

CHAMBERING STUDENTS & YOUNG LAWYERS SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

Objectives.....

The underlying objective of this subcommittee is to facilitate the professional development of our younger members to achieve their fullest potential.

Call to the Bar....



Until end of 2015, there are about 59 pupils admitted to the Perak Bar. We made it a point to appear at each and every short call and long call. Assistance was provided by our able staffs namely Ms. Karen & Cik Azie to all Chambies in regards to their admission applications.

The Bar Council and Perak Bar objected to the admission of Judy Blacious Pereira ['Jude'], citing a Suhakam inquiry into a case involving the arrest of five lawyers during a candlelight vigil in 2009, which held that Pereira was not a credible witness. Justice Lee Swee Seng who heard the petition allowed the admission on condition that he attends some human rights seminars, forums or activities organized by the Bar Council before 25/3/2015. On 25/3/2015, when the matter was called before Komathy J, we again took objection as Jude failed to satisfy the requirements. Jude informed that he had on his own initiative attended those organised by Proham and office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. On March 31, the learned Judicial Commissioner allowed Jude's admission, on his personal undertaking that he would attend eight hours of the Bar's seminars within three months. Bar Council then filed an appeal to Court of Appeal and was successful.

Seminar & Talks

We organized series of lectures to provide in depth knowledge of difference branches of law. Since the seminars held last year were more focused on Civil Litigation, this year we concentrated on criminal and family law. We would rate our seminars a success as there were approximately 90 participants at each seminar.



Our first seminar was on Criminal Advocacy. We had the honor of inviting Justice Noorin Binti Badarudin to guide our young practitioner on the 'do & donts' in criminal advocacy. The 2-hour talk was unexpectedly enlightening especially with Her Ladyships pleasant speech delivery.

The next talk was held on 4-6-2015 whereby Ms. Puspha Ratnam gave detailed lecture on Grounds for Divorce. She also touched on the basic procedure for divorce cases.

The committee then collaborated with Family Law Committee of Bar Council for the half day seminar on 'Adoption, Guardianship, Custody, Access and Maintenance' on 7-8-2015. The speakers for this seminar were Honey Tan Lay Ean and our very own, Ms Minderjit Kaur. I



wish to take this opportunity to thank our member, Ms. Sumathy Sivamany for all her support in arranging this seminar.



Last but not least, we had a 'Teh Tarik Session' with the Chairman of Perak Bar, Mr. Kenny Lai on 29-7-2015. Kenny shared his valuable experience with our young members. It also provided opportunity to our members to raise their concerns regarding their welfare and practice. Looking at the support and

lively discussion, we intend to hold such session in future and may extend to senior members.

Acknowledgment

I wish to place sincere thanks to all Perak Bar members and fellow committee members especially Mr. Varpal who worked hand in hand with me to arrange the seminars. Special mention should also be made about our younger lawyers who actively participated in all our events – without their efforts, none of the events would be successful. Staffs, Ms. Karen & Cik Azie – for their assiduous work rate. I also convey my gratitude to Mr. Kenny Lai who during his tenure had been a pleasant & motivating Chairman.

Babu Raj Raja Gopal
Chairman

LAPORAN JAWATANKUASA KECIL SYARIAH

Pengerusi : Puan Noran Asma' Binti Abu Bakar
Penasihat : Dato' Hjh Shamsuriah Binti Sulaiman
Ahli-Ahli Jawatankuasa (AJK) : Puan Hajah Salwah Binti Ghazali
: Puan Rahimi Binti Ramli

Jawatankuasa kecil Syariah telah mengendalikan mensyuarat untuk melantik Ahli Jawatankuasa (AJK) bagi tahun 2015-2016 dan aktiviti-aktiviti yang dicadangkan.

Jawatankuasa kecil Syariah telah mengikuti beberapa seminar dan pengurusan yang dianjurkan oleh Mahkamah Syariah Perak, Seminar Undang-Undang di anjurkan oleh Mahkamah Syariah Pahang pada 09/01/2016, Seminar Undang-Undang di Mahkamah Syariah Kelantan pada 17/02/2016 dan 18/02/2016, Seminar Literasi Undang-Undang Syariah Keluarga Islam bersama Persatuan Wanita untuk Wanita Perak dan Badan Kebajikan UMNO Perak di Dewan SUK, Ipoh, Perak dan Seminar Undang-Undang di anjurkan oleh PGSM, cawangan Utara.

