

SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE

**2024
IN REVIEW**






VISION

A trusted Legal Service,
upholding the rule of law and
advancing Singapore's interests.

MISSION

One Legal Service,
developing and deploying
the best legal talent to provide
the highest quality legal services.



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and Statutory Boards/Statutory Bodies

The background of the entire page is a light cream color, overlaid with a complex pattern of thin, wavy, orange lines. These lines create a sense of depth and movement, resembling a stylized topographical map or a series of overlapping, undulating planes. The lines are most concentrated in the corners and around the central text, creating a frame-like effect.

THE SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE/ ATTORNEY- GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

THE SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE

The Attorney-General is the President of the Legal Service Commission and heads the Singapore Legal Service. Legal Service Officers (“LSOs”) play a vital role in upholding the rule of law in Singapore by serving in the Attorney-General’s Chambers (“AGC”), departments of Ministries, statutory boards/statutory bodies (“MSB” or “MSBs”) and key public institutions with LSO positions.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL’S CHAMBERS

In 2024, the AGC continued under the leadership of Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai as the Attorney-General, Deputy Attorneys-General Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin, Mr Tai Wei Shyong and Mr Ang Cheng Hock, and Solicitor-General Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin.

The AGC performs a critical role as the guardian of the public interest and steward of the rule of law. The AGC is led by the Attorney-General, who is the Public Prosecutor (“PP”) and is also the legal advisor to the Government.

As the PP, the Attorney-General exercises overall control and direction of criminal prosecutions and proceedings, independently of the Government. As the Government’s chief legal advisor and

drafter of laws, the Attorney-General advises the Government on a wide spectrum of legal issues and the development of legislative proposals to ensure that the Government’s policy objectives are advanced within the framework of the rule of law. The AGC also represents Singapore at international negotiations and dispute settlement proceedings. It also acts as the central authority for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and extradition.

The Attorney-General is assisted by LSOs in the four legal divisions of the AGC. These are the Civil Division, the Crime Division, the International Affairs Division, and the Legislation Division. The Attorney-General is also assisted by LSOs in the Advocacy Group, the AGC-Legal Service Academy and the Legal Technology & Innovation Office, which are crucial pillars in supporting and advancing the work of the AGC.

ADVOCACY GROUP

Focusing on litigation and dispute resolution, LSOs in the Advocacy Group represent the Government as State Counsels and prosecute offences as Deputy Public Prosecutors (“DPPs”), often in close collaboration with other legal divisions. In 2024, the Advocacy Group’s notable matters included:

- (a) **Novel prosecution:** A team, consisting of LSOs from the Crime Division and the Advocacy Group, led by Deputy Attorney-General Ang Cheng Hock, successfully conducted the first prosecution under the Parliament (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act 1962 (*PP v Pritam Singh [2025] SGDC 90*). In the lead up to the trial of the matter, the team successfully resisted an application to transfer the case to the High Court (“HC”) (reported in *Pritam Singh v PP [2024] 6 SLR 387*).
- (b) **Mutual legal assistance in cross-border fraud:** The Advocacy Group, in collaboration with the International Affairs Division, handled requests for extradition, and for restraint and confiscation orders under the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 2000.
- (c) **Ad hoc admission of foreign counsel:** The Advocacy Group, in collaboration with the Civil Division, successfully resisted the *ad hoc* admission of a King’s Counsel in an appeal which engaged principles of insolvency law and schemes of arrangement (reported in *Re Smith, Tom KC [2025] SGHC 9*, which sets out principles on the admission of foreign counsel on appeal).
- (d) **Alternative Dispute Resolution:** The Advocacy Group, in collaboration with the Civil Division, represented the Government in arbitration proceedings and mediations.

As at 31 December 2024, there were eight LSOs and one seconded Judicial Service Officer in the Advocacy Group.

Vincent Leow

Deputy Solicitor-General/
Head, Advocacy Group
Attorney-General’s Chambers

AGC-LEGAL SERVICE ACADEMY

The Academy continues to equip LSOs in AGC and MSBs with the right knowledge and skills at the right time. In 2024, training ramped up in cutting edge fields like Generative Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) and Large Language Models, as well as core advocacy and drafting skills. Marquee events like the Legal Colloquium and a fireside chat with Professor S. Jayakumar, were organised to strengthen ties and knowledge sharing amongst government lawyers. The Academy’s strong partnership with local and overseas law practices, commercial entities and government bodies, facilitated attachments for 12 LSOs. In addition to in-house speakers, 11 academic experts and 14 leading Senior Counsels/King’s Counsels shared their experiences in various seminars, keeping LSOs abreast of legal developments and advocacy techniques.

In 2024, the Academy propelled the Knowledge Management (“KM”) vision of targeted curation of KM resources on cross-cutting issues, including on constitutional and administrative law, data disclosure and privilege. Sixty-three AGC KM Bulletins and 23 KM infographics were published in addition to division-specific KM products. The Academy also coordinated the update of the AGC Practice Guidelines to facilitate a consistent, institutional approach on work matters.

