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## JAWATANKUASA PEGUAM PULAU PINANG PENANG BAR COMMITTEE

Circular 23/20 5 Nov 2020

To Members of the Penang Bar,

## General Reminder on Compliance of Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

Due to the spike in Covid-19 cases since early Oct 2020 and daily surge of reported cases in the State, the Committee, after receiving feedback from some Members, would like to issue this timely reminder to all Members and Pupils of the Penang Bar to be vigilant and ensure that the relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as directed by the National Security Council (NSC) and Ministry of Health (MOH) are complied with and observed at all material times, be it in your own personal environments and space or at your respective offices and workplaces.

We regret to note that some Members pull down their face masks to the chin or remove their masks completely when chatting with fellow lawyer or their clients in Court while waiting for their cases to be called-up. We have also been informed that some Members and Pupils who visit the Bar Secretariat and Library refuse to wear their face masks properly and fail to observe social distancing with one another despite being reminded to do so by the Secretariat Staff.

The MOH issues constant reminders to the public that the Covid-19 virus is now present in the community and everyone should therefore play their part and make every effort to break the chain of infection. To this end, we wish to remind Members who are employers of legal firms to ensure that their employees, be it lawyers or administrative staff, comply with the relevant SOP when dealing with the Courts and other agencies and institutions at all times.

We further implore Members to support each other during these trying times and avoid engaging in speculation or spreading unverified information as no one is immune from the risk of infection.

Lee Guan Tong Chairman