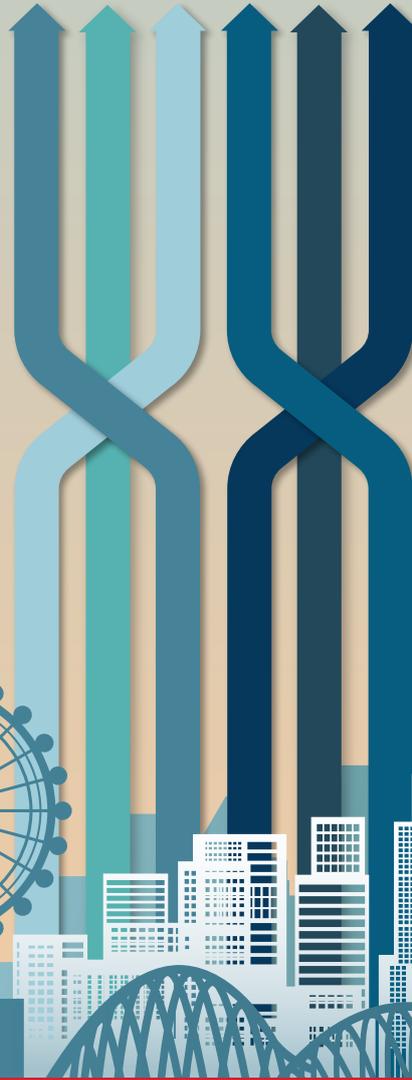




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# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY



## STA CONFERENCE 2025

**DATE:** 17 SEPTEMBER    **VENUE:** MARINA BAY SANDS EXPO & CONVENTION CENTRE,  
**TIME:** 9 AM TO 6 PM    CASSIA BALLROOM LEVEL 3, BAYFRONT AVE, SINGAPORE 018956

## CONFERENCE FEES

CATEGORY	EARLY-BIRD FEE	STANDARD FEE*
STA MEMBERS	SGD 500	SGD 550
MEMBERS OF RECIPROCAL ORGANISATIONS	SGD 600	SGD 650
NON-MEMBERS	SGD 700	SGD 750

\* Standard fees apply to all registrations submitted after 5:00 p.m. on 18 August 2025.

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# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

GUEST OF HONOUR



**Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim**

Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk  
Member of Parliament

**Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim** is a Senior Partner in international law firm, Dentons Rodyk's Litigation and Dispute Resolution and Arbitration practice; appearing before Singapore courts and international arbitral tribunals. He has advised government statutory bodies on advisory and regulatory matters. He is also a Member of Parliament for Chua Chu Kang GRC. In February 2026, he will be appointed Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Amongst his accolades, **Mr Zhulkarnain** has been named in the ALB 40 under 40 2016 List and a shortlisted finalist in the 2017 Young Lawyer of the Year category of the ALB South East Asia Law Awards. In 2017, he won the JCI Singapore: Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World Award in the category of Political, legal and Government Affairs. He is also recognized in the 2025 Benchmark Litigation Asia Pacific 2025 as a Future Star.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY



## AGENDA

AM		PM
8.30	REGISTRATION & WELCOME COFFEE	1.25 <i>TRUST CASE 2: Legler v Formannoij [2024] NZSC 173</i> <b>Henry Brandts-Giesen</b>   Dentons Auckland
9.00	OPENING ADDRESS <b>President Edmund Leow</b>   SC   ChT	1.45 <i>TRUST CASE 3: Representation of Equiom Trust (CI) Ltd re Estate of Constantin Mattas [1 Mar 2024]</i> <b>Nancy Chien</b>   Bedell Cristin
9.10	KEYNOTE ADDRESS <b>Zhulkarnain Rahim</b>   Dentons Rodyk	2.05 U.S. TAX UPDATE: THE MORE THINGS CHANGE... <b>John Shoemaker</b>   Butler Snow
9.25	SHARIA-COMPLIANT SUCCESSION IN PRIVATE TRUSTS <b>Zhulkarnain Rahim</b>   Dentons Rodyk	2.30 <i>TRUST CASE 4: British &amp; Malayan Trustees Ltd v Ameen Talib &amp; Others [2024] SGHC 203</i> <b>Wong Tjen Wee</b>   BakerMcKenzie
9.50	<i>TRUST CASE 1: Devin Jethanand Bhojwani &amp; Others v Jethanand Bhojwani [2024] SGHC 310</i> <b>Kelvin Koh</b>   TSMP Law Corporation	2.50 <i>TRUST CASE 5: Rukhadze &amp; Others v Recovery Partners GP Ltd [2025] UKSC 10 &amp; Re Cai Jinhong [2024] SGHC 295</i> <b>Professor Tang Hang Wu</b>   SMU Law
10.10	UK UPDATE: HOW TO ADVISE CLIENTS WITH U.K. CONNECTIONS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE NON-DOM REGIME <b>Suzanne Johnston</b>   Stephenson Harwood (Singapore Alliance)	3.15 AFTERNOON TEA BREAK
10.35	MORNING COFFEE BREAK	3.35 PANEL DISCUSSION: HOW ARE CHINA'S ENTREPRENEURS PROTECTING THEIR WEALTH? Moderator   <b>Edmund Leow</b>   SC   ChT   Dentons Rodyk <b>Clifford Ng</b>   Zhong Lun Law Firm <b>Jane Ren</b>   Fangda Partners
10.55	THE SINGAPORE SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS REPORT REGIME <b>Ian Wong</b>   SPF - Commercial Affairs Department	4.10 <i>TRUST CASE 6: Representation of Summit Services Limited re the B, C, D and E Trust [2024] JRC222</i> <b>Alexa Saunders</b>   Carey Olsen
11.15	PANEL DISCUSSION: REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT, STRS, AML & CFT Moderator   <b>David Chong</b>   ChT   Portcullis <b>Ian Lee</b>   Monetary Authority of Singapore <b>Ian Wong</b>   SPF - Commercial Affairs Department <b>Jason Tan</b>   KPMG <b>Lee May Ling</b>   Allen & Gledhill	4.30 PANEL DISCUSSION: DUTIES OF TRUSTEES WITH INVESTMENT POWERS Moderator   <b>Edmund Leow</b>   SC   ChT   Dentons Rodyk <b>Mark Farrell</b>   Butterfield <b>Sean Coughlan</b>   Trident Trust <b>Wong Pei Ting</b>   Allen & Gledhill
12.10	NETWORKING LUNCH	5.15 CLOSING ADDRESS <b>President Edmund Leow</b>   SC   ChT
		5.20 COCKTAIL RECEPTION <i>Sponsored By</i>



# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Edmund Leow** | ChT

Senior Partner  
Dentons Rodyk

Edmund is a senior partner in Dentons Rodyk's Corporate practice group and Head of the Tax practice. He is also Co-Head of the Trust, Estates & Wealth Preservation/Family Office practice.

Edmund leads the firm's Trust, Estate and Wealth Preservation practice and advises high net worth individuals, private banks and trust companies in personal tax, as well as in trust and estate planning matters. He is the Singapore representative of Dentons' Family Office and High Net Worth (FO/HNW) Sector (which offers legal services to ultra-high net worth individuals, families, and family offices globally through its extensive network of offices), and he advises affluent Singapore and global families with succession planning. Edmund provides a broad range of advice to assist these individuals and their families in business and legal activities across the globe.

Edmund was a co-founder and former Managing Principal of Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow and Wong & Leow LLC. He served as Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Singapore from 2013 to 2016. On the ceasing of the term with the Supreme Court, he was appointed Senior Counsel. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the Tax and Trust Committee of the Law Society of Singapore, and previously served as the Deputy Chair of the Income Tax Board of Review.

Edmund is the President and an honorary member of the Singapore Trustees Association (STA). He is the co-founder of the STA which represents the interests of trust companies in Singapore.