Increased KM resources were extended to the LSOs at the MSBs and new databases were created to meet specific needs, e.g. guidance on charging decisions for the Office of the Public Prosecutor (“OPP”), and an expert witness database to aid prosecutors in trial preparation. The Academy also introduced KM Automation, an AI tool for topic and legislation tagging, to facilitate precedent curation.

As at 31 December 2024, there were nine LSOs in the Academy.

Wan Wai Yee (Ms)

Dean, AGC-Legal Service Academy
Attorney-General’s Chambers

LEGAL TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION OFFICE

The Legal Technology and Innovation Office (“LTIO”) drives the adoption of technology and innovation in AGC.

In 2024, LTIO developed the AI Judgment Summariser (“AJS”) to generate case summaries to AGC’s specifications. The AJS displays source paragraphs for verification and also features a built-in accuracy evaluator. LTIO also developed a prototype AI tool for generating tables of sentencing precedents for sentencing submissions, and initiated other projects to develop AI tools to support other areas of legal work in AGC.

LTIO also leads the exploration and adoption of Government and commercial AI tools. In 2024, product trials for commercial legal AI tools including Microsoft Co-Pilot, Harvey AI and Jus AI were arranged for AGC officers. LTIO also updated the AGC Practice Guidelines to advise on the responsible use of Large Language Models and how to manage associated risks. In using AI tools, officers remain accountable for their work and responsible for checking accuracy of AI generated content.

Other notable projects in 2024 include the development of a customised Crime Litigation module in the Intelligent Workspace System (“IW”) that interfaces IW with the State Courts’ Integrated Case Management System, and the continuing deployment of Robotic Process Automation bots to automate various business processes. LTIO also embarked on the development of the One Legal Service platform which will include a new “trackmate” application that automatically tracks legislative changes and sends customised updates to officers, and a new version of “autotab” with speed and productivity enhancements, support for collaborative workflows and accessibility via web or mobile devices.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in LTIO.

Liew Kuang Ping

Head (Strategic Product), LTIO
Attorney-General’s Chambers



ADVOCACY GROUP, AGC-LEGAL SERVICE ACADEMY AND LEGAL TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION OFFICE

(Left to Right) Front row:

Wong Woon Kwong, Vincent Leow (Deputy Solicitor-General/Head, Advocacy Group), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Ms Wan Wai Yee (Dean, AGC-Legal Service Academy), Han Ming Kuang, Mrs Jasmine Chin-Sabado

(Left to Right) Back row:

Liew Kuang Ping, Wong Chun Han, Dr Kenny Yang Yong, Ms Elizabeth Chua Ming Ying, Ms Emily Zhao, Ms Tan Shi Yun, Ms Ruth Ng Yew Ching, Ms Audrey Choo Wen Yee, Ms Jocelyn Teo Meng Hui, Ms Ruth Wong Shuyi, Ms Ho May Kim, Lewis Tan Choon Kia, Brian Wong Li De

CRIME DIVISION

Crime Division's primary mission is to uphold the rule of law through fair and independent prosecutions, seeking appropriate punishments for convicted offenders.

In 2024, our DPPs cleared a combined total of more than 50,000 Investigation Papers ("IPs"), from the Singapore Police Force ("SPF") and other enforcement agencies, including the Commercial Affairs Department, Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau, and other MSBs.

Our DPPs prosecuted more than 60 cases in the HC, and more than 5,000 cases in the State Courts. We also argued more than 200 appeals in both the HC and the Court of Appeal ("CA").

Significant Cases Prosecuted in 2024

- (a) ***PP v S Iswaran [2025] 3 SLR 403*** – In the first prosecution under section 165 of the Penal Code 1871, a Minister of the Government of Singapore obtained various valuable items without consideration from persons concerned in business transactions with him. The offender pleaded guilty to five charges and was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.
- (b) ***PP v Muhammad Salihin bin Ismail [2024] 1 SLR 792*** – The CA allowed the Prosecution's appeal against an acquittal for murder. The offender fatally abused his four-year-old stepdaughter on two occasions. On the first occasion, he used blunt force on her abdomen. On the second occasion, he kicked and used blunt force on her. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and 12 strokes of the cane.
- (c) ***PP v Su Jianfeng [2024] SGDC 188***
 - The offender was the last of ten offenders linked to acts of money laundering for which over \$3 billion worth of assets were seized. The offender was arrested in August 2023 as part of an island-wide raid in relation to money laundering offences. In June 2024, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 17 months' imprisonment.
- (d) ***PP v Lim Oon Kuin (SC-905820-2020)***
 - In one of the largest trade financing frauds, the founder and then-Managing Director of Hin Leong Trading Pte Ltd was convicted after trial. He was sentenced to 17 years and six months' imprisonment.
- (e) ***PP v CPH [2023] SGHC 272*** – The CA upheld the HC's sentence of 20 years' imprisonment for an offender who pleaded guilty to sexually abusing his 11-year-old stepdaughter. There were multiple aggravating factors, including the abuse of trust, vulnerability of his stepdaughter, exposing his stepdaughter to the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, premeditation as evidenced by sexual grooming and severe harm caused to his stepdaughter.
- (f) ***Iskandar bin Jinan v PP and another appeal [2024] 2 SLR 673*** – The CA considered the Sentencing Advisory Panel's ("SAP") Guidelines on Reductions in Sentences for Guilty Pleas and set out the appropriate reduction on account of a guilty plea for drug trafficking and drug importation offences.