Pihak Jawatankuasa juga telah berjaya mendapatkan satu bilik di Bangunan Mahkamah Tinggi Syariah Perak untuk kegunaan semua Peguam-Peguam Syariah khususnya.

Bertarikh pada 22 haribulan Januari, 2016.

(t.t)

PUAN NORAN ASMA' BINTI ABU BAKAR

Pengerusi

Jawatankuasa Kecil Syariah

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairperson : Nurul Jannah Binti Khairul Anuar

Sub-Committee Members : Mior Muhammad Fadhli Bin Mior Shaifuddin
Nurul Azira Binti Abdul Aziz

I took up this portfolio on the month of July 2015 and I have to admit that the social sub-committee portfolio is not an easy task for me to run especially when I am also holding the IT/Publicity portfolio. I humbly apologize to Members that this year social committee is not as merrier as last year's with all the exciting activities that we had done before but I am sure that the next candidate for this committee will make sure that this committee will provide the best events and activities for members to join and participate.

Our main task this year is to organize our Annual Dinner (AD) smoothly as the previous years. This year's AD themed is 'Halloween Night'. We are trying to change the norm by providing buffet varieties instead of the normal sit down dinner where surprisingly we had 20 tables full and thanks to all the members who came to support us by not just attending our dinner but fully-dressed to suit the theme.

Our dinner started with slow music by the band and the singer and then it went wild and chilly when suddenly a real-life Annabelle and few ghosts behind her came into the hall and dance! We hope that this year AD was indeed a memorable night for all the members who attend. We seek more supports from the Members of Perak Bar to come to our AD and hope that next year will be much more interesting to all beloved members.







I would like to thank my Sub-Committee members, Mior Fadhli and Nurul Azira for the marvelous job that night and also the hard works months before the AD. Not to forget my ladies from the Secretariat, Charen and Azie for the helps and work well done and to the Perak Bar Committee 2015/2016 for the supports and trust on me.

Thank you.

Dated 13th January, 2016

(sgd)
NURUL JANNAH BINTI KHAIRUL ANUAR
Chairperson
Social Sub-Committee
2015/2016



**PUSAT BANTUAN GUAMAN MAJLIS PEGUAM (PERAK) BAR
COUNCIL LEGAL AID CENTRE (PERAK)**

No. 39, Jalan Dato Maharajalela, 30000 Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan.

P.O. 536, 30710 Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan.

Tel: 05-2550523

Fax: 05- 2431530

E-Mail: peraklac@gmail.com

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE BAR COUNCIL LEGAL AID CENTRE
(LAC) (PERAK) FOR FEB 2015 - JAN 2016**

SUBCOMITTEE MEMBERS / OFFICE BEARERS

The subcommittee comprises of the following members:-

: Balakrishna Balaravi Pillai
Abd. Nasir Wahid @ Man
Amani Williams-Hunt
Ashwin Kumar
Awatif Ahmad Bashir
Chiang Mei Wan
Kathan Maruthamuthu
Kumaresan Shanmugam
Rajasegaran Ramasamy

Assisted by the day-to-day operations of the Secretariat by:

Executive Officer : Abirashini Pillai Gopi
Office Administrator : Saralawati Sulaiman

& the team of Pupil in Chambers who are there assisting every full working day of the year, both in Court and at the Secretariat. (Thank you guys ;-)

LAC/YBGK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015

**A. YAYASAN BANTUAN GUAMAN KEBANGSAAN (YBGK)
NATIONAL LEGAL AID FOUNDATION (NLAF)**

For 2015, the biggest task in hand for the subcommittee was the YBGK portfolio which it is tasked to overlook.

YBGK Perak covers 17 court centres in Perak and one court centre in Pahang, which is the Cameron Highlands court.

CHART A1: YBGK CLIENTS

No.	Clinic/Program	January – December 2014	January – December 2015
1	Walk-In	291	298
2	Court Letter	51	177
3	Remand	10,505	12,637
4	Bail	2,943	4,703
5	Mitigation	3,109	5,262
6	Prison Letter	-	1
Sub-Total YBGK Clients		16,899	23,078

I) Daily Duty by Duty Counsels placed at Perak Courts (and Cameron Highlands) via the monthly Duty Rosters

Getting access and representation for “every single Malaysian” being arrested and charged for any sort of criminal offence(s) was the main goal of the Perak LAC as it was noticed from the previous years that only the main courts in Ipoh had YBGK counsels on duty everyday. Even then, there was only one (1) duty counsel in Ipoh handling six (6) criminal lower courts and remand hearings with all proceedings almost going on simultaneously which meant that only accused (OKTs) who were lucky or whom that particular Duty Counsel chose/wanted to represent got representation on a particular day.