**Kelvin Koh**

Partner  
TSMP Law Corporation

Kelvin is a Partner in TSMP Law Corporation who specialises in the field of dispute resolution and private wealth. His disputes practice spans various fields, including trust litigation, succession disputes, corporate and shareholder disputes, restructuring and insolvency, and land disputes. He has acted in several high profile trust litigation in Singapore, including the Zhang Lan trust dispute, the De La Sala case, and the MF Global Singapore statutory trust dispute. He has also acted in land disputes involving Islamic trusts (wakafs). Kelvin also engages in non-contentious trust advisory, including setting up trust structures, implementing trusts for employee stock options, and risk-management in the administration of trusts.



**Suzanne Johnston**

Partner  
Stephenson Harwood  
(Singapore) Alliance

Suzanne is a UK tax, private wealth, trusts and estate planning lawyer based in Stephenson Harwood's Singapore office. She has extensive experience in complex cross-jurisdictional tax, trust and estate planning. Suzanne is passionate about raising awareness of infertility and baby loss in the legal sector.

Suzanne has practiced in Singapore since 2013 working for an international law firm and subsequently, a leading private bank. She advises high-profile families and entrepreneurs throughout Southeast Asia. Suzanne works with clients to implement practical and effective succession planning harnessing family offices, corporate vehicles and trusts.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Ian Wong**

Deputy Director  
Commercial Affairs Department  
Singapore Police Force

Ian Wong is a Deputy Director with the Commercial Affairs Department (CAD) of the Singapore Police Force and has been with the CAD for over 30 years. He is in charge of the Intelligence and Admin Group and oversees the Suspicious Transaction Reporting Office, among other duties. Prior to this, he was the CAD Deputy Director in charge of the Financial Investigation Group, which investigates into complex financial crime including money laundering and terrorism financing.

Ian has been involved as a law enforcement/financial intelligence assessor in several Mutual Evaluations by the Financial Action Task Force and/or the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering. He co-chaired a joint Cyber Enabled Fraud project by the Financial Action Task Force, INTERPOL and the Egmont Group.



**David Chong Kok-Kong** | ChT

Founder & President, Portcullis Group  
Executive Chairman, Fusang  
Director, David Chong Law Corporation

David is the Founder and Chairman & CEO of the Portcullis Group. He has been described by the Singapore Academy of Law as “the Guru of Asian Family Offices”.

He is also the CEO of Portcullis Group’s subsidiaries: Baxian Bank Ltd (the first homegrown digital full bank in Malaysia); Baxian Trust (Labuan) Limited and SSTC Ltd (one of the oldest independent trust companies in Labuan), all of which are regulated by the Labuan Financial Services Authority.

David was the former President of the Singapore Trustees Association (STA). He served as the Founding President of Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (STEP) Singapore Branch and was the Founding President of the Singapore Fund Administrators Association (SFAA). He leads the Family Office Association Ltd.

David has a Master’s Degree in Law from National University of Singapore and a Master’s Degree in Business from City University, London.



**Ian Lee**

Head (AML Supervision Division)  
Anti-Money Laundering Department  
Monetary Authority of Singapore

Ian heads the AML Supervision Division in the Anti-Money Laundering Department. The Department specializes in formulating policies to combat money laundering and supervising financial institutions with respect to their AML/CFT controls. In his current role, Ian oversees the supervision of AML/CFT risks in both bank and non-bank sectors in Singapore, and is also involved in international AML/CFT working groups such as the FATF Virtual Assets Contact Group. Prior to joining the AML Department in 2018, Ian held several leadership appointments across the MAS, including in the International Department, Insurance Supervision Department and the Monetary & Domestic Markets Management Department.

Ian holds a Masters in Science (Finance) degree from the London Business School, and earned his Bachelor of Business (Actuarial Science) from the Nanyang Technological University, as well as professional certifications from ACAMS and the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in the UK.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Jason Tan**

Partner  
KPMG

Jason is a Partner and Head of Forensic of KPMG Singapore. He has extensive experience leading anti-money laundering reviews, fraud and corruption investigation and dispute advisory engagements across several industries with a focus on the financial institutions, insurance, chemicals and manufacturing sectors.

