TREASURER

Yatie has more than 15 years of experience in the specialised administrative work of law firms, particularly in areas of commercial and criminal law, and conveyancing. She has also provided support for lawyers in office administration, financial and secretarial matters.

Yatie is a hardworking and dedicated member of this chambers, often going the extra mile to get things done. Yatie believes in helping the marginalised.

In her personal capacity, she assists the young and the unfortunate by providing them with emotional and financial support. Yatie was born in Ipoh, Perak, and received her early education in Kulim, Kedah. She is married, and has three children.

Norhayati Jamari

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