

Under section 50(2) of the Legal Profession Act (LPA):

“Every advocate and solicitor who is required to vote for the election of the members of the Council in accordance with subsection (1) and who fails to do so shall not be entitled to apply for a practising certificate unless he —

(a) satisfies the Registrar that he was not in Singapore at the time of the election or had a good and sufficient reason for not voting at the last election to the Council; or

(b) pays a penalty of \$500 which shall be credited to the Compensation Fund established under section 75.”

To seek a waiver under section 50(2)(a) LPA:

1. Please file your request via eLitigation (no court fees required) using the eform “Request for Waiver under Section 50(2) LPA”.
2. Set out in your request your reason(s) for not being able to vote, together with all relevant supporting documents. For example, if you are seeking a waiver on the basis that you were not in Singapore on election day, your supporting documents may include:
 - a) copies of relevant pages from your passport (*page(s) with your personal particulars and page(s) showing you were out of Singapore on the date of the election*);
 - b) copy of your boarding pass (flight);
 - c) copy of hotel bills or personal credit card transaction chits (*showing overseas stay/transactions on the date of the election*); or
 - d) a sworn affidavit stating that you were not in Singapore on the date of the election.
3. The Court will reply to you via eLitigation.
4. You are advised to send your request to the Registrar early. This is to allow the Registrar adequate time to consider the matter and respond to you well ahead of your application for a practicing certificate.
5. If the Registrar is satisfied that you were not in Singapore at the time of the election or if you had a good and sufficient reason for not voting, your request for a waiver will be approved and you need not pay the penalty of \$500 to the Law Society of Singapore.

6. All advocate and solicitors are to note that a Request for a waiver under section 50(2) of the LPA (“Request”) is to be submitted for the Registrar’s consideration **before** the advocate and solicitor submits the application for a practising certificate. A Request which is submitted after the application for a practising certificate has been submitted and after the penalty of \$500 has been paid will **not** be considered.