



CHINA LEGAL BRIEFING 34

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1. *National*

China Adopted Tax Credit Rating Rules

On July 17, 2003, China State Taxation Administration published *Measures for the Administration of Taxpayers Credit Rank Rating* for the purpose of tax levy administration and strike down tax frauds and evasions. The Measures provide that tax payers may be rated based on four levels, i.e., A (the highest), B, C and D (the lowest). The Measures provide for records and information based on which a rating is conducted and grading system for rating of such four levels. The Measures also provide that the competent tax authorities are in charge of such rating.

The adoption of the Measures will assist entities and individual in examining the credit of tax payers when they are doing business with other entities or individuals. (www.law-lib.com)

2. *Local*

Guangdong Regulates Attorney's Fees

On July 10, 2003, Guangdong Bureau of Justice and Guangdong Pricing Bureau jointly published "Interim Implementing Measures of Guangdong Province for the Administration of Fees Charged for Attorneys' Services". The Measures state that attorneys can charge on an hourly rate basis, a piece rate

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basis or a consultation basis. The Measures permit a contingency fee arrangement, which does apply to a criminal case. The Measures provide for a fee rate table, which covers an hourly rate range, a rate range for a criminal case, a rate range for transactions and litigations.

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