

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific

2023

The clients' guide to law firms

TAY & PARTNERS

6TH FLOOR, PLAZA SEE HOY CHAN
JALAN RAJA CHULAN
50200 KUALA LUMPUR
MALAYSIA

Tel: +60 3 2050 1888 Fax: + 60 3 2031 8618

- Antitrust and competition
- Intellectual property
- Labour and employment
- Banking and finance
- Corporate and M&A
- Dispute resolution
- Real estate and construction
- TMT (including Fintech)

TAY & PARTNERS

6TH FLOOR, PLAZA SEE HOY CHAN, JALAN RAJA CHULAN, 50200 KUALA LUMPUR,
MALAYSIA

T: + 60 3 2050 1888 F: + 60 3 2050 1888

THE FIRM

Tay & Partners is a well-established, award-winning full service commercial law firm located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur. We serve the legal needs of a wide portfolio of clients both local and multinational across a broad spectrum of industry sectors.

Our comprehensive range of legal services is a testament to our skill set and the strong legal foundation upon which this firm is built. These qualities in addition to flexibility, responsiveness and personal rapport are hallmarks of this establishment.

When it comes to advocacy and counsel, our philosophy is to be critically responsive and attuned to the needs of our clients in an ever-changing, globalised environment. We respond to our clients' needs through collaborating closely and being completely committed to exploring every facet of a problem to find the best solution.

Languages

English

Malay

Chinese

MAIN CONTACTS

Arbitration; Banking Litigation/Insolvency; Corporate/Commercial Dispute Resolution; Employment and Industrial Relations
Leonard Yeoh leonard.yeoh@taypartners.com.my

Arbitration; Banking Litigation/Insolvency; Corporate/Commercial Dispute Resolution
Cheah Soo Chuan soochuan.cheah@taypartners.com.my

Arbitration; Banking Litigation/Insolvency; Corporate/Commercial Dispute Resolution
Wong Weng Yew wengyew.wong@taypartners.com.my

Banking and Finance; Corporate & Commercial Advisory; M&A; Equity Capital Markets; Energy & Power; Infrastructure & Projects;
Real Estate; Data Protection; Trade regulations and investment compliance
Chang Hong Yun hongyun.chang@taypartners.com.my

Antitrust & Competition Law; Corporate & Commercial Advisory; Energy & Power; Infrastructure & Projects
Nicole Leong nicole.leong@taypartners.com.my

Corporate & Commercial Advisory; M&A; Equity Capital Markets
Wong Mei Ying meiying.wong@taypartners.com.my

Intellectual Property; Data Protection; Franchising; Technology, Multimedia and Telecommunications (TMT)
Lee Lin Li linli.lee@taypartners.com.my

Intellectual Property; Franchising; Technology, Multimedia and Telecommunications (TMT)
Lim Bee Yi beeyi.lim@taypartners.com.my

ANTITRUST AND COMPETITION

Tier 2

“The competition offering at **Tay & Partners** is newly led by Leonard Yeoh. The team is experienced in assisting clients on contentious and advisory matters, having notably represented AirAsia Berhad on the first high-profile case to reach the Competition Appeal Tribunal. The practice acts for clients across a wide range of industries, from IT and telecoms to automobile and aviation. Its work predominantly involves advising on high-value investigations by the Malaysian Competition Commission, with partner Weng Yew Wong having demonstrable experience advising multinational corporations in this field. Leading specialist Nicole Leong departed in July 2022 to establish boutique competition firm Wen & Co and associate Heng Jia often worked on many of Leong’s most complex cases.

”

Rising stars

Heng Jia

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Tier 2

“**Tay & Partners’** IP offering, led by Lee Lin Li, is noted for its provision of a ‘high level of service’. Its expertise are multi-faceted, and although much of its work is advisory, the team is also well-equipped to handle contentious matters, such as cross-border infringement; a recent example being its representation of Kingtime International Ltd on a \$97.2m alleged infringement. The practice advises clients on issues such as formulating comprehensive strategy for anti-counterfeiting, as well as the expansion, management and protection of IP portfolios. Bee Yi Lim is one to watch for her growing IT and IP expertise.”