However, with more members signing up to become YBGK counsels (due to better remunerations from 1st May 2014 for matters from the stages of “arrest to hearing”), it was changed to having four (4) Duty Counsels for Ipoh Lower courts every working day of the year and having one (1) Duty Counsel on weekends and public holidays.

Taiping Courts went from having an occasional Duty Counsel on duty a few times a week to having two (2) Duty Counsels every working day and (1) Duty Counsel on weekends and public holidays.

As for the other courts in the state, most, if not all, currently have one (1) Duty Counsel on duty every working day of the week (Gerik / Pengkalan Hulu has a duty Counsel about 2-3 times a week). As for remand proceedings over the weekends and public holidays, all other weekend remand courts in the state, which are at Manjung and Teluk Intan have also a Duty Counsel on duty.

It is to be noted that WhatsApp is the preferred choice of disseminating information regarding all matters YBGK, from day to day duty rosters which the LAC staff diligently post up everyday of the year (24/7, 365) to discussing issues/matters relating to cases, courts etc.

II) Trial & Appeals

Due to the fact that in previous years, most courts were not having a YBGK Duty Counsel every day, there were many OKTs/Appellants/Respondents who were going unrepresented and did not know of the existence of YBGK. Courts were also not interested and/or bothered with requesting with YBGK that these OKTs were represented for both trials at the Lower Courts and appeals at the High Courts.

**(Please take note that as of 1st MAY 2014, remuneration for only lower court matters increased but the same for appeals to the High Court in fact reduced for Sentencing Appeals from the Magistrate's Court, which constitutes more than 90% of the total appeals. However the following statistic indicates that despite the reduction in remuneration, we have successfully increased representation for both trial and appeal files.)*

CHART A2: APPEALS HANDLED BY YBGK LAWYERS FROM 2012-2015

	2012	2013	2014	2015
HIGH COURT	0	6	60	76
COURT OF APPEAL	0	0	5	5
TOTAL	0	6	65	81

We have successfully requested the various Courts to send the YBGK/LAC Secretariat letters requesting representations which was implemented through various meetings with the Courts/Judges/Registrars/Magistrates/Prisons. Please take note that the courts were reluctant at first to do this, as it was adding on to the load of work that they already had and there was no particular instruction (Circular/"Pekeliling") in regards to this from Putrajaya but it was nevertheless implemented and we must thank all the Lower Courts and the two High Courts in Ipoh and Taiping for this.

II.I. Allocation of files

Trial and Appeal files were distributed/assigned to lawyers from the second (2nd) quarter of year 2014 to May 2015 based on two methods:

*Please take note that prior to the above time frame, it is not known exactly how the files were distributed.

i) Assigned by the Secretariat

These were the files opened by the Secretariat and distributed according to the towns/districts in which each counsel has stated his/her preference in attending/conducting matters. These files are opened based on walk in clients wanting representation and also from letters sent by the courts requesting OKTs held under remand (who perhaps couldn't afford bail, etc.) wanting representation.

**Please take note that as mentioned above, at first there were no such letters from the courts and requests were made by us early 2015 for these letters and not all courts sent out these letters requesting for YBGK representation for the unrepresented. YBGK/ LAC Perak is if not the first, among the first very few states in the country to request the courts to do so. We also have managed to implement the only system in the country which liaises with the various courts to check on the chronology of proceedings (hearings/CMs/mentions) to verify the validity/veracity of a particular trial file claim before a claim is submitted to YBGK RAC(HQ) and the NLAC, Bar Council is in the midst of adopting this method for all other state YBGKs.*

ii) Files brought in & registered by the Duty Counsels

These were files which were opened by the Counsels who were on duty at the various courts and if the OKT claims trial then and there, or when a Prison Inmate is brought to the court for his appeal's mention, the said Counsel who was in court attending duty and had registered the said OKT/ Prison Inmate is given the first choice of taking up the matter, either for the trial or appeal. Please take note again if these Duty Counsels did not take these matters and register them with the Secretariat, these OKTs (for trials) & Prison Inmates (for Appeals) would not have had any representation as the Courts initially were not informing YBGK of the very many unrepresented cases. (refer to Chart A2 above) *(please bear with me if you're reading this report as this has to be repeated over and over due to a few unsatisfied members who kept/keep*

harping on this issue without knowing why it was done and this is my only avenue besides the monthly meetings which has poor turnouts to explain this and set things straight).