(g) ***Koh Lian Kok v PP [2024] 4 SLR 1526***

– The HC Court of Three Judges enhanced a sentence from four months to 14 months’ imprisonment in an appeal involving offences under the Workplace Safety and Health Act 2006 (“WSHA”). Submissions were made on various issues including: (i) the appropriate sentencing framework for section 50(a) WSHA offences; (ii) the definition of causative link; (iii) when harm from an offence should be considered for sentencing; and (iv) when an offender’s sentence will be enhanced in the absence of an appeal by the Prosecution. The HC agreed with the submissions of the Prosecution and laid down a sentencing framework for such offences.

Crime Division works with stakeholders to improve the efficacy of the criminal justice system. We advise Ministries on legislative and operational aspects of their work related to the criminal justice system. In 2024, we provided inputs to the Ministry of Home Affairs on a number of important Bills, including the Road Traffic Amendment Bill and the Anti-Money Laundering and Other Matters Bill. Crime Division is also AGC’s representative on the SAP, which is led by Justice Tay Yong Kwang.

In 2024, the SAP, after obtaining advice from all stakeholders including AGC, issued important sentencing guidelines on scams-related offences. These guidelines provide guidance on how new scams-related offences under the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act 1992 and Computer Misuse Act 1993 ought to be sentenced.

In collaboration with the SPF, we enhanced the process of clearing IPs through expedited consultation with DPPs stationed at the various Police Land Divisions as part of the OPP initiative. Since the start of this initiative in 2021, constructive working relationships have been formed between the OPP teams and the SPF investigators. Due to the success of this initiative, AGC and SPF signed a further five-year memorandum of understanding on 29 August 2024.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 191 LSOs in Crime Division.

Tan Kiat Pheng

Chief Prosecutor

Crime Division

Attorney-General’s Chambers



CRIME DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

Han Ming Kuang, Loh Yong Kah Alan, Anandan s/o Bala, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hui Choon Kuen (Third Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat (Second Chief Prosecutor), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Koy Su Hua Peter, Oh Chun Wei Gordon, Ong Siu Jin Christopher, Wong Woon Kwong, Ng Yiwen

(Left to Right) Second row:

Zhou Yang, Sheldon Anthony Lim Wei Jie, Charles How Yew Hwa, A M Mohamed Riasudeen, Ms Joelle Loy En Qi, Ms Goh Qi Shuen, Ms Phoebe Tan Hern Hwei, Timothy Ong Kah Yong, Ms Lee Wen Kym, Kamen Chiang Ke Yang, Wayde Chan, Ms Yap Wan Ting Selene, Ms Koh Jia Ling Emily, Ms Lynda Lee Gek Huang, Ms Eunice Chew, Ms Intan Suhaily bte Abu Bakar

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Wuan Kin Lek Nicholas, Sean Teh Lien Wern, Ms Lim Wan Yu Cheronne, Ms Ngian Jia Xian June, Law Yan An, Ms Yeo Kee Hwan, Kumaresan s/o Gohulabalan, Ms Lim Yu Hui, Ms Santhiya Kulasakeran, Ms Nivethaa Ravintharan, Ms Valerie Lim An Qi, Ng Guan Wen Colin, Lee Yee Leng Eugene

(Left to Right) Back row:

Ms Lim Li Ting, Koh Rong En Timotheus, Ms Janessa Phua Pei Xuan, Caleb Looi Xu, Ms Chu Weng Yan Kathy, Thaddeus Tan Zhi En, Tay Jia En, Tung Shou Pin



CRIME DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

Han Ming Kuang, Loh Yong Kah Alan, Anandan s/o Bala, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hui Choon Kuen (Third Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat (Second Chief Prosecutor), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Koy Su Hua Peter, Oh Chun Wei Gordon, Ong Siu Jin Christopher, Wong Woon Kwong, Ng Yiwen

(Left to Right) Second row:

Tay Swee Keng Mark, Ms Teo Sey En Nicole, Ms Heershan Kaur, Ms Charlene Tay Chia Mei Woon, Ms Chu Sin Ping Natalie, Ms Jayaletchmi J, Ms Quek Lu Yi, Ms Tin Shu Min, Ng Jun Kai, Chua Seng Leng Terence, Ms Zhou Yihong, Ms Ruth Teng Xiaohui, Ms Phang Suet Fern April, Lau Wing Yum, Leong Wing Tuck

(Left to Right) Third row:

Tang Shangjun, Gabriel Lee Heng Bin, Ethan Lee, Mark Chia Zi Han, Sunil Nair, Darren Ang Jin Wee, Chin Jincheng, Ms Koh Wan Ling Stephanie, Ms Haniza binte Mohammad Reeza Abnass, Ms Teng Yin Hang, Ms Xu Sijia, Ms S Puspha, Ms Chee Ee Ling