Leading Individuals

Lee Lin Li

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Tier 2

Leonard Yeoh leads the employment offering at **Tay & Partners**. Cross-jurisdictional matters frequently feature in the team's workload, a recent example being its advisory work with the Malaysian arm of US company Goodyear, to prevent any potential abusive labour practices, as well as its work with Samsung regarding post-termination clauses in its employee's contracts. Additionally, the team is well-equipped to handle wrongful dismissal claims, brought under the Industrial Relations Act 1967. Pua Jun Wen, who acts for multinational companies in various employment-related disputes, is another key member of the practice.

Rising Stars

Pua Jun Wen

BANKING AND FINANCE

Tier 3

“**Tay & Partners’** broad practice encompasses conventional and Islamic financings, debt restructurings, structured finance and securitisation, and regulatory matters. It advises a range of domestic and international banks, export credit agencies (ECAs) and other financial institutions. The firm also has a large number of borrower clients. Chang Hong Yun leads the corporate and commercial team with part of his practice focused on banking and finance.”

CORPORATE AND M&A

Tier 3

“**Tay & Partners** is noted for its expertise in M&A, foreign direct investments, venture capital and private equity matters, and counts local and international companies investing in Malaysia among its key roster of clients. Chang Hong Yun heads the practice and regularly advises on foreign direct investment and cross-border transactions. Wong Mei Ying, who *‘plays a constructive role in finding solutions’*, joined the team from Chooi & Company and Cheang & Ariff in July 2021.

”

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Tier 3

“**Tay & Partners** acts for domestic and international banks, financial institutions and corporate borrowers in Malaysia on a broad range of banking litigation and insolvency matters. The practice is also well-versed in debt recovery and restructuring, enforcement of securities, receivership and liquidations. Leonard Yeoh heads the team and ‘offers valuable insight and experience’ in appellate and arbitration proceedings, while Cheah Soo Chuan focuses on corporate and commercial disputes.”

Leading individuals

Leonard Yeoh

REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION

Tier 4

“The ‘client-centric’ team at **Tay & Partners** is led by Chang Hong Yun. The practice is well-equipped to advise its diverse roster of clients on the acquisition, sale and disposal of land, in addition to regulatory issues, and is noted for its experience in industrial projects.”

TMT (INCLUDING FINTECH)

Tier 4

“**Tay & Partners** advises clients across a broad range of industries, from financial services to IT, electronics and telecoms, on licensing and regulatory approvals. The practice also has demonstrable capability in fintech and IP, with practice leader Lee Lin Li specialising in IP and advising on transactions involving franchising, licensing, technology transfer and transfer of ownership issues. Other key areas of expertise include the structuring and implementation of data privacy policies.”



MR HONG YUN CHANG

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate & Commercial

POSITION

Hong Yun heads the Mergers & Acquisitions as well as the Banking and Finance practice groups. Hong Yun has been a partner of Tay & Partners since 2000. He also handles real estate, personal data protection, regulatory compliance, corporate and commercial matters for a variety of clients both local and foreign. He regularly advised on cross-border transactions relating to mergers and acquisitions as well as banking and finance. Hong Yun also advises on foreign direct investment and acts for venture capital and private equity.

CAREER

Hong Yun is a regular contributor to the Malaysian chapter for the World Bank on 'Starting a Business in Malaysia'. He also contributed to the Worldbank on laws and regulations that affect agricultural markets and productivity. He is the co-author for Malaysia chapter of the publication of "Mergers & Aquisitions 2nd Edition" by Global Legal Insights and "Private Mergers & Acquisitions in Malaysia" by Global Practical Law.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI)
- Member of Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Kuala Lumpur & Selangor (KLSCCCI)
- Member of the Disciplinary Committee for the Advocates and Solicitors Disciplinary Board of Malaysia.

