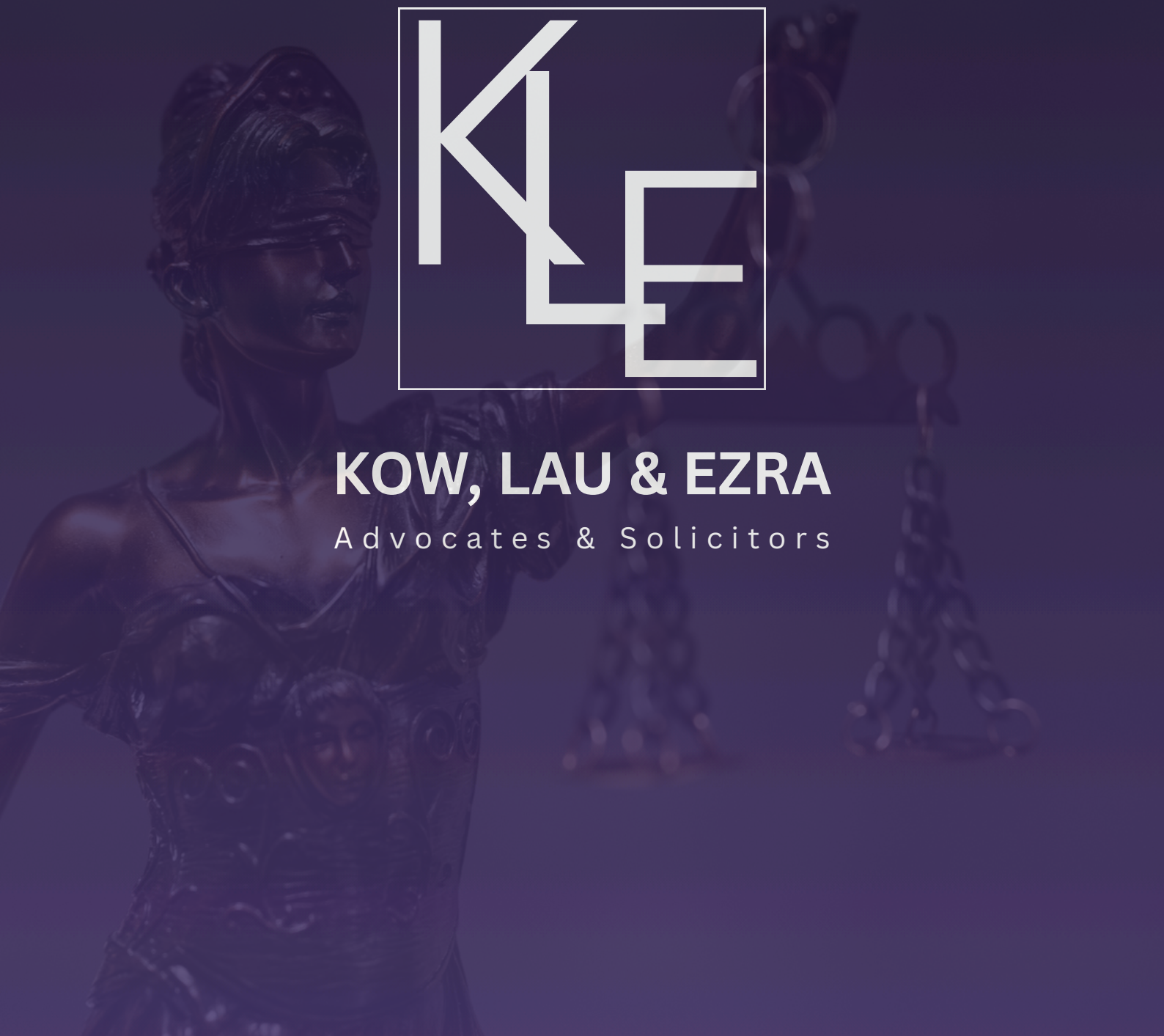
FIRM PROFILE



KOW, LAU & EZRA

Advocates & Solicitors

Our Philosophy

When it comes to advocacy and counsel, our philosophy is tro be critically responsive and attuned to the needs of our clients in an ever-changing globalised environment, An unwavering passion for excellence and a spirit of innovation become the hallmarks of our seal of excellence.

