

In House and Local Government Update

Practising Certificates—more problems on the way

From 1 July 2009 the Regulations governing practising certificates changed with the introduction of the SRA Practising Regulations 2009. Innocuous, even dull they unfortunately pose more issues for in house and local government lawyers applying for a Practising Certificate after a period when they have not held a PC.

In order to obtain a practising certificate in such circumstances form REG3 must be completed, replacing form RFs12.

Section 6 of RFs12 was a model of self-incriminating questions. The good news is that in REG3 section 6 has been significantly abridged. The bad news is that in its new form section 6 represents a greater risk for in-house and local government solicitors becoming subject to regulatory investigation if form REG3 is completed inappropriately. How can a lengthy and costly regulatory investigation be avoided? There are some free resources to help on our web site (www.guisesolicitors.co.uk) and further advice prepared by our firm is available to members on the C & I Group web site (www.cigroup.org.uk).

Review the new Regulations here:

www.sra.org.uk/solicitors/change-tracker/practising-regulations/practising-regulations.page

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