Therefore, these Duty Counsels who were diligently doing their duty day in day out had more direct contact to these OYDSs/ OKTs/Inmates and could better set hearing dates and deal with the court, DPPs, families of the OKTs/OYDSs/Inmates, etc. as they are present in court from day one these OYDSs and OKTs/ Inmates were brought to court. This directly also encouraged more Duty Counsels to put up their names for duty as Duty Counsels were insufficient in most courts out of Ipoh in our aim of having a Counsel on duty every single day in every court conducting criminal matters so that no one is left out unrepresented.

iii) As of 18th May 2015

A few YBGK counsels who opted not to do daily duty but had only wanted to handle trial/appeal files were unhappy that Duty Counsels were handling the trial and appeal files which these Duty Counsels had registered themselves with the Secretariat. Not realising that if these Duty Counsels had not registered them, these OKTs/OYDSs/Inmates would have ended up not being represented at all in the beginning stages (prior to courts writing in to YBGK requesting for counsels), these unsatisfied lawyers had requested that this method of assigning files is to be abolished citing monopolisation of files by Duty Counsels. We therefore took this matter up with the NLAC, Bar Council who were of the view that this method could in fact been seen as being bias to Duty Counsels and perceived as touting (not withstanding the reasoning behind it). Therefore this method was abolished. As of then, files are distributed strictly based on a Cab-Rank Rule (alphabetical order) with no regards to as to which court/town/district the matter originates from. Every counsel on the list is offered a particular file if the turn comes to that YBGK counsel registered to handle trials and/or appeals. However the good thing is that by then, almost all courts had agreed in principle to send out letters to the YBGK/LAC Secretariat requesting for representation for those not represented. Please do remember that every single Magistrate/Sessions Court Judge and High Court Registrar handling criminal matters in the state had to be met to get them to agree to send out these letters. There were those who were easily agreeable to this and very accommodating and there were those who initially said it is not part of their court's job scope.

**Please take note that at the time this report is being authored, a few courts have openly stated their displeasure of having non Duty Counsels being given out trial files as many don't turn up for the assigned matters which in turn not only gives YBGK a bad reputation, but in turn denies representation for these OKTs. For an example, HMS Tuan Mohd. Sabri Bin Ismail in the*

Taiping Sessions Criminal Court has openly stated that his court is going to do away with letters being sent to the YBGK Secretariat requesting YBGK counsels and he is going to instruct whoever the Duty Counsel who appears on a particular day a matter is set for hearing in his Honourable Court to handle the said matter. This issue will be highlighted during the next round of meetings with the Perak Lower Courts and/or Taiping Courts.

Please take note that the information pertaining to the assigning of all trial and appeal files is posted on the notice board in the YBGK Secretariat. Email of the same will also be forwarded to all members once every three months. Please take note as well as there are no other state LACs/YBGKs in the whole country which puts such a list up, let alone emails them out.

III. No Show' for Duty/Mention/Hearing

Duty dates are given as requested by the Duty Counsels and trial/appeal files are offered to counsels and it is up to the said counsel to take it up or not. As such, any YBGK counsel that fails to turn up for duty/mention/hearing without a valid reason or without finding a replacement, will be given a show cause letter for which they will have to provide a written reply and state the reason for their failure to turn up for duty on the said date.

The NLAC, Bar Council cautions that not attending to court is a serious matter. The first show cause letter will be issued by the State LAC. If the State LAC Committee is satisfied with the explanation and accepts it, it will not be earmarked as a first 'no show'. But if the State LAC Committee is not contented with the explanation given by the counsel, it will be marked as the first 'no show'. If the same occurs a second time, the matter will be referred to NLAC, Bar Council by the State LAC. (Please take note that the State LAC/YBGK's role ends here and from now it goes into the hands of the NLAC, Bar Council)

Once the NLAC, Bar Council receives a complaint, an inquiry committee will be set up and a decision will be made by NLAC, Bar Council on whether to remove the said lawyer from the YBGK scheme. It is to be noted that the matter can potentially be referred to the Bar Council's Disciplinary Board (DB).

B. LEGAL AID FILES

Along with letters sent by courts for YBGK clients (Malaysians) we had also encouraged the courts to send in letters requesting representation for non-Malaysians wanting access to justice, especially if a non-citizen claims trial in a criminal case. It is to be noted that these cases are to be done on a 100% pro bono basis, with even costs of travelling/other expenses borne by the counsel who takes up the matter. We have only small handful of lawyers who take up these files and we urge more lawyers to please step up to represent these non-citizens.

