EVENING TALK ON THE EXPERT EVIDENCE AND THE ROLE OF THE EXPERT WITNESS

Event Details:

Date : 28th May 2015 (Thursday)
Duration : 2 hours
Time : 7pm – 9pm (Dinner & Registration start at 6pm)
Venue : School of Accountancy/ School of Law
Singapore Management University
60 Stamford Road Level 2
Singapore 178900
Fees : $30.00 per pax for IES Members
$50.00 per pax for Non-Members
PDU : To be confirmed
Closing Date of Registration : 20th May 2015 (Wednesday)

Programme Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>By:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00pm-6.45pm</td>
<td>Registration / Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.45pm-7.00pm</td>
<td>Welcome Speech</td>
<td>Er. Karthigayan</td>
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<td>7.00pm-8.30pm</td>
<td>Expert Evidence &amp; the role of the Expert Witness</td>
<td>Mr. Karam S. Parmar</td>
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<td>8.30pm-9.00pm</td>
<td>Q &amp; A Session</td>
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<td>9.00pm</td>
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SYNOPSIS OF THE TALK

With the increase in litigation over the years, including engineering related litigation, the demand for expert witnesses and expert evidence has also increased. It is most obviously needed when the evaluation of issues in dispute requires technical or scientific knowledge which only an expert in the relevant field is likely to possess. This is especially so where the expert evidence required is outside the knowledge and experience of the judge/arbitrator trying the case.

At the same time, the use of expert evidence in litigation has been more extensive than the rules envisaged. Many “experts” jumping onto the bandwagon have found that the role of the expert witness may not be as straightforward as initially envisaged. As such there has been a reaction to the overuse of experts and/or witnesses who do not qualify as experts.

This talk is intended to give participants an oversight of expert evidence in litigation and the role of the expert witness. The talk will address issues such as what is expert evidence; what is the purpose of expert evidence; who is an expert; the role of the expert; the importance of the independence of the expert; rules of expert evidence; judicial reliance on expert evidence; and the weight given to expert evidence.

SPEAKER PROFILE

About Karam

Karam is a senior and founding partner of the firm. He is currently the firm’s administration partner and heads its building and construction department.

Karam holds dual qualifications in engineering and law. He obtained his civil engineering degree from the National University of Singapore in 1988 following which he obtained a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of London in 1991. He was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1992 before he returned to Singapore to be admitted to the Singapore Bar. In 1996, Karam returned to London to obtain his Master of Laws in Construction Law and Arbitration from the University of London. Inevitably, a large part of his practice now involves arbitration work and the promotion of arbitration.

After graduating from the National University of Singapore, Karam worked as a corporate planner with the Development Bank of Singapore. He commenced his legal career 4 years later, in 1992, with the law firm of Messrs Lee & Lee. His background in engineering and exposure in a non-legal discipline enables Karam to better understand his clients’ problems when trying to find not only legal but practical solutions.

Areas of Practice

While a significant part of his area of practice involves the construction industry, important elements of Karam’s practice include insurance, forensic work and general commercial transactions. Over the years, Karam has gained considerable experience in both non-contentious and contentious matters. On the non-contentious front, he regularly advises clients on various areas of the law and on documentation such as performance bonds, letters of intent, guarantees, warranties, indemnities, deeds of assignment, insurance policies, the many forms of building and consultancy agreements and various commercial agreements. More recent developments in his practice have seen him advise on public-private partnership projects and advise relevant agencies in connection with commissioned investigations into potential company malpractices.
How to register:

Online Registration & Payment Modes

- For IES Members and Non-Members
  
  Please visit https://www.ies.org.sg/event_view.php?event_id=1499 to register online and transact your payment via your VISA/ MasterCard.

- All fees payment via cheque
  
  Account payable/crossed Cheque to ‘IES’ via post
  
  (At the back of your Cheque, please indicate your Name and EEP)
  
  Postal Address:
  
  The Institution of Engineers, Singapore
  
  70 Bukit Tinggi Road, Singapore 289758
  
  Attention: Grace Bong

- All fees payment via AXS
  
  AXS kiosks – All fees can be transacted via island-wide AXS kiosks.


  Please select/input/key in:
  
  - Course/Event ID 1499
  
  Remarks EEP

Enquiries: Please contact: Ms Grace at DID: 6461 1241 or email: grace@iesnet.org.sg.

Terms and Conditions for Registration

Registration will be on a first-come-first-served basis and will only be accepted upon the receipt of payment. Please notify us in writing of any change in your registration at least 7 working days before the commencement date.

Confirmation of Registration

Confirmation of registration will be given 7 working days before the commencement date via email. If you do not receive the said confirmation email, please contact Grace at Tel: 6461-1241.

Withdrawals/Refunds of Fees

Notice of withdrawal must be given in writing, policy on refund of course fee is as follows:

- FULL refund if we receive your written notice of withdrawal at least 7 days before the commencement date.
- NO refund otherwise.
- No show of participant would not be accepted as reason for withdrawal/ refund
- Replacement is allowed but restricted to once only. Replacement will be allowed only if written notice is received before the commencement date. However, when a member is replaced by anon-member, the participant has to pay the difference in the relevant fees.