



MESSAGE FOR PAM MEMBERS

21 August 2022

Dear PAM Members,

Pursuant to the recent press coverage on the issue of the 'Architect Remanded Over False Claims Amounting to RM 3 million' published on 20 August 2022 by various news outlets, PAM would like to remind its members that the architecture profession has always placed the highest emphasis on integrity and trust. As many PAM members are cognizant of the fundamental fact that Architects are self-regulating professionals who fall under ambit of the Architects Act 1967 (Act 117). As empowered by the act, the Board of Architects (Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia - LAM) regulates the conduct and behavior of the architectural profession. As such in the Architects Rules 1996 our 'Code of Conduct for Architects' is clearly defined and overtly regulated by the Board. LAM views any breach of the code of conduct as a serious matter and will not hesitate to act within the powers outlined by the Act. Nonetheless this message serves as a reminder to all members of PAM that we have a sacred duty to uphold public interest, a role which has been placed on the shoulders of the architectural profession in many aspects of the construction industry. In order to enable us to continue to play such a role, our integrity must be beyond reproach.

Though the above articles by the press may cast a dark shadow upon the profession I would like to remind all members of the facts below:

1. The person in question who was identified by the papers as an 'Architect' is currently not registered with the Board of Architects (Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia - LAM) hence, he is not an Architect as per the Act. Though representing an architect firm in the project, he cannot be called an architect as he is not registered with the Board either as Graduate Architect or as an Architect proper. The terminology used by the news outlets in this sense is erroneous.
2. The person in question is only held in remand for questioning. The case is still under investigation hence no charges have been made towards said person. Though some of the words used by some of the news outlets are almost accusatory in nature, it is important to understand that this is an ongoing investigation which has yet to be concluded.

The architectural fraternity is small, as many already know of the issue through their personal networks let us refrain from speculation and hearsay. As it may, we put our trust in the authorities to uncover the truth behind the case. Until then, let us not come to a premature conclusion with regard to innocence or guilt. I would like to reiterate and urge all PAM members to strictly adhere to our Code of Conduct and maintain the highest degree of integrity in all our undertakings. A single transgression amongst our ranks will reflect upon the profession as a whole and will besmirch our good name as well as undermine public confidence in the profession. Let us work together to ensure that this will never come to pass.

Yours sincerely,
for PERTUBUHAN AKITEK MALAYSIA (PAM)

Assoc. Prof. (Ind.) Ar. Sarly Adre Sarkum
PAM President