There was an overall increase in Legal Aid files opened in 2015. However, Family Law files have seen a reduction as the Secretariat will recommend hard-core poor clients to go to Jabatan Bantuan Guaman (JBG) instead because it will only cost them RM 2.00 nett at the JBG.

This recommendation for them to get representation at JBG is done because it is way more affordable (RM 2.00) compared to them having to fork out around RM 1,260.00 (Filing Fees RM620 + E-Filing RM140 + Other out of pocket expenses RM 500) for single petitions disbursements and around RM RM1,208.00 (Filing Fees RM 568 + E-Filing RM140 + Other out of pocket expenses RM 500) for joint petition disbursements to the assigned counsel with the LAC.

Please take note that the LAC Secretariat is not allowed to charge/collect a single cent from any LAC clients and all payments for disbursements are paid directly to the LAC counsel who is taking up the file, with the said LAC counsel then issuing a receipt to the LAC Secretariat of the total amount for disbursements paid by the LAC client to him/her once the file is completed. There is now a schedule given to every LAC client on the breakdown and the maximum charges potentially an LAC counsel could charge his/her LAC client (for disbursements only).

It is also to be noted that the means test is a much stringent and proper test carried out now, as compared to the last time when there was no such tests carried out and files were opened based on "other criteria".

CHART B1: LEGAL AID FILES OPENED (NON-YBGK)

No	Clinic/Program	January – December 2014			January – December 2015		
		Opened	Assigned	Unassigned	Opened	Assigned	Unassigned
1	Non-Citizen	2	2	-	5	5	-
2	Employment	2	2	-	10	10	-
3	Family	35	35	-	18	17	1
4	Syariah	1	1	-	6	5	1
5	Miscellaneous	1	1	-	1	1	-
Sub-total LAC Files		41	41	-	40	38	2

CHART B2: LAC CLIENTS (NON YBGK)

No.	Clinic/Program	January – December 2014	January – December 2015
1	Walk-In	101	190
2	Prisons (Non – Citizen)	2	5
Sub-Total LAC Clients		103	195

C. CHAMBERING STUDENTS' PROGRAMME

14 Days of Compulsory Legal Aid Duty, pursuant to the Bar Council Ruling 10.06.

The Perak LAC Secretariat for the first time in June 2015 onwards introduced a proper duty roster for all Pupil in Chambers registered with the LAC whereby they are to assist YBGK counsels in court for seven (7) days and have to do “in-house” duty assisting the LAC Secretariat

for the remaining seven (7) days. It is to be noted that the seven (7) days “in-house” and seven (7) days court duty only applies to Pupils from Ipoh currently. Pupils from other major towns/districts in Perak will have to do only one (1) “in-house” duty and for the balance thirteen (13) days, they’ll be placed on duty at the courts that’s nearest to the town they are in. Please also take note that these duty rosters are forwarded to all Masters as of 1st January 2016 so that the Masters can also monitor their Pupil’s LAC duty dates and inform the Secretariat if a particular given date is unsuitable.

CHART B3. PERAK LAC/YBGK ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

No.	Date	Event	Venue
1	6 February, 13 March, 10 April, 21 May, 12 June, 14 August, 16 October, 4 December 2015	LAC & YBGK Counsel meeting	Perak Bar Auditorium, Ipoh
2	16 January, 5 June, 22 October 2015	Introduction To Legal Aid, Interviewing Skills And Dock Brief Training For Chambering Pupils 2015 Batch	Perak Bar Auditorium, Ipoh
3	23 March, 28 July, 5 October 2015	KUP Meeting	Bangunan Perak Darul Ridzuan, Ipoh
4	27 March 2015	Refresher discussion on Criminal Law among Perak YBGK lawyers	LAC/YBGK Secretariat, Ipoh
5	15 April 2015	Meeting with Taiping Court to ensure the smooth running of YBGK in Taiping Court	Mahkamah Taiping Court
6	10 June, 4 November 2015	Committee meeting: “Pencegahan Penderaan Kanak-Kanak & Keganasan Rumah Tangga Peringkat Perak”	Bangunan Tabung Haji, Ipoh