Our Vision

Our vision is to stand as worthy partners with institutions investing or perating in Malaysia. We aim to bring value to our clients with our persistent leadership and knowledge base that expands our jurisdiction.

Our Core Values

We would not have become who we are now without our core values - integrity, independence, and professionalism - that we have held onto to from the very conception of our practice. They have propelled us to great heights and we are not about to slow down.

CONSULTANT

Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Richard Malanjum
r.malanjum@klelegal.com.my



Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Richard Malanjum held the position of Judge of the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak from 1993 to 2002. Thereafter, he was elevated as a Judge of the Court of Appeal from 2002 to 2005. He was then made a Judge of the Federal Court of Malaysia from 2005-2006. In 2006, he was appointed as the Chief Judge of Sabah and Sarawak, holding the position for 12 years from 2006 to 2018. In 2018, Tun Richard Malanjum marked a new milestone in the country's judicial history as the first person from the Borneo states to be appointed Chief Justice of Malaysia. Upon retiring in 2019, he had served at the Bench for over two decades, during which he had delivered significant court rulings and played a pivotal role in shaping the digitalisation of judicial administration into what it is today.

Tun Richard Malanjum was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya and joins Kow, Lau & Ezra as a Consultant.



PARTNER

Dato' Nicholas Kow Eng Chuan
nicholas.kow@klelegal.com.my

Nicholas Kow Eng Chuan obtained his Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) degree from the Malaysia Multimedia University. Upon graduation, he chambered in the prestigious law firm of Messrs Ghazi & Lim in Penang and was thereafter retained as an Associate in the said firm in their Dispute Resolution Department.

Nicholas Kow was then offered a place at the renowned T.C Beirne Law School at the University of Queensland, a top 100 world ranking university for his Masters of Laws (LL.M) degree.

Nicholas Kow's area of practice focuses primarily in general litigation, coupled with a variety of other areas including disputes arising under sale of goods, partnerships, company law, commercial law, contract law, medical negligence, intellectual property, construction, bankruptcy and agency law, amongst many. Nicholas Kow has done a number of dispute resolution cases including land matters. His primary focus is also in the area of commercial crime with particular emphasis in Anti Money Laundering (AMLATFA) offense and white-collar crimes.



PARTNER

Emile Ezra Bin Md Hussain

emileezra@klelegal.com.my

Emile Ezra Bin Md Hussain, graduated from Malaysia Multimedia University. Having chambered in Messrs Ghazi & Lim in Penang, he was subsequently called to the Bar of Malaya as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya.

He then commenced his practice with one of the prestigious law firms in Kuala Lumpur known as Messrs Chooi & Company particularly in their Dispute Resolution Department before leaving to join as a Founding Partner of Messrs Kow, Lau & Ezra.

Primarily a civil/criminal litigator his primary focus is also in the area of commercial crime with particular emphasis in Anti Money Laundering (AMLATFA) offence and white-collar crimes.

He also handles Probate and Administration cases together with Family Practice and Disputes. Emile Ezra is also a counsel for appellate court matters. In the course of practice, he has garnered expertise in litigating corporate banking disputes and money laundering defense works. He acted mainly for the major banks in Malaysia and other prominent figures in white-collar crimes cases.



LEGAL ASSOCIATE

Nur Amelia Izlyn Binti Azhari

amelia@klelegal.com.my

Nur Amelia Izlyn Binti Azhari holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B Hons) from the International Islamic University Malaysia and was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya upon having completed her pupillage at Kow, Lau & Ezra under the tutelage of Mr Emile Ezra. Following her admission, she returned to the firm to commence practice as an Associate.

Primarily focused in general litigation, Amelia has assisted clients in various matters pertaining to defamation law, bankruptcy law and employment related disputes.

Amelia works closely with the Partners and assists as junior counsel in hearings and trials in the subordinate courts, High Courts and the appellate courts of Malaysia.