EDUCATION

Graduated from Monash University, Australia with double degrees in the Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Law. He was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria in 1991 and as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1993.



MR SOO CHUAN CHEAH

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution, Corporate & Commercial Litigation

POSITION

Soo Chuan specialises in corporate and commercial dispute resolution. He has worked with leading Malaysian companies and international clients in both court litigation and arbitration at the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration.

Soo Chuan has handled a broad spectrum of complex litigation matters, including contractual disputes, tortious disputes, negligence, defamation, shareholders' disputes, breach of directors' duties, construction disputes, aviation disputes, insolvency and receivership.

CAREER

Soo Chuan is recognised in the area of dispute resolution by the Asia Pacific Legal 500. Soo Chuan regularly speaks and presents papers on issues relating to the areas of practice in dispute resolution. He has spoken in industry specific seminars and forum including those organized by the banks and companies. Soo Chuan is a co-author of a publication by CCH Pte Ltd on dispute resolution and debt recovery, including corporate insolvency, receivership and debt restructuring.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London
- Barrister-at-Law to the Bar of England and Wales
- Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya
- Member of Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce

EDUCATION

Soo Chuan graduated with a Bachelor of Law (LLB) from the University of Leicester. He was called to the Bar of England & Wales as a Barrister at Law of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1995. He was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1996. He also holds a degree in Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Nottingham.



MS LIN LI LEE

WORK DEPARTMENT

Intellectual Property, Data Protection, Franchising and Technology, Media and Telecommunication Practice Groups.

POSITION

Partner and Head of Intellectual Property, Data Protection, Franchising and Technology, Media and Telecommunication Practice Groups. Lin Li's practice covers all areas of contentious and non-contentious IP work; IP litigation; anti-counterfeiting enforcement work; exploitation of IP rights; franchising; data protection; all aspects of technology, media and telecommunications.

CAREER

Lin Li's practice spans all major areas of IP law covering both contentious and non-contentious work. Her work covers securing protection, advising on exploitation and enforcement of IP rights encompassing filing applications to grant and registration, maintenance of clients' IP registrations, providing freedom to operate opinion, pre-legal action opinion, risk management advice, IP commercialization and general advice pertaining to IP rights, coordinating ownership transfers and license recordal and coordinating multi-jurisdictional filings and maintenance.

She is also known for her work with clients on patent and trade mark litigations for infringement actions, invalidation actions, expungement actions, obtaining declaration of non-infringement and other interlocutory orders from the commencement of the civil action in the high court up until the appeal stage at the appellate courts.

Apart from this, Lin Li is recognized by multi-jurisdictional clients as a leading adviser and strategist for franchising, licensing and multi-channel marketing strategies with a particular expertise in advising businesses on the use of franchising as a tool for strategic growth and expansion.

She also advises on ancillary related IP rights such as data protection, food and drug regulation and licensing, gaming laws, commercial contracts, advertising, entertainment and media laws and technology and telecommunications related matters.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Malaysian International Property Association (MIPA)
- Member of the International Trade Mark Association (INTA)
- Member of the Asian Patent Association Attorneys (APAA)
- Member of the Asean Intellectual Property Association (Asean IPA)



MS NICOLE LEONG

WORK DEPARTMENT

Antitrust & Competition Law/Corporate & Commercial Practice

POSITION

Nicole's core practice areas include commercial, corporate, anti-trust & competition law and compliance laws.

She counsels local and international clients in connection with their business strategy, foreign direct investment, mergers & acquisitions exercise, joint venture, project negotiations, real estate and property matters, corporate loans, project financing, regulatory compliance and contractual relationships from various industries, e.g. renewable energy, property development, medical device. She provides advice on all forms of commercial contracts to support clients' day-to-day and strategic business activities.

