

LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA ON THE PROFESSION OF ADVOCATE

Adopted on 14 December 2004

(...)

Article 23. Assistants to Advocates

Advocates shall have the right to an assistant or assistants. Persons referred to in Article 33 of this Law may not become an assistant to advocate.

Assistants to advocates shall not be entitled to practise the profession of advocate.

Assistants to advocates shall not be allowed to disclose information covered by advocate-client privilege except for the information on grave or particularly grave anticipatory criminal offence provided for by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia, which is certain to occur.

Assistants to advocates shall be admitted to employment based on the employment contract concluded with the undertaking which employs the advocate, or the employment contract concluded with the advocate acting as a sole entrepreneur. Assistants to advocates shall establish their identity with the ID of the assistant to the advocate, the form and manner of issuance of which shall be approved by the Board of the Chamber of Advocates.

Article 24. Interns of Advocates

Advocates having five or more years experience as a practising advocate shall be entitled to have an intern or interns. An intern shall be a person with higher legal education, except for persons referred to in Article 33, who passes an internship from one to two years in the bodies of the Chamber of Advocates, 12 in the undertaking which employs the advocate, or by entering into an employment contract with an advocate acting as a sole entrepreneur.

The manner and terms of passing an internship, as well as of its termination shall be determined by the Board of the Chamber of Advocates. Interns of advocates shall carry out their activity under the supervision of the advocate, performing specific assignments related to practice of the profession by the advocate. Interns of advocates shall not be entitled to practise the profession of advocate independently. Interns of advocates shall not be allowed to disclose information covered by advocate-client privilege except for the information on grave or particularly grave anticipatory criminal offence provided for by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia, which is certain to occur. Interns of advocates shall be admitted to employment by the undertaking which employs the advocate, or through concluding an employment contract with the advocate acting as a sole entrepreneur.

Interns of advocates shall establish their identity with the ID of the assistant to the advocate, the form and manner of issuance of which shall be approved by the Board of the Chamber of Advocates.

Article 25. Advocate-Client Privilege

Advocate-client privilege shall cover the information that clients provide to advocates, as well as the information and evidence not known to the public and obtained by advocates independently during the practice of their profession.

Interrogation of advocates on circumstances which became known to him/her in connection with the request to provide legal assistance or in connection with providing such assistance

shall be prohibited. Advocates shall disclose information covered by advocate-client privilege when:

(1) the client gives his/her consent;

(2) it is necessary in supporting claims made in a court dispute between the advocate and the client, or for the advocate's defence;

(3) there exists information on grave or particularly grave anticipatory criminal offence provided for by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia, which is certain to occur. The duty to observe advocate-client privilege shall have no time limit.

(...)