

Received by email 25/10/2017

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on fees.

I am required to maintain a full Practising Certificate to maintain my faculty as a Notary Public. I have undertaken each year not to practise as a solicitor

I do so as community service as my fees would hardly exceed \$3000 pa. I attract work usually from elderly people who live in my locality.

By the time I pay for the cost of including my name on the Notary Register, pay for my Practising Certificate and PI Insurance and membership of the Law Institute there is not much left for me. I do not engage in any other employment.

I have queried at length why I should have to obtain CPD points each year because under the new national rules, I satisfy all statutory criteria to qualify for exemption. The Legal Services Commissioner, without ever explaining his reasons for so doing, still insists that I achieve 2 CPD points.

Whilst I appreciate the reduction to 2 CPD points I can't for the life of me understand why I should not be granted complete exemption particularly as I am not practising as a solicitor.

Whilst on my hobby horse, and it is most ironic, [REDACTED] was balloted to be admitted to practise on 30th March 1968 whereas by reason of the same ballot, I was admitted to practise on 1st April 1968 a day later.

By reason of that lottery he has been WHOLLY exempted from achieving CPD points by reason of the CPD Rules, not by merit but solely by the luck of the draw.

Can something be done about this injustice? Small but unfair but as I spent five years working the Articled Clerks exams to qualify for admission to practise thus obtaining 5 years of extra legal experience, and my legal partner was cruising through a full time law course and so not exposed to the practise of the law in the way I was surely there should be some recognition for this?.

Yours sincerely, William Clancy [REDACTED]