



[In-person] Walking the Line: Ethics, Advocacy and Integrity in Mediation Practice

PART OF



**SINGAPORE
CONVENTION
WEEK 2025**

Scan the QR code
below to register:



29 August 2025, Friday

9.30am – 12.05pm

(Lunch will be provided for participants.)



Meeting Room 1 (Level 3)

Marina One West Tower

9 Straits View

Singapore 018937



No. of Public CPD
Points:
**2.0 (Inclusive of 1.5
Public MEC Points)**

Practice Area:
**Alternative
Dispute
Resolution**

Training
Level:
General

About the Programme

As mediation gains traction across commercial, family, and cross-border disputes, ethical dilemmas are bound to arise, and challenge the core tenets of mediation practice.

Take for example impartiality and neutrality: What are the risks when advocates blur the line between persuasion and pressure? How far should mediators intervene before neutrality is compromised? Can a balance be struck between impartiality and the underlying desire to settle a matter for economic and reputational reasons?

On party autonomy, to what extent does a mediator have to delve into the fairness of certain parties' decisions? Then, on confidentiality, what is a mediator or advocate to do if a breach of civil or criminal law is revealed during a caucus, but which will weaken one's bargaining power during the mediation?

This seminar explores the ethical tensions at the heart of mediation practice — especially in multicultural and high-stakes contexts. Bringing together leading voices from Asia, we examine what fairness, integrity, and ultimately professionalism truly look like in the mediation room today. The panel will then explore what and how global standards might emerge for tomorrow, in order to build international trust in the mediation profession.

Admin Note to Singapore Practitioners and s36B Foreign Lawyers in relation to the Mandatory CPD Scheme:

No of Public CPD Points: 2.0 (Inclusive of 1.5 Public MEC Points)
Practice Area: Alternative Dispute Resolution
Training Level: General

Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points are reminded that they must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For this activity, this includes signing in on arrival and signing out at the conclusion of the activity in the manner required by the organiser, and not being absent from the entire activity for more than 15 minutes. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy will not be able to obtain CPD Points for attending the activity. Please refer to <http://www.sileCPDcentre.sg> for more information.

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Programme Outline

Time	Programme
9.00am – 9.30am	Registration
9.30am – 9.35am	Welcome Remarks See Chern Yang – Co-Chairperson (Mediation Committee), The Law Society of Singapore; Director, Drew & Napier LLC
9.35am – 10.05am	Keynote Address Eric Chua – Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Social and Family Development
10.05am – 10.35am	Break (Coffee/Tea)
10.35am – 12.00pm	Panel Discussion <u>Moderator</u> Professor Joel Lee – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore <u>Panellists</u> Associate Professor Dorcas Quek Anderson – Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University A J Jawad – Registrar, International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC, Hyderabad) Kevin Kwek – Vice-Chairperson (Mediation Committee), The Law Society of Singapore; Partner, Kennedys Legal Solutions Yang Wenting – Assistant Secretary-General, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Mediation Center (Greater Bay Area)
12.00pm – 12.05pm	Closing Remarks
12.05pm	End (Lunch will be provided for participants.)

Speakers' Profiles



Eric Chua – Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Social and Family Development

Mr Eric Chua is the Senior Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Social and Family Development and the Ministry of Law, and the Member of Parliament for Queenstown SMC.

Before entering politics, Mr Chua spent 17 years with the Singapore Civil Defence Force, where he led frontline operations as Division Commander, and later directed the national SGSecure Programme, helping to build stronger, more resilient communities. He has also been deeply involved in youth work, community building, and supporting vulnerable families, for over 15 years.

Since being elected in 2020, he has continued to focus on issues that matter deeply to people, from mental wellness and active ageing, to social mobility and inclusion. In government, he co-chaired the Enabling Masterplan 2030, setting out Singapore's vision to be a more inclusive society. He led Singapore's first dialogue with the United Nations on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and played a key role in refreshing the Disability Sports Master Plan.

Closer to home in Queenstown, Mr Chua launched SafePod, a ground-up mental wellness initiative, and has championed efforts like dementia-friendly neighbourhoods, and senior employment initiatives.

Outside of his official roles, he is a proud husband and father, and a lover of music, especially jazz and classical. A former student conductor, he still enjoys picking up the baton when the opportunity arises.



See Chern Yang – Co-Chairperson (Mediation Committee), The Law Society of Singapore; Director, Drew & Napier LLC

Chern Yang is a civil commercial matters litigator with a focus on company and contractual claims, medical and other professional misconduct or negligence and family matrimonial matters. The Legal 500 Asia-Pacific 2019 edition has praised Chern Yang as a "strategic thinker" and Benchmark Litigation 2025 has recognised him as a Litigation Star.

He has extensive experience as a mediator and has attended advanced mediation training with Harvard Law School and Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law. He is accredited as Certified Mediator by the International Mediation Institute (IMI) and the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) and holds appointments with the following organisations:

- International Mediator, Singapore International Mediation Centre
- Principal Mediator, Singapore Mediation Centre
- Mediator, World Intellectual Property Office Arbitration and Mediation Center (WIPO AMC)

- Mediator, Shanghai Commercial Mediation Center 上海经贸商事调解中心
- Mediator, Shanghai Baoshan International Commercial Mediation Center 上海宝山泛亚国际商事调解中心
- Mediator, The BnR International Commercial Mediation Center (Beijing) 一带一路国际商事调解中心
- Mediator, Hetao International Commercial Mediation Center (Shenzhen) 深圳市福田区河套国际商事调解中心
- Arbitrator, Tianjin Arbitration Commission 天津仲裁委员会
- Mediator, Vietnam Mediation Center
- Mediator, Law Society of Singapore Family Law Mediation Scheme
- Volunteer Mediator, State Courts Centre for Dispute Resolution
- Mediator, Healthcare Mediation Scheme administered by MOH Holdings Pte Ltd

Chern Yang is appointed to the adjunct training faculty of the SMC. He regularly teaches mediation in Singapore and China and has also done so for the Judiciary in Brunei, Thailand, Myanmar, and Government Officials in Fiji. In addition, he has assessed and accredited mediators for SMC in Singapore, Malaysia, and Fiji.