Beyond her litigation practice, Amelia has experience in advising corporate clients on various commercial agreements and contractual matters. She is also involved in conveyancing matters and is well-versed in drafting and preparing Sale and Purchase Agreements for sub-sale property transactions.

Dispute Resolution - Litigation & Arbitration

Pre-litigation Strategic Analysis

Our clients can be assured that our dispute resolution advice will enable them to leverage on the strength of their legal rights. Whether going for an arbitration or injunction, our team of seasoned dispute resolution lawyers adopts the most effective and commercially viable option for all our clients.

Banking, Restructuring and Insolvency Litigation

Our strong banking and insolvency team is equipped to handle high volumes of recovery and complex insolvency instructions, particularly during an economic recession.

Shareholder's disputes and Oppression Claims

Kow, Lau & Ezra had significant expression representing investments funds, companies and individual investors in all types of shareholder disputes and oppression claims. In addition, our attorneys have litigated cases involving, but no limited to, minority shareholder oppression, allegations of fraudulent investment offerings and subscribing agreements.

Corporate and Commercial Dispute Resolution

The firm's approach to dispute resolution is to achieve the results that fit our clients' business needs, be it protecting their potion before proceedings are issued, mediating and negotiating settlements or pursuing the matter to trial.
Primarily, the team plans strategies in collaboration with instructing solicitors and clients.

With an understanding of the nature of litigation in Malaysia and foreign jurisdictions, the firm assists clients in devising effective interlocutory strategies and alternative resolution to speed up and maximize recoveries.

Employment & Industrial Relations

Collective Agreements and Trade Unions

The firm had represented public listed companies in negotiating and advising on collective agreements with the employees' union. We have also conducted trials on employees' behalf in respect of dispute in collective agreements.

Reorganizing Affecting Employees and Retrenchment Exercise

Our legal team assists clients in planning corporate restructuring.
We also offer legal advice to clients on procedures to adhere to in transferring employees and on the implementation of retrenchment exercises.

Employment Handbooks

We have regularly advised clients on ways to improve compliance with the Malaysian employment and industrial law and regulations.

The firm had always been highly regarded and engaged by large multi-national corporations to advice, review and draft employment handbooks and confidentiality agreements.

Wrongful Dismissal

Industrial disputes and termination cases are extremely sensitive in most cases. In matters as such, the firm takes a principled approach in representing employers. It has chalked up a wide swath of experience covering myriad industries representing employers in difficult court cases relating to unfair dismissals.

Sexual Harassment

Our lawyers have been involved in sexual harassment cases. Because of our vast experience, clients have employed our firm to be part of their internal high level investigation team for allegations that involved sexual harassment and abuse.

Commercial

Real Estate

The real estate sector is open to foreign ownership. We work for a diverse national client base in addition to foreign investors.

We advise on strategic investment acquisition and disposals, complex development and asset management work.

Competition Law

We are engaged in competition law audit, compliance and advice, and provide strong linkages to international experts. Malaysia's competition is in its nascent stage having been in force only from 2012. It provides the opportunity for corporations to get it right and be compliant on a clean state.

Corporate

Our Corporate and Commercial Team covers from M&A and Corporate Finance to Real Estate and Banking to Competition Law and Foreign Direct Investments.

Our team grounds its advice on a thorough understanding of your clients' commercial objectives. This is also the platform on which we work closely with foreign communities to meet the regulatory requirements of Malaysia's service, resource and manufacturing sectors. We help clients in managing commercial relationships, investments, joint ventures, business transactions, and collaborations in various industry sectors.

Mergers and Acquisitions

We pride ourselves in having extensive experience in covering friendly or hostile takeovers, joint ventures, and M&A transactions, to name a few.

Our lawyers from the firm's other practice areas will be roped in where due diligence processes require their expertise. This 360 degrees approach allows us to utilize out full repertoire in the most cost-effective and time sensitive manner.

