

PRESS STATEMENT

Commissioner of Charities bans Love Foundation and its founder from conducting fund-raising appeals for charitable purposes

The Commissioner of Charities (COC) has issued a prohibition order under Section 39B(1) of the Charities Act to bar Love Foundation (S) Ltd and its founder Jasons Lim Hua Tong (also known as Jaycen Lim) from conducting any fund-raising appeal for charitable purposes with effect from 17 April 2008.

Love Foundation (S) Ltd

2. Love Foundation (S) Ltd is not a registered charity. It was set up as a company limited by guarantee in 2006 and, according to the company's website, its mission statement is to foster bonding and celebrate love within families. This company has organised a few fund-raising activities in the name of supporting charities.

3. The COC's office has received complaints of misrepresentation by Jasons Lim. It has also come to the COC's attention that Jasons Lim who is the founder and a key representative of Love Foundation (S) Ltd, is an undischarged bankrupt. In 2005, Jasons Lim pleaded guilty to a charge of being concerned in the management of a company by the name of Jwinner Education Centre Pte Ltd while being an undischarged bankrupt, without leave of Court or the permission of the Official Assignee, an offence under Section 148(1) of the Companies Act. He was convicted of the charge and was fined \$5,000.

4. The only director of Love Foundation (S) Ltd is the spouse of Jasons Lim.

5. Based on the above, Jasons Lim Hua Tong and Love Foundation (S) Ltd are not considered fit and proper person/company to conduct fund-raising appeals for charitable purposes. To protect public interest, the COC has decided to prohibit Jasons Lim Hua Tong and Love Foundation (S) Ltd from conducting any fund-raising appeal for charitable purposes with effect from 17 April 2008.

6. The COC's office is also investigating into the fund-raising activities carried out by Love Foundation for possible violation of the Charities Act.

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The Office of the Commissioner of Charities
16 April 2008

BACKGROUND INFORMATION - CHARITIES ACT – SECTION 39B(1)

Power of Commissioner to prohibit or restrict fund-raising appeal

Section 39B. — (1) Notwithstanding any exemption or permit granted under section 39A, the Commissioner may, at any time, by order published in the *Gazette* —

- (a) prohibit or stop the conduct of any fund-raising appeal by any charity or person; or
- (b) restrict the conduct of any fund-raising appeal by any charity or person by imposing conditions,

if he is satisfied —

- (i) that any fund-raising appeal conducted by the charity or person has not been conducted in good faith for charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes;
- (ii) that any of the persons who have conducted a fund-raising appeal, or any persons associated with any such appeal, are not fit and proper persons to administer, or to be associated with, a fund-raising appeal for charitable, benevolent or philanthropic purposes;
- (iii) that any fund-raising appeal has been improperly administered;
- (iv) that, in connection with any fund-raising appeal conducted, the provisions of this Act or the regulations or the conditions imposed by the Commissioner were not complied with by any person conducting or participating in the appeal; or
- (v) that, in the public interest, the fund-raising appeal should not be conducted.