

From: [Anna Liao](#)
To: [Paul Johnston](#)
Cc: [Toya Kha](#)
Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]
Date: Monday, 11 March 2019 5:31:16 PM

Dear Mr Johnston,

We refer to the above matter and your email below.

We are instructed that the estate does not waive Dr Liao's legal professional privilege.

We regret that we are unable to assist you further with your request.

Kindest regards,

Anna Liao

TK Legal

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From: Paul Johnston <pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 March 2019 10:56 AM
To: Toya Kha <tk@tklegal.com>
Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Kha,

I refer to the email correspondence below. In December, you indicated that you were in the process of obtaining instructions from Mrs Zhang regarding waiver of Dr Liao's legal professional privilege for the purpose set in my email of 21/11/18. Have you been able to obtain those instructions? It would be appreciated if you could provide the Commission with an update.

Kind regards,

Paul Johnston | Senior Lawyer
NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
Level 7, 255 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 500 Sydney NSW 2001
☎: 8281 [REDACTED] | 📞: 9264 5364 | ✉: pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au

From: Toya Kha <tk@tklegal.com>
Sent: Thursday, 13 December 2018 4:43 PM
To: Paul Johnston <pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Johnston,

I confirm receipt of your email.

I have now received the deceased's file from his previous solicitor and am in the process of obtaining

instructions from the executor.

I will advise you of those instructions as soon as I have received them.

Regards,

Toya Kha

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From: Paul Johnston <pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 12 December 2018 11:26 AM
To: Toya Kha <tk@tklegal.com>
Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Kha,

I am just following up the correspondence below. Having not heard from you, I wanted to confirm that you received the email below. Can you please confirm? Thank you.
Also, can you let me know if you have been able to obtain instructions from Ms Zhang's in relation to her position on the possible waiver of Dr Liao's LPP by his estate?
Your assistance is appreciated.

Kind regards,

Paul

Paul Johnston | Senior Lawyer

NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

Level 7, 255 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 500 Sydney NSW 2001

☎: 8281 [REDACTED] | 📠: 9264 5364 | ✉: pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au

From: Paul Johnston
Sent: Wednesday, 21 November 2018 3:46 PM
To: 'Toya Kha' <tk@tklegal.com>
Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Kha,

Apologies for the delay in getting back to you.

Thank you for confirming that you act for Mrs Zhang, the executrix of Mr Liao's estate. Please pass my condolences to Mrs Zhang and her family. The Chief Commissioner has asked that I make contact with the executrix of Quanbao Liao's estate in connection with a request concerning Mr Liao's legal professional privilege.

Some brief background information will help to put the request in context. On 15 June 2018, Commission investigators served on Mr Liao a summons which required him to attend the Commission and give evidence at a compulsory examination in relation to the Commission's investigation of an allegation that certain persons entered into a scheme in 2015 to circumvent statutory prohibitions relating to political donations. The nature of the allegation being investigated appeared on the face of Mr Liao's summons. The compulsory examination was

scheduled to take place on 25 June 2018. Mr Liao did not appear on 25 June 2018. The Commission subsequently learned of Mr Liao's death from NSW Police and understands that he appears to have taken his own life on 24 June 2018.

In conducting its investigation, the Commission is seeking to ascertain whether Mr Liao was involved in the political donation scheme and, if so, the nature and extent of his involvement.

Between 15 June and 24 June 2018, Mr Liao obtained legal representation for the purpose of preparing for his appearance at the Commission on 25 June 2018. He was represented by the firm Balazs Lazanas & Welch LLP, who briefed Mr Andrew Naylor of Counsel to appear on his behalf at the compulsory examination. The Commission understands that Mr Liao took part in a number of conferences with his legal representatives. Communications that may have passed between Mr Liao and his lawyers in those conferences were no doubt privileged communications for the purpose of preparing for his compulsory examination.

The Commission understands that, upon Mr Liao's death, his legal professional privilege (LPP) passes on to his estate.

The Commission seeks the assistance of Mrs Zhang, the executrix of Mr Liao's estate, in relation to a request for the waiver of Mr Liao's LPP to enable Balazs Lazanas & Welch LLP and Mr Naylor to assist the Commission with respect to the nature of Mr Liao's instructions in conference.

The Commission is cognizant of the importance of LPP and the seriousness of this request, which is made for the purpose of getting to the truth of this matter involving substantial public interest. Should LPP be waived, the Commission anticipates that information which might be obtained could significantly advance the investigation.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could pass this request on Mrs Zhang.

Should you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Paul

Paul Johnston | Senior Lawyer

NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

Level 7, 255 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 500 Sydney NSW 2001

☎: 8281 [REDACTED] | 📞: 9264 5364 | ✉: pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au

From: Paul Johnston

Sent: Wednesday, 31 October 2018 12:59 PM

To: 'Toya Kha' <tk@tklegal.com>

Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Kha,

Thank you for your prompt reply and confirmation that you act for Ms Zhang, the executrix of Mr Liao's estate. I expect to be in a position shortly to contact you again regarding the matter I alluded to below.

Kind regards,

Paul

Paul Johnston | Senior Lawyer

NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

Level 7, 255 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 500 Sydney NSW 2001

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From: Toya Kha <tk@tklegal.com>

Sent: Monday, 29 October 2018 2:36 PM

To: Paul Johnston <pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Paul,

I confirm that we do act for Mrs Yueqin Zhang, the executrix of Quanbao Liao's estate.

Mrs Zhang can be contacted through our office.

Please let me know if you require any further information or assistance.

Regards,

Toya Kha

TK Legal

Solicitors & Notaries

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From: Paul Johnston <pjohnston@icac.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 29 October 2018 10:15 AM

To: Toya Kha <tk@tklegal.com>

Subject: Executor of estate - Quanbao Liao [DLM=Sensitive:Legal]

Dear Mr Kha,

My name is Paul Johnston and I am a Senior Lawyer at the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption. The Commission would like to make contact with the executor of Quanbao Liao's estate. I understand that your firm acts for Yueqin Zhang in relation to probate of Mr Liao's will. Are you able to advise:

1. who is the executor of Mr Liao's estate; and

2. whether your firm, TK Legal, acts for the executor?

Your assistance would be appreciated.

Kind regards,

Paul

Paul Johnston | Senior Lawyer

NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption

Level 7, 255 Elizabeth St, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 500 Sydney NSW 2001

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