(Left to Right) Back row:

Foo Guo Wen Marcus, Tan Wee Hao, Benedict Chan Wei Qi, Andre Ong Yao-Min, Johan Tay Chin Kang, Muhammad bin K M A Jahabar Sathik, Chan Yi Cheng, Kong Kuek Foo, Andrew Low Szu Kiat, Foo Yang Yi, Yeo Zhen Xiong, Tow Chew Chi, Ong Kit Liang Vincent, John Lu Zhuoren



CRIME DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

Han Ming Kuang, Loh Yong Kah Alan, Anandan s/o Bala, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hui Choon Kuen (Third Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat (Second Chief Prosecutor), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Koy Su Hua Peter, Oh Chun Wei Gordon, Ong Siu Jin Christopher, Wong Woon Kwong, Ng Yiwen

(Left to Right) Second row:

Xavier Tan Wee Cher, Ms Mavis Ng Meiqi, Ms Nicole Tay Wan Ni, Ms Yeow Xuan, Ms Magdalene Huang, Ms Ashley Chin Sze-En, Ms Alexandria Shamini Joseph, Ms Sarah Sabir Thaker, Ms Theong Li Han, Ms Delicia Charmaine Tan, Ms Lynn Tan, Eugene Phua Liang Wei, Lim Yi Hern Ryan, Ms Teo Pei Rong Grace, Benjamin Low Junjie

(Left to Right) Third row:

Stephen Yeo Toh Cheng, Ms Jheong Siew Yin, Ms Tan Pei Wei, David Koh, Hu Youda Eric, Nicholas Khoo, David Menon, Jonathan Tan Hoe En, Ms Wong Shiau Yin, Samuel Chew Tongjun, Shaun Lim Sheng Kang, Andre Ong Yao-Min, Ronnie Ang Yao Long

(Left to Right) Back row:

Andrew Chia Cheng Yi, Louis Ngia Jin Liang, Hon Yi, Darren Sim, Kelvin Chong Yue Hua, Suriya Prakash Uthayasurian, Yee Jia Rong, Nicholas Tan, Tan Ben Mathias

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

The International Affairs Division (“IAD”) advises and represents the Government on matters relating to international law. The IAD also serves as Singapore’s Central Authority for mutual legal assistance and extradition in criminal matters.

In 2024, the IAD advised the Government on a wide range of issues, including the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, the setting-up of the Singapore-Johor Special Economic Zone, and four disputes pending before the International Civil Aviation Organisation Council. IAD officers also participated in the Advisory Opinion proceedings on climate change before the International Court of Justice.

IAD officers provided significant legal support in the negotiation, conclusion and implementation of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, a “123” Agreement with the United States on civil nuclear cooperation, the amendments to the World Health Organisation’s International Health Regulations, as well as extradition and mutual legal assistance treaties with South Korea and Vietnam, respectively.

IAD officers participated in major bilateral and international meetings and negotiations, including:

- (a) the 79th United Nations (“UN”) General Assembly;
- (b) the 29th UN Climate Change Conference;
- (c) the UN Human Rights Council;
- (d) the Singapore-Malaysia maritime delimitation negotiations led by the Attorney-General;

- (e) negotiations on combating plastic pollution, cybersecurity and international seabed mining;
- (f) the upgrade of six ASEAN economic treaties and one new ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (“FTA”) with Canada; and
- (g) digital economy agreements, including the EU-Singapore Digital Trade Agreement, the accession of one partner and seven potential others to the Digital Economy Partnership Agreement, as well as plurilateral initiatives at the World Trade Organisation such as the Joint Statement Initiative on E-commerce.

As Central Authority for international criminal cooperation matters, the IAD successfully extradited to Hong Kong an individual allegedly involved in a sophisticated syndicate perpetrating securities fraud, and repatriated USD500,000 to China.

IAD officers played key roles, including in the UN Commission on International Trade Law (“UNCITRAL”) Working Group III (Rapporteur), Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee (Member), and ASEAN-China FTA legal working group (Co-chair). In addition, IAD officers also participated as speakers and moderators in international conferences and seminars, such as the Centre for International Law Year in Review, American Society of International Law General Meeting, and the Hague Academy of International Law Summer Programme.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 44 LSOs in the IAD.

Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Ms)

Solicitor-General/

Director-General, International Affairs Division

Attorney-General’s Chambers



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

Tan Soo Tet, Toh Shin Hao, Sellakumaran s/o Sellamuthoo, Ms Diane Tan Yi-Lui, Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General/Director-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Derek Loh Kong Yue, Marcus Song Ee Pin, Jason Tan Theng Kok, Kenneth Wong Weixiong

(Left to Right) Second row:

Hui Janie Anne, Ms Yau Pui Man, Ms Guo Yunwen Yvonne, Ms Chong Wei-Zhen Amanda, Ms Fong Mian Yi Seraphina, Ms Pavithra Ramkumar, Ms Ryce Lee, Ms Lu Yiwei

(Left to Right) Back row:

Jiang Zhifeng, Ms Chow Zi En, Hu Zhenliang Alan, Tan Chun Wen Scott, Ms Qiu Huixiang, Ms Kua Zhizhen Jean, Low Chin Yong James

CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division is the Government's principal legal advisor. In 2024, we advised the Government on a wide range of legal matters, including issues pertaining to:

- (a) the collection, usage and disclosure of data in the public sector;
- (b) measures to protect Singapore's coastline against rising sea levels;
- (c) the appointment of potential importers of low-carbon electricity;
- (d) the implementation of the new Significant Investments Review Act 2024; and
- (e) measures to protect Singapore from disinformation and covert foreign influence.