An integral part of Nicole's practice is competition law. She works with clients on competition law issues, including reviewing distribution agreements, complex rebates and marketing strategy. She is a key member of the team who represented a leading low-cost airline to resist an antitrust and competition prosecution at the Competition Appeal Tribunal and a final non-infringement verdict from the MyCC for its first abuse of dominance decision against a steel manufacturer on margin squeeze. Besides assisting clients in strategising and defending investigations, handling appeal to the Competition Appeal Tribunal and judicial review before the High Court.

CAREER

Nicole has experience in anti-dumping and safeguards cases having been involved in the investigations initiated in Malaysia as well as abroad. She also has experience in oil and gas sector commercial work including risk service contracts, EPCC contracts.

She regularly speaks at law seminars and conducts compliance trainings for clients.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

- Council Member of the Corporate and Commercial Committee of the Malaysian Bar Council
- Council Member of the Competition Law Sub-Committee of the Malaysian Bar Council
- PECB Certified ISO 37001 (Anti-Bribery Management System) Provisional Implementer

EDUCATION

Nicole graduated from University of Malaya with an LL.B (Hons) (Second Class Upper) in 2008 and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2009



MS BEE YI LIM

WORK DEPARTMENT

Intellectual Property and Technology

POSITION

Bee Yi practises exclusively in the fields of Intellectual Property and Technology. She advises clients on the protection of their intellectual property rights and manages both local and international clients' portfolios of trade marks, industrial designs and patents in Malaysia and other jurisdictions.

Bee Yi also advises clients in the enforcement of their IP rights including anti-counterfeiting actions, seizure and rectification proceedings. On transactional matters, Bee Yi advises and assists clients to negotiate licensing agreements, branding agreements, IT contracts and other IP rights agreements. She is also regularly engaged to provide international IP owners with regulatory advice relating to the transactions. An integral part of Bee Yi's practice is advising on trade mark, copyright and industrial design infringement matters. She has extensive experience in opposition proceedings in various industries. Her recent instructions have been in areas of fashion, food and beverage industry and media.

CAREER

Bee Yi is co-author for Malaysia of the publication of "Trade Marks 2014 & 2015 Comparative Guide" by Global Legal Group.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Honourable Society of Inner Temple, London
- Barrister-at-Law to the Bar of England and Wales
- Member of the Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA)
- Member of the International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Member of the Licensing Executives Society Malaysia (LESM)
- Member of the Malaysian Intellectual Property Association (MIPA).

EDUCATION

Bee Yi read law at the University of West of England, United Kingdom and was called to the Bar of England and Wales by the Honourable Society of Inner Temple. She was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2008.



MR WENG YEW WONG

WORK DEPARTMENT

Banking and Insolvency, Dispute Resolution Competition

POSITION

Weng Yew practises in the area of corporate & commercial litigation, primarily in banking and insolvency, enforcement of debt instruments, land law and recovery of banking facilities pertaining to both conventional banking and Islamic finance.

He also handles breach of trust and tortious matters including breach of fiduciary duties, conspiracy, negligence and defamation. Weng Yew has also advised financial institutions on complex recovery issues at appellate stages and has been involved in regional arbitrations.

CAREER

Weng Yew has contributed articles to LegalTAPS, a newsletter issued by Tay & Partners and to Asian-Mena Counsel, a publication for In-House Community. He has also given talks on competition law at seminar organized by the Kuala Lumpur Bar Young Lawyers Committee as part of its Professional Development Programme and to clients.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Malaysian Australian Business Council (MABC).
- Member of Insolvency Practitioners Association of Malaysia (iPAM).

EDUCATION

Weng Yew graduated from the University of Tasmania, Australia in 2005 with an LL.B and obtained his Certificate in Legal Practice in 2006. Weng Yew was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in October 2007.