Corporate Restructuring

We distinguish ourselves by finding creative and practical solutions to complex business and legal issues. We handle corporate restructuring, debt for equity exchanges, workouts, sales and insolvency-related litigation of every size and complexity and tact and diplomacy. Our team counsels many corporations and financial institutions in a wide array of restructuring transactions, workouts and litigation.

Equity Capital Market

Having been a counsel for international offerings, we have vast experience acting as issuers, underwriters and intermediaries in Initial Public Offerings. We also undertake to ensure that our clients are compliant with laws of corporate finance.

Intellectual Property

We offer comprehensive services to cover the needs of intellectual property and technology owners. Our client is out most important concern. We take on the work and responsibilities entrusted to us with full commitment backed by in-depth knowledge and specialized skills honed from years of experience practicing in this field.

Patent, Industrial Design and Trade Mark Prosecution and Registration

If it's worth copying, it's worth protecting and protection often starts with registration. We recognize that effective protection of our clients' IP rights means more than just obtaining registration or grant of a patent, industrial design or trademark. It means understanding our client's underlying business objectives and learning not only what our client wants bu also why. We consider at every stage if we can advance our client's interest by developing a less costly or more effective protection structure or by using an entirely different approach. We take pride in our innovative ability which had enabled us to come up with optimum strategy for gaining protection for our clients in Malaysia and outside.

Copyright Protection

We are one of the leading multimedia, entertainment and copyright law practices in Malaysia. Whether measured in terms of quality and range of our clients or by the complexity and precedent setting copyright transactions and disputes we handle, we consistently emerge amongst the top.

Through years of working closely with our clients, our lawyers have a comprehensive and thorough knowledge of the industries in which they work in. These range from music, film, multimedia and creative arts, content production and broadcast, book publishing, software, copyright collection societies, performance contracts, event management, production and financing.

Our detailed understanding and knowledge have enabled us to work effectively, producing results which often surpass clients' expectations despite the constantly changing landscape of business driven by technology and copyright protected assets.

Enforcement

Weather through civil or criminal provisions, we have a stellar reputation in enforcing IP rights behalf of our clients from wide array of industries.

Equipped with an intimate knowledge of the intricacies and workings of the law and local enforcement agencies as well as our extensive experience refined through the years and supported by an intelligence network that is exclusive to us, we have been able to build a solid reputation for our ability to effectively strategies, structure and implement actions to enforce

Intellectual Property

Transactional IP

Our team had decades worth of combines experience - both domestic and international - in helping our clients safeguard their creative assets and business secrets. This includes working with our clients to identify, secure, exploit and maintain their valuable IP assets. This also includes consulting with our clients and coming up with strategies for protecting trade secrets and confidential information through internal processes and employment-related procedures.

We have particular experience in IP licensing and the negotiation of such agreements across a vast range of technological fields and industries. Our experience to the sale or purchase of numerous types of intellectual property as well as perfecting and transferring security interest in intellectual property.

Franchising

Our extensive experience in franchising practice covers all aspects of franchise litigation and franchise agreement assistance. As franchise businesses gain a firm foothold in Malaysia, we continue to assist foreign franchisers in securing approval to grant franchises in Malaysia and obtaining registration of franchisees on behalf of master franchisees and individual franchisees. We comb through our client's franchise agreement and help them decipher the fine print. We discuss our recommendations and explain the legal realities to our clients in language that they can understand

IP Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Our IP litigation and dispute resolution team is amongst the elite in this field of expertise. To our credit, we have acted in landmark IP cases and have established a proven record of effective representation across the entire spectrum of IP litigation and dispute resolution including infringement actions, passing-off and unfair competition, invalidation and rectification, domain name disputes, licensing disputes, breach of contracts involving IP rights, confidential information and trade secrets.

Panel Banks

PUBLIC BANK
CIMB BANK
RHB
Maybank

Islamic Banking

PUBLIC ISLAMIC BANK
CIMB ISLAMIC
RHB Islamic Bank
Maybank Islamic

Corporate Client Panelship

TROPICANA CORPORATION BERHAD
celcomdigi
JOHOR CORPORATION
ASPEN GROUP
prasarana