The Civil Division assisted with developing and updating templates for whole-of-government procurement, including a collaborative contracting template for Engineering and Construction projects by the Government. We provided legal support for important projects, e.g. the Johor Bahru-Singapore Rapid Transit System Link, the Singapore-Ghana Implementation Agreement on the transfer of carbon credits, the establishment of an International Energy Agency Regional Corporation Centre and procuring advisory services in relation to carbon capture storage and green bond frameworks.

The Civil Division represented the Government and the Attorney-General in various legal proceedings, including:

- (a) ***Ng Kai Hoe Raymond & another v Health Sciences Authority ("HSA") (HC/OA 554/2024)***
– We successfully represented HSA to strike out a judicial review application for a mandatory order to compel HSA to act against any entity who used celebrities to promote vaccination.

- (b) ***Sentek Marine & Trading Pte Ltd v Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore ("MPA") [2025] 3 SLR 688*** – We successfully defended MPA's decision to refuse applications to renew two bunkering licenses, in a judicial review challenge against MPA.

- (c) ***Andrew John Hanam v The Law Society of Singapore and another (HC/OA 692/2024)***
– We handled the first appeal in relation to practising certificate conditions imposed on an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore ("A&S") under the Legal Profession Act 1966.

- (d) ***Re Mohamad Shafee Khamis [2024] 6 SLR 173; Attorney-General v Shahira Banu d/o Khaja Moinudeen [2024] 4 SLR 1324; Re Gabriel Silas Tang Rafferty [2024] 4 SLR 401***
– We were involved in cases involving applicants who sought admission as an A&S after previous misconduct.

- (e) ***Cases involving the Child Protective Service ("CPS")*** – We assisted CPS to obtain orders for the care and protection of children, including successfully resisting an appeal brought before the HC to set aside care and protection orders for three children (***WYQ v Child Protector [2024] SGHCF 31***).

As of 31 December 2024, there were 61 LSOs in the Civil Division.

Low Siew Ling (Ms)

Chief Counsel

Civil Division

Attorney-General's Chambers



CIVIL DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

David Chong Gek Sian, Khoo Boo Jin, Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Ms Low Siew Ling (Chief Counsel), Phua Wee Chuan, Soh Kee Bun

(Left to Right) Second row:

Benjamin Sng Jun Yi, Ms Sabrina Choo Wen Shan, Ms Lum Qian Wei, Foo Shi Hao, Ms Ho Jiayun, Ms Lye Hui Xian, Ms Geraldine Kuah Wen Ling, Kenneth Chua Han Yuan, Ms Joan Pang Wei En, Ms Teo Siqi, Ms Sarah Shi Pei-Yi, Ms Rachel Tan Jia Qi, Ms Abigayle Ru-El Huan

(Left to Right) Third row:

Ms Satviender Kaur Nijer, Ms Lee Hui Min, Wong Thai Chuan, Ms Genevieve Lee Hui Shan, Ms May Ng, Evans Ng Hian Pheng, Ms Dierdre Grace Morgan, Fok Theng Fong, Chng Luey Chi, Ms Tan Kim Ping, Jeremy Yeo Shenglong, Ms Du Xuan, Ms Jasmine Goh Xuanlin

(Left to Right) Back row:

Jeyendran s/o Jeyapal, Jared Foong Chih Hao, David Aw Jingwei, Kenneth Mak Jun Wen, Yeow Yuet Cheong, Jonathan Ng, Arjuna s/o Segathesan, Christopher Zheng Rui, Roy Lim Rui Cong, Edmund Wong Wei Jie

LEGISLATION DIVISION

The Legislation Division (“LEGIS”) drafts, publishes and revises Singapore legislation. LEGIS also gives legal advice on legislative projects.

In 2024, 50 Bills drafted by LEGIS were introduced in Parliament, including the:

- (a) **Platform Workers Bill** provides for platform workers to have similar benefits and protections to employees, such as Central Provident Fund contributions and work injury compensation, and a legal framework for platform workers and operators to be collectively represented.
- (b) **Workplace Fairness Bill** protects individuals against discriminatory employment decisions and prohibits other unfair workplace practices.
- (c) **Protection from Scams Bill** provides for restriction orders to be issued to banks to prevent scam victims from engaging in banking transactions.
- (d) **Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Bill** updates the Infectious Diseases Act 1976 by drawing on lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, and incorporating some of the temporary powers enacted during that pandemic. The amended Act provides for a hierarchy of responses corresponding to the severity of an outbreak of disease.
- (e) **Food Safety and Security Bill** consolidates elements of nine food-related Acts. The Bill contains measures to improve food safety and security in Singapore, and to support national nutritional standards and dietary recommendations.

