PRC defense appointment: overseas document checks

The appointing person, relationship, recipient and required form come first. Do not order notarization or an Apostille automatically.

Confirm who appoints counsel

□ Under PRC Criminal Procedure Law Article 34, a detained suspect or defendant may be assisted in appointing defense counsel by a guardian or close relative, subject to the applicable conditions.

□ Identify the client, person signing, relationship, law firm, lawyer and case stage. Obtain the receiving lawyer or authority's actual requirements.

Check the document route

□ Which identity and relationship evidence is needed? Who issues it and where will it be used?

□ Confirm signature, original/copy, translation and receipt requirements for each document.

□ For an overseas public document, check whether the Apostille Convention applies between the relevant jurisdictions and to the document. An Apostille authenticates origin; it does not prove the case facts or ensure acceptance for every use.

□ If the Convention does not apply, confirm the appropriate alternative route. Do not assume all powers of attorney require the same notarization or legalization steps.

Confirm completion

□ Written engagement and appointment documents accepted: _____

□ Outstanding original, translation, authentication or relationship proof: _____

□ Work that can lawfully start, responsible person, next step and date: _____

Instructions and official source links: https://www.wwgglawyer3.com/downloads

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