7	23 June 2015	Visited Parit Court	Mahkamah Parit
8	13 July 2015	Attended a lecture on Employment Act 1955 “Know Your Rights”	Rural Transformation Centre, Gopeng
9	11 August 2015	Meeting with the Teluk Intan Court	Mahkamah Teluk Intan
10	18 August 2015	Visited Seri Manjung Court	Mahkamah Seri Manjung
11	28 August 2015	Committee meeting: “Seminar Deritaku Tamat Disini Peringkat Negeri Perak”	Bangunan Tabung Haji, Ipoh
12	30 August 2015	Bersih Rally: Volunteer lawyers on stand-by	Taman Dr Seenivasagam, Ipoh
13	17 September 2015	Prison Visit	Penjara Tapah
14	30 September 2015	Panel Speaker for Forum “Seminar Deritaku Tamat Disini Peringkat Negeri Perak”	Dewan Taman Kerian, Parit Buntar
15	28 October 2015	Meeting with the Lower Courts (together with the PBC’s Courts’ Liason Sub-com)	Mahkamah Rendah Ipoh
16	16 January 2016	Indira Gandhi Solidarity Walk by PWW Volunteer lawyers on stand-by	Polo Grounds

CONCLUSION

Having just read this whole report, it now seems more like a submission than a report!

In that spirit, I had included a “Conclusion” to end my report. My apologies to anyone who might have gotten offended by anything, especially to you guys who had to endure reading this entire report. I am sorry that it is this long, but I had to be thorough because there are nay-sayers in everything in life who need to be set straight. Certain parts of my report might have seemed like “blowing one’s own trumpet” but I realised doing this thankless job, if one doesn’t spell it out and ink it, others might put a spin on it. Spin doctors are not only in Putrajaya, they’re everywhere! I know despite this report, there will be those nay-sayers “nay saying away”!

I would like to thank the Perak Bar Subcommittee, the LAC/YBGK subcommittee (to those who attended meetings), to the two LAC Bar Council Staff at the Secretariat, all YBGK Counsels and as well as to the chambering students who have helped the LAC in one way or another. I have been requested by the LAC Secretariat to specially thank Mr. Danial Rahman Yang Razali whom the Secretariat thinks is an exemplary LAC lawyer who devotes his time and energy any time and every time to the LAC's needs and helps in whatever way possible when required. We didn't have an award last year at the Perak Bar's Annual Dinner for the best LAC/YBGK Counsel like the previous year, but despite not being a YBGK Counsel, Mr. Danial Rahman ought to have received such an award if one was offered, hands down.

Thank you.

(Sgd.)

BALAKRISHNA BALARAVI PILLAI

Chairperson

Legal Aid Centre / Yayasan Bantuan Guaman Subcommittee

SAFER MALAYSIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Safer Malaysia is a platform for all Malaysians to synergize and energize ourselves towards common goal; that crime in Malaysia is reduced. The project includes calls to improve policies and modify the mentality of the people.

This year we have worked closely with the Malaysian Bar Safer Malaysia Committee. The idea was to introduce the concept of Safer Malaysia to Perak. We have done so by setting up a symposium which was held on the 19th of September 2015.

The symposium was a platform to introduce the concept of Safer Malaysia to residents of Perak and for invited speakers to share their views in relation to the issue of escalating crime, and offer suggestions or solutions to reduce, deter and prevent crime.

The Committee invited members of the bar and public to take part in the symposium as this issue affects us as citizens of the nation.

Among the invited speakers were:

1. Richard Wee Thiam Seng, Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee and;
2. Darren Lai Xuenwei, Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee;
3. Sarah Kambali, Deputy Chairperson of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee;
4. Marcus Low, Member of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee and Member of the Bar;
5. Mark Soh Hock Meng, Member of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee and Co- Founder of Malaysian Crime Awareness Campaign (MCAC);
6. Dave Avran, Member of the Bar Council Safer Malaysia Committee and Founder of Malaysians Against Rape, Assault and Snatch Theft (MARA) ;

We had a total of 22 participants from NGOs, members of the Bar and the public.

The Programme Outline:

10.00-1030am Registration

10.30-11.00am Introduction to Safer Malaysia
We had Mr Richard Wee speak to us of the concept of safer Malaysia and its history

11.00-12.00pm Symposium Topics
Perception and Reality of Crime
Combat Crime with elements of Vigilance, Deterrence and Prevention; working together between the rakyat and authorities.

Next Steps?

12.00-1.00pm Question and Answer
The event was a success overall, however we would have liked to see more participants. Hopefully this event has set the ball rolling for us in Perak to implement our own Safer Malaysia projects in the future.

(Sgd.)

ASHWIN KUMAR

Chairperson

Safer Malaysia and Human Rights Subcommittee