(f) **Multinational Enterprise (Minimum Tax) Bill** imposes two taxes on the income of a multinational group:

- (i) the multinational enterprise top-up tax, which is imposed to implement the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s (“OECD’s”) Global Anti-Base Erosion Model Rules (Pillar Two); and
- (ii) a domestic top-up tax.

LEGIS also drafted and published 1,075 pieces of subsidiary legislation (“SL”) in 2024.

Together with the Law Revision Commissioners, LEGIS is undertaking a universal revision of SL, following the completion of the 2020 Revised Edition of Acts. The first batch of revised SL was published in December 2024.

LEGIS maintains Singapore Statutes Online (“SSO”), which is publicly available free of charge. In 2024, SSO received more than eight million visits from 3.3 million unique visitors.

In 2024, LEGIS ran the first in-house counsel course for MSBs. LEGIS also received visitors from the New Zealand Parliamentary Counsel Office and the UK Law Commission. LEGIS officers also attended and gave presentations at various conferences and workshops in Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Jamaica, New Zealand, Spain and the United Kingdom.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 36 LSOs in LEGIS.

Jeanne Lee Ming En (Ms)

Chief Legislative Counsel

Legislation Division

Attorney-General’s Chambers



LEGISLATION DIVISION

(Left to Right) Front row:

Mrs Joyce Chao Suling, Lee Chuan Huei, Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Goh Yihan (Deputy Attorney-General), Ms Jeanne Lee Ming En (Chief Legislative Counsel), Charles Lim Aeng Cheng, David Lim Jit Hee

(Left to Right) Second row:

Ms Parveen Kaur Nagpal, Ms Lee Yean-Lin, Ms Jaime Tey Su Fung, Ms Shana Poon Jingjie, Ms Gillian Hauw Hui Ying, Ms Jeslyn Chionh Hui Qi, Ms Esther Yee Swee Yoong, Mrs Wendy Chang Mun Lin, Ms Janna Chua En Ning, Kelvin Kow Weijie, Ng Junyi

(Left to Right) Third row:

Ms Anne Goh Su Yee, Ms Clarissa Chern Xin Yi, Ms Hung Ning Shing, Ms Sherilyn Chew Xi Xian, Ms Serene Tong Yen Lin, Ms Karen Ang Aiping, Ms Angelyn Cheng Geok Lin, Ms Ho Chuo Li, Jonathan Lee Wai Kit, Malvern Tan Yu Yao

(Left to Right) Back row:

Elgin Tay Wei Xiong, Fong Jing Heng, Seow Zhixiang, Stanley Kok Pin Chin, Leonard Goh Choon Hian, Graham Chua Xing Jian, Dilip s/o Vasu Theavan, Tham Yew Loon, Tay Li Hang

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MINISTRIES, LEGAL SERVICE DEPARTMENTS AND STATUTORY BOARDS/ STATUTORY BODIES

MINISTRIES, LEGAL SERVICE DEPARTMENTS AND STATUTORY BOARDS/STATUTORY BODIES

LSOs may be posted or seconded to Ministries, Legal Service departments and statutory boards/statutory bodies, at which they will be involved in a wide variety of Government legal work.

LSOs posted to Ministries act as representatives of the Attorney-General and provide tailored legal support to facilitate a Ministry's work. This includes: the provision of legal advice; the review and drafting of legislation, contracts or other instruments relevant to the Ministry to which they are posted; and the conduct of prosecutions where necessary.

LSOs seconded to Legal Service departments and statutory boards/statutory bodies perform similar services to LSOs posted to Ministries, but their work may also include the implementation of legislation or policies, which involve public facing functions.

LSOs may be assigned to leadership or management positions, and be involved in the formulation of policies and the administration of finances and personnel within the Ministries, Legal Service departments and statutory boards/statutory bodies.

In 2024, LSOs were posted or seconded to:

Ministries

Culture, Community and Youth; Defence; Digital Development and Information; Education; Finance; Health; Home Affairs; Law; Manpower; National Development; and Social and Family Development.

Legal Service departments and statutory boards/statutory bodies

Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority; Commercial Affairs Department; Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore; Community Relations Unit (of the Municipal Services Office, Ministry of National Development); Defence Science and Technology Agency; Economic Development Board; Family and Early Childhood Division (of the Ministry of Social and Family Development); Health Sciences Authority; Home Team Science and Technology Agency; Infocomm Media Development Authority; Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore; Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office; Intellectual Property Office of Singapore; Legal Aid Bureau; Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura; Monetary Authority of Singapore; National Environment Agency; National Parks Board; Office of the Public Guardian; Policy Development Division (of the Ministry of Home Affairs); Singapore Land Authority; Smart Nation Strategy Office; SportSG; and Syariah Court.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Ministry of Defence's ("MINDEF") Legal Services Department ("MLS") provides legal support to MINDEF, the Singapore Armed Forces ("SAF") and MINDEF-related organisations. MLS practises domestic civil law, military law and prosecution, operations law and public international law. MLS is headed by the Director, Legal Services, who is also the Chief Military Prosecutor.