Jason has been involved in numerous Anti-Money Laundering and sanctions work across financial institutions and designated non-financial business and professions since 2010. The engagements include gap analyses, Know-Your Customer (KYC) remediation, look back investigations and the calibration of transaction monitoring systems. He was involved in the publication of the Terrorist Financing Risk Mitigation Toolkit for Charities and was also part of the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Industry Partnership (ACIP) Legal Persons and Trade-Based Money Laundering working groups which published two best practice papers on the Misuse of Legal Persons and Trade-Based Money Laundering.



**Lee May Ling**

Partner  
Allen & Gledhill

May Ling has an established background in litigation. She is a Partner at Allen & Gledhill's Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice and has a particular expertise in matters involving white collar crime and investigations. As part of her practice, May Ling frequently acts for financial institutions, public-listed and multinational corporations and high-profile individuals. She also has experience representing corporate and individual clients in criminal and regulatory investigations and enforcement actions in a range of areas including bribery and corruption, securities fraud and disclosure regulations, anti-money laundering controls and financial sanctions.

She is presently Chairman on the Board of the SAS-SBF (Security Association Singapore - Singapore Business Federation) Foundation of Compassion Fund and is also an Accredited Mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre.



**Henry Brandts-Giesen**

Partner  
Dentons Kensington Swan

Henry Brandts-Giesen is Global Co-Chair of Dentons Family Office and High Net Worth Group. He is a jurisdictionally neutral consultant and operates globally to develop wealth strategies and provide/procure global solutions for global clients from within and beyond the Dentons platform. His practice spans contentious and non-contentious matters, often involving complex cross-border structures and high-value family assets. He is known for his pragmatic approach and deep understanding of fiduciary obligations, governance, and succession planning. He is a frequent visitor to Singapore and Hong Kong and maintains strong ties with the region's legal and trustee communities.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Nancy Chien**

Partner  
Bedell Cristin Jersey  
Partnership

Nancy is a top tier Jersey advocate who has been ranked Tier 1 in internationally recognised legal directories, Legal 500 and Chambers. Nancy has over 20 years of legal experience in both the private client area as well as the corporate sphere. Nancy advises ultra-high net worth families, family offices and intermediaries from all over the world on all aspects of international structuring including the use of trusts and foundations, as well as related corporate law issues (including where such vehicles are used for philanthropic purposes). She has considerable experience with high value and complex family governance structures, including ones where the founders wish to retain a degree of control over their family assets. Nancy also advises regularly on matters involving family disputes and disputes between trustee and beneficiaries. She works closely with her litigation colleagues for matters which require a court application.

Nancy is qualified in four jurisdictions, being Jersey, BVI, England and Wales and New Zealand. She is the only Jersey qualified advocate who can speak Mandarin.



**John Shoemaker**

Attorney  
Butler Snow

John Shoemaker is a cross-border tax and private client advisor with over 20 years of experience. A Partner at Butler Snow LLP, he leads the firm's London office and maintains a presence in Singapore, advising high-net-worth individuals, family offices, and fiduciaries on U.S., U.K., and international tax, estate planning, and compliance. He holds a JD, LL.M. in Taxation, and an MSc in Private Wealth Advising. John's experience spans regulatory, in-house, and private practice roles. Active in the ABA and STEP, he regularly speaks on transparency, trust planning, and policy trends affecting globally mobile families and their advisors.



**Wong Tjen Wee**

Principal  
Dispute Resolution Practice  
Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow

Tjen Wee is a Principal in the Dispute Resolution Practice Group in Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow. He has appeared at all levels in the Singapore courts and is also regularly engaged as counsel in international arbitration proceedings. In his practice, Tjen Wee frequently advises and acts for parties in complex commercial disputes – and in particular, on major construction, infrastructure and oil and gas projects. He has been recognised by Benchmark Litigation Asia Pacific 2024 as a Litigation Star in Construction – as well Legal 500 Asia Pacific as having a “fine record in construction cases” and “for the deep and thorough manner in which he considers the client's legal and commercial risks.”

