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JAWATANKUASA PEGUAM PULAU PINANG PENANG BAR COMMITTEE

CPC 5/20

24 Apr 2020

To Members of the Penang Bar,

Closure of Penang Land Registry and District Land Offices during Movement Control Order Period

We draw members' attention to the Penang Bar Committee's previous Circular 11/20 dated 17 Mar 2020, namely Appendix B which refers to a notification from the Office of Lands and Mines, Penang on the closure of the Penang Land Registry and District Land Offices during the Movement Control Order (MCO).

We wish to inform members that the Subcommittee had written to the Penang State Director of Lands and Mines on 9 Apr 2020 requesting for an "as of right" waiver of all delayed registration fees ("*denda lewat*") which may be imposed for late presentations of instruments due to the impact of the MCO. We also supported our request by referring to the practice adopted by the State Land Registries of Wilayah Persekutuan, Selangor and Johore which are granting automatic waivers of delayed registration fees for transactions due during the MCO period.

We have received a reply via Whatsapp from the Penang State Director of Lands and Mines on 20 Apr 2020, which is summarised as follows for members' information and attention:

- The Penang Land Registry and District Land Offices will grant waiver of delayed registration fees for instruments that cannot be presented during the MCO period provided the "borang pengecualian denda lewat" is enclosed with each relevant presentation in accordance with the Penang Land Rules to enable the Registrar of Title/Land Administrator to process the waiver application and to allow smooth processing and proper recording in the e-Tanah system at the SPOC counters; and
- Late presentations of instruments due to reasons other than the MCO will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Members are therefore advised to take note of the above and to comply accordingly.

Zemilah Mohd Noor
Chairperson
Conveyancing Practice Subcommittee