In 2024, as part of its efforts to develop international norms, MLS represented Singapore at the 34th International Conference of the International Committee of the Red Cross ("ICRC") & International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies ("IFRC"), and continued advising on the laws governing emerging military technologies. MLS maintained its strong support for SAF operations, participating in both domestic and international exercises, such as Exercise Locked Shields, the world's largest live-fire cyber defence exercise. MLS also advised on operations to airdrop essential food supplies over Gaza given the dire humanitarian situation arising from the armed conflict there.

On the domestic front, MLS advised MINDEF on significant amendments to the Enlistment Act

1970 and Requisition of Resources Act 1985, which have not been substantively amended in decades. The amendments came into force in May 2024, and involved intragovernmental collaboration with the AGC, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Digital Development and Information. To further drive digitalisation efforts, MLS provided significant advice on electronic signatures and guidance on their use throughout MINDEF. MLS has also trained its Legal Executives to handle selected legal work such as the vetting of gazettes. In 2024, they successfully drafted and published eight gazettes.

To harness the benefits of AI, MLS has embarked on a pilot project to assess the suitability of an AI Bot to collate and summarise precedents for use in court submissions. The pro-bono scheme for accused servicemen has also been enhanced, and more robust training opportunities are now available for SAF Defending Officers.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 16 LSOs in MLS.

Leong Kwang Ian

Director, Legal Services
Legal Services Department
Ministry of Defence



The mission of the Ministry of Defence and the Singapore Armed Forces is to enhance Singapore's peace and security through deterrence and diplomacy, and should these fail, to secure a swift and decisive victory over the aggressor.



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(Left to Right) Front row:

Teo Yu Chou, Paul Lie Yi Fang, Hee Mee Lin, Leong Kwang Ian (Director, Legal Services Department, MINDEF), Lee Cheow Han, Asanthi Mendis, Kho Qin Yao, Ng Der Lim

(Left to Right) Back row:

Enoch Wong Lok Hang, Manickamalar Kayalvizhi Pillay, Stephanie Ng Wenli, Daniel Foo Ee Yeong, Gerald Tan Jiamin

DEFENCE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

The Defence Science and Technology Agency (“DSTA”) supports Singapore’s defence and national security needs by harnessing and exploiting science and technology.

The Legal Department (“LD”) provides legal advice to the DSTA and its subsidiaries on procurement, contract, intellectual property, building infrastructure and estate/facilities management, data protection and employment issues. The LD also regularly conducts seminars and lectures to familiarise DSTA officers with basic contract and procurement law principles.

In 2024, the LD led and assisted with complex contractual negotiations, completed comprehensive reviews of existing contract templates and provided strategic legal advice in managing complex contractual disputes. The LD also advised on employment and disciplinary issues and continued to support the DSTA in connection with DSTA-hosted events such as BrainHack 2024 and the Singapore Defence Technology Summit 2025.

As at 31 December 2024, there were three LSOs in the DSTA.

Ang Boon Kwan

Director (Legal)

Legal Department

Defence Science and Technology Agency



DEFENCE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

(Left to Right):

Daryl Pang Jia Jie, Ang Boon Kwan (Director [Legal], Legal Department, DSTA), Ms Lai Yiling, Karin

MINISTRY OF LAW

The Ministry of Law's ("MinLaw") International & Advisory Group ("IAG"), Legal Policy Group ("LPG") and Legal Industry Division ("LID") steer policy and legislative reforms to uphold the rule of law, strengthen access to justice, ensure a sound, progressive legal framework, and further Singapore's goal of being an international legal and dispute resolution hub.

The IAG comprises the International Legal ("ILD") and Policy Advisory Divisions ("PAD"). The ILD develops and implements international legal policies and represents Singapore at international fora. The PAD provides legal support to MinLaw's policy departments and undertakes independent law reforms. Some IAG officers hold concurrent appointments in the Legal Services Regulatory Authority ("LSRA"). In 2024, the IAG and LSRA:

- (a) enacted the SICCC(IC) Act to establish a new International Committee of the Singapore International Commercial Court;
- (b) supported the Committee to Enhance Singapore's Corporate Restructuring and Insolvency Regime, chaired by Justice Aidan Xu and the Permanent Secretary (Law);
- (c) supported the Committee to Review the Regulatory Framework for Law Practices and Collaborations in Singapore, chaired by the Attorney-General, jointly with the LID;
- (d) chaired and worked on insolvency-related matters at UNCITRAL Working Group V;
- (e) negotiated mutual legal assistance and extradition treaties, and introduced amendments to the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 2000;
- (f) co-organised the commemorative event for the 125th Anniversary of the Permanent Court of Arbitration; and
- (g) signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Centre For Settlement Of Investment Disputes ("ICSID") to establish an ICSID office in Singapore.