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Tang Hang Wu**

Professor  
Yong Pung How School of Law  
Singapore Management University

Tang Hang Wu is a Professor at the Yong Pung How School of Law and Associate Provost (Research Governance) at Singapore Management University where he researches on the law of property, wealth management, charity and non-profits and equity and trusts. He has published widely and is a co-editor of the following books: *Trusts and Private Wealth Management* (2022) and *Trust and Modern Wealth Management* (2018), both published by Cambridge University Press. In addition to his academic work, he is often instructed as Counsel by Singapore and international law firms.



**Clifford Ng**

Co-Managing Partner  
Head of Private Client Practice  
Zhong Lun Law Firm LLP

Clifford has practiced in the private client area for over 30 years and, since 1995 when he relocated to Hong Kong, has focused on clients and assets in Asia. He heads Zhong Lun's 10-member strong private client team in Hong Kong.



**Jane Ren**

Partner  
Fangda Partners

Jane is the practice head of Private Wealth Management of Fangda Partners and admitted to practice in both PRC and New York.

She has been in private practice for more than 19 years and is a trusted advisor to many ultra-high-net-worth individuals and their families (domestic and international). Jane is well recognized for advising clients in relation to their holistic planning. Chambers Great China Region 2023/2024 recognizes her as Band 1 in Private Client/Wealth Management and admires her as "an increasingly prominent lawyer in handling cross-border family wealth planning, trust and inheritance matters on behalf of individuals". Meanwhile Jane acts as outside legal counsel for a dozen of trust companies, private banks and single family offices.

Before joining Fangda, she was with Deloitte legal for 5 years and PwC legal for around 3 years.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Alexa Saunders**

Deputy Managing Partner  
Carey Olsen

Alexa Saunders is the deputy managing partner and head of the trusts and private wealth practice in leading offshore law firm Carey Olsen's Jersey office and has a broad non-contentious trust practice. She regularly advises in connection with private family trusts, employee benefit trusts and pension trusts, including on the establishment of new trust structures, drafting trust and ancillary instruments and advising in connection with the ongoing administration and restructuring of complex trust structures. Alexa also advises in connection with philanthropic and charitable structures as well as foundations. Alexa is ranked as a Band 1 lawyer by Chambers High Net Worth Guide and a Leading Partner by The Legal 500 UK. She is also listed as a Thought Leader by Who's Who Legal for Private Client and features in the Private Client Global Elite Directory.



**Mark Farrell**

Head of Trust  
Butterfield Group

Mark joined Butterfield in Singapore in 2020 and has been working in the private client industry for over 30 years, specialising in wealth planning and trust administration. Mark has extensive experience in dealing with multi-jurisdictional families and complex structuring for a wide variety of asset classes, including Private Trust Companies, commercial real estate, family office and art. In addition, Mark has helped families with their succession planning and probate issues, family governance requirements and philanthropic needs and has further managed a number of bespoke charitable trusts. Mark is a member of both the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners and the Association of Taxation Technicians.



**Sean Coughlan**

Managing Director  
Trident Trust

Sean Coughlan joined Trident Trust in 2016 and has overall responsibility for Trident's Singapore operations. Sean has held senior positions at both independent and institutional trust companies during his 30-year career, which spans both Asia and Europe. He has advised many international high net worth clients on the use of trusts and other estate planning vehicles.

Sean is a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and a qualified Trust & Estate Practitioner.

# TRUSTEES IN AN ERA OF UNCERTAINTY

## SPEAKERS PROFILE



**Wong Pei Ting**

Partner  
Allen & Gledhill

Pei Ting is Partner at Allen & Gledhill LLP. She is a disputes lawyer whose practice includes corporate and commercial litigation, international arbitration, and restructuring and insolvency.

Pei Ting's primary focus is on complex contentious matters, providing tailored and specialised advice and support to clients across a wide range of industries. Her experience includes acting in banking and trust disputes, shareholder disputes, breaches of directors' duties, cryptocurrency disputes, and other high stakes commercial and cross-border claims.

Aside from her civil litigation work, she has also acted in white-collar crime defence and advised clients on investigations and restructuring and insolvency matters. She has been recognised by Benchmark Litigation (2024) as being "[c]onfident and hardworking, adept at quickly grasping issues at hand. Maintains decisiveness and composure at all times".

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