

### **Law 31 of 1999 on Regulation of Lawyers Profession**

- The Law consists of 119 articles which are divided into 9 chapters, and the agency in charge of the implementation of the Law is the Ministry of Justice.
- The Law aims at:
  - a) implementing laws through participation with judiciary and the public attorney in establishing and strengthening the law, fair trial, and defense of public freedoms and human rights;
  - b) collaborating with the judiciary and the public attorney so as to make way for justice, simplify court procedures, and eliminate constraints and obstacles for disputing parties;
  - c) spreading awareness about law, improving jurisprudence, and participating in the improvement of legislation;
  - d) providing judicial assistance to the unable;
  - e) cooperating with professional associations and similar organizations within the country and abroad in order to exchange experience to be exchanged and to support justice, freedom and peace;
- Relevant articles:
  - a) The lawyers association is an independent professional society. It includes lawyers who are registered in its rolls, and has its own legal personality and administrative and financial independence;
  - b) The applicant for registration in the general lawyers roll, shall:
    - i) be a Yemeni national;
    - ii) have a university degree from the Faculty of Sharia and Law or Faculty of Law either from a Yemeni University or any other recognized university;

- iii) be totally competent, with good manners and has not been convicted in a crime germane to honor and integrity or any other profession-degrading crime unless he has been rehabilitated;
  - iv) be totally dedicated to the profession.
- The applicant for licensing to practice the lawyer profession shall:
- i) be registered in the public roll and accepted for defense before primary courts, appeal courts, or the Supreme Court, as the case may be ;
  - ii) have his own office, or work in an office shared with another lawyer;
  - iii) pay his financial subscriptions ;
  - iv) not be in any of the following positions:
    - Speaker of the House of Representatives;
    - Prime Minister or a member of the Council of Ministers;
    - A public officer or an officer in a public, private or mixed institution;
    - A businessman or operator in any work contradicting the independence and dignity of lawyers;
    - Foreign lawyers are entitled to operate in accordance with the law through an office of licensed Yemeni lawyers on the basis of the principle of reciprocity after the permission of the minister of justice. However, a foreign individual lawyer shall, in no case, be permitted to plead for more than two cases per year.
- The lawyer's fees may not exceed 10 percent of the case's value unless the lawyer and client otherwise agreed.