MS MEI YING WONG

WORK DEPARTMENT

Corporate & Commercial Practice

POSITION

Mei Ying is a partner in our corporate practice group with focus on mergers and acquisitions ("M&A"), corporate finance, equity capital markets and corporate advisory.

She has advised public listed companies, private companies and private equity funds on numerous M&A transactions in various sectors including food and beverage, education, logistic, digital media platform, insurance and premium supermarket chain. Notable transactions include acquisitions of premium supermarket chain and tertiary education provider by private equity funds. Mei Ying has also advised a public listed company on its acquisition of food and beverage companies with well-known brands as well as disposal by a public listed company of its subsidiaries involved in the business of online social media services.

CAREER

On cross-border M&A transactions, Mei Ying has been involved as the Malaysian counsel for companies listed on the NASDAQ and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong on their respective acquisitions in the semiconductor and solar energy sectors.

She has acted for various companies on initial public offerings and listing exercises on the Main Market and ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia. Her experience in corporate finance transactions and equity capital markets include subscription of securities in public and private companies, private placement, rights issue of shares and warrants, dividend reinvestment plan and employees' share option scheme.

Mei Ying has also advised on matters pertaining to corporate and commercial laws such as advising on joint ventures, shareholders' agreements, and issues under company law as well as drafting of various commercial agreements and transactions documents.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya
- A member of The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple

EDUCATION

Mei Ying graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 2007. She was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 2008.



MR LEONARD YEOH

WORK DEPARTMENT

Dispute Resolution, Employment and Industrial Relations

POSITION

Partner and Head of Dispute Resolution, Employment and Industrial Relations. He specialises in corporate and commercial litigation disputes, arbitration, labour and employment, building and construction.

Leonard has substantial trial, appellate and arbitration experience and has litigated as counsel at all levels of the Malaysian and Singaporean court hierarchy as well as domestic and international arbitrations, representing mainly blue-chip corporate clients and foreign multinational companies. From 2001 to 2002, he practiced with one of Asia-Pacific's premier law firms, based in Singapore and has acted as counsel in numerous cases before the High Court of Singapore and conducted domestic and international arbitrations held in Singapore.

Leonard specialises in corporate and commercial litigation and has handled a broad spectrum of litigation and arbitration, including corporate and commercial disputes, labour and employment, building and construction, intellectual property, projects and infrastructure, private equity, venture capital, banking and finance, defamation, insurance and reinsurance, technology, professional indemnity, insolvency, media and entertainment law, sports sponsorship and marketing law, media advertising law, aviation law and common law claims. A number of cases where he has appeared as counsel in court have created legal precedent and a significant number of these cases have been reported in various leading legal journals and newspapers both in Malaysia and Singapore.

CAREER

Leonard is consistently rated and ranked as Malaysia's pre-eminent dispute resolution and employment lawyer by Chambers Asia, the Asia-Pacific Legal 500, Asialaw Leading Lawyers, The Guide to the World's Leading Labour and Employment Lawyers, The International Who's Who of Management Employment Lawyers and Asian Legal Business (ALB).

Leonard has been nominated as one of the Disputes Stars at the Asia-Pacific Dispute Resolution Awards in Hong Kong for consecutive years.

LANGUAGES

English, Bahasa Malaysia (Malay language), Chinese

MEMBERSHIPS

– Officer & Chair of the Publications Committee of the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)

- Vice-Chair of the Employment & Immigration Law Committee of Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Malaysia's Arbitration Committee
- Member of the Home Affairs & Human Resources Committee and also the Arbitration & Legal Affairs Committee of the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MICCI).
- Member of the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM)'s Human Resource Management Committee.

EDUCATION

Graduated from the University of Leeds, UK with an LL.B (Hons) (Second Upper) in 1994. He was admitted as an Utter Barrister to the Bar of England & Wales in 1995 and is a member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London. He was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya in 1996 and the Supreme Court of Singapore in 2001. He is a Patent Agent in Malaysia.