In 2015, Chern Yang was awarded the Outstanding Court Volunteer (Advocate and Solicitor) by the State Courts of Singapore in recognition of his mediation work. He is currently Co-Chair of the Law Society of Singapore Mediation Committee and the Foreign Bar Liaison Committee (China Chapter).



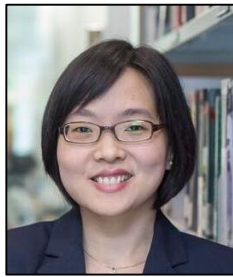
Professor Joel Lee – Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

Joel Lee is a Professor at the Faculty of Law, the National University of Singapore. Joel co-pioneered the teaching of Negotiation and Mediation in the Singapore Universities and has played a significant role in furthering the development of mediation in Singapore, not just in education but in practice. A graduate of Victoria University of Wellington and Harvard Law Schools, Joel is a principal mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre and a Master Trainer with Peacemakers.

Joel was a member of the International Mediation Institute's Independent Standards Commission and Intercultural Taskforce and was also a key member of the Ministry of Law's Working Group on International Commercial Mediation. Joel is presently the founding Chair of the Board of the Singapore International Mediation Institute. He is also a Certified Trainer of Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP).

Joel has taught overseas at the University of Copenhagen (Denmark), University of Law, Economics and Science of Aix-Marseille (Aix-en-Provence France) and Anglia Law School (UK) and is the co-editor and co-author of the book "An Asian Perspective on Mediation" and the "Singapore Mediation Handbook", and the General Editor for the Asian Journal on Mediation. In 2011, Joel was awarded the Outstanding Educator Award which is the National

University of Singapore's highest teaching award. Joel was also awarded the Singapore's Public Service Medal in 2023 for his work in promoting mediation.



Associate Professor Dorcas Quek Anderson – Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University

Dorcas is an Associate Professor of Law in the Singapore Management University's Yong Pung How School of Law. Dorcas has more than twenty years of experience as a mediator and in dispute resolution research. She is a mediator with Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC), Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC), Asian Development Bank and the UN Office of the Ombudsman. Dorcas has conducted negotiation and mediation training for SIMC, SMC and the Attorney-General's Chambers. She has also spoken at international events organised by International Chamber of Commerce, Asian Development Bank, UN Women, American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution, and Law and Society Association. Dorcas' research explores the interaction between dispute resolution developments and access to justice. Her research has been published in international journals including the Civil Justice Quarterly and the Harvard Negotiation Law Review.



A J Jawad – Registrar, International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC, Hyderabad)

Mr. A J Jawad is a seasoned advocate with 35 years of experience in the legal field and a distinguished Senior Mediator and Trainer with over 18 years of expertise in civil, commercial, international, and matrimonial mediations.

As a Senior Mediator-Trainer with the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC) of the Supreme Court of India and the Tamil Nadu Mediation and Conciliation Centre (TNMCC) at the High Court of Madras, Mr. Jawad has developed and delivered mediation training programs and Train-the-Trainer programs, ensuring high-quality mediation training within these organisations. Mr. Jawad's work includes conducting workshops on mediation in the National Judicial Academy at Bhopal, India and the Tamil Nadu Judicial Academy, including mediation training programs for newly recruited civil judges. He has also conducted advanced mediation training programs across sectors like civil, commercial, and matrimonial disputes.

Mr. Jawad is an empanelled mediator with the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, where he mediates business disputes and promotes amicable resolutions. He also has extensive experience in cross-border mediations, resolving complex international disputes.

Alongside his mediation work, Mr. Jawad is also empanelled as an arbitrator with the Madras High Court, where he adjudicates disputes and provides alternative dispute resolution services. In addition to his work with institutions in India, Mr. Jawad has contributed to ADR education globally. He served as global faculty for ADR ODR International, UK, and has led mediation training at universities in both India and the UK.

Mr. Jawad now serves as the Registrar of the International Arbitration and Mediation Centre, Hyderabad.



Yang Wenting – Assistant Secretary-General, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Mediation Center (Greater Bay Area)

Yang Wenting holds a Master of Laws and serves as Assistant Secretary-General of the CCPIT Mediation Center (Greater Bay Area). She is a dedicated advocate for advancing commercial mediation in China, with a specialized focus on promoting Intellectual Property mediation globally. She significantly contributed to revising the CCPIT Mediation Center Rules, developing mediator training frameworks, and advancing academic research initiatives. As a case manager, she managed over 50 domestic and international commercial disputes across intellectual property, cross-border trade, and finance, specializing in end-to-end case management, multiparty mediation coordination, strategic relationship cultivation.

Registration Fees

Membership Category	Fees (Inclusive of 9% GST and course materials)
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- 1.2 The registration fee is due and payable upon registration and must be received prior to the programme.
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- 1.4 The Law Society reserves the right to refuse to register or admit any participant, and to cancel or postpone the programme.

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 - ii. 8 to 19 calendar days before commencement date: 50% of registration fee.
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- 4.3 You agree that any personal information you submit as part of your registration for the programme is accurate and that you have all necessary permissions to submit such personal information.