The LPG, which comprises the Civil & Legislative and Criminal Policy Divisions, drives reforms in civil, criminal, family and community justice, and governance matters. This involves identifying challenges facing Singapore and working closely with Government and industry stakeholders to develop and implement solutions. In 2024, LPG:

- (a) together with the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and the Ministry of National Development, introduced amendments to the Community Disputes Resolution Act 2015, which strengthened the community mediation framework, established a new agency to deal with severe neighbour disputes, and enhanced the Community Disputes Resolution Tribunals' ability to deliver quicker and more effective relief;
- (b) introduced amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code 2010 that strengthened measures to tackle crime, and improved transparency and fairness in criminal proceedings; and
- (c) supported the Sentencing Advisory Panel's publication of the Guidelines for Scams-Related Offences, sending a clear deterrent message to further the fight against scams.

The LID is responsible for policies and initiatives relating to manpower and industry development, international partnerships, and the engagement of the legal sector. In 2024, the LID:

- (a) established a Standing Committee that guided the implementation of the recommendations by the Working Group for the Reform of Legal Education;
- (b) worked with stakeholders to implement changes to the admission regime pursuant to the Legal Profession (Amendment) Act 2023;
- (c) organised Singapore Convention Week 2024 and the 4th Singapore-China International Commercial Dispute Resolution Conference;
- (d) facilitated the signing of new memoranda of understanding with jurisdictions that are target markets for the legal industry;
- (e) ran the Singapore-Shanghai Lawyers Exchange Programme and the China Ready Programme;

(f) represented Singapore in discussions relating to dispute resolution at the UNCITRAL; and

(g) continued to support technological innovation and service enhancements by the various dispute resolution institutions in Singapore.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 45 LSOs in MinLaw.

Sarala Kumari d/o Subramaniam (Ms)

Director-General (International & Advisory)
International & Advisory Group/
Director of Legal Services
Legal Services Regulatory Authority
Ministry of Law

Colin Chow Zhiquan

Director-General (Legal Policy)
Legal Policy Group
Ministry of Law

Tan Jessie (Ms)

Director
Legal Industry Division
Ministry of Law



MINISTRY OF LAW

(Left to Right) Front row:

Eugene Sng Yi Zhi, Jonathan Ee Wenyang, Senthilkumaran Sabapathy, Ms Sarah Ong Hui'en, Colin Chow Zhiquan (Director-General [Legal Policy], MinLaw), Ms Sarala Kumari d/o Subramaniam (Director-General [International & Advisory]/ Director of Legal Services, Legal Services Regulatory Authority, MinLaw), Ms Tan Jessie (Director [Legal Industry], MinLaw), Ms Delphia Lim Hui Min, Ms Sharmini Sharon Selvaratnam, Ms Elsie Lee Yuejia, Stephen Yeo Zhi Yuan

(Left to Right) Second row:

Ms Kavita Pandey, Ms Guy Bte Ghazali, Ms Yap Jia Jun, Ms Ang Siok Chen, Ms Queenie Angeline Lim Xiaoyan, Ms Kimberly Pang Li Ting, Ms Simaa Ravichandran, Ms Li Yihong, Terence Szetoh, Ms R Shriveena Naidu

(Left to Right) Third row:

Chong Joe En, Shawn Callen Kua Shao, Harold Foo Xian Yong, Ms Istyana Putri Ibrahim, Ms Candice Lee Jia Hui, Timothy Seet Qianren, Gabriel Choong Hefeng, Roe Ervin Jun Zhi, Matthew Chong Yong Jie, Allen Lye

(Left to Right) Back row:

Ms Meredith Soh Yu Xuan, Clement Lim Chau Jie, Lee Zhicong, Ms Nicole Chee Jia Wei, Ms Fu Qui Jun, Alastair Simon Chetty, Neo Eng Hong

LEGAL AID BUREAU

The Legal Aid Bureau (“the Bureau”) provides legal advice, assistance and court representation for persons of limited means in civil matters. In 2024, the Bureau handled 7,775 legal aid, assistance and advice cases (1,877 of which were done in-house), supported by 161 Assigned Solicitors from private practice and 10 Volunteer Assistant Directors of Legal Aid.

2024 saw the Bureau celebrating its 66th Anniversary, for which a gala dinner was held to recognise and appreciate its stakeholders. The Bureau also embarked on a social media campaign to increase awareness of its role in providing access to justice.

To enhance service delivery and increase access to justice, the Bureau organised Singapore’s first ever lawyer-therapeutic professional mixers in 2024. More than 90 lawyers and therapeutic professionals gathered over two half-day sessions, during which they networked and engaged in discussions on how they could work together to better help their mutual clients. Given the positive feedback received from participants (average rating of 4.8/5), such mixers will become an annual event, through which the Bureau intends to craft best practice guidelines for lawyers and therapeutic professionals on how they can best work together, particularly for cases in the Family Justice Courts.

Notable cases in 2024 include:

- (a) representing an applicant wife before the Syariah Appeal Board (Syariah Appeal No. 4 of 2024) in her claim for *nafkah iddah* (maintenance for the three-month period after divorce during which she cannot remarry). The Bureau successfully argued that the legal threshold for *nusyuz* (disobedience to the husband) had not been satisfied and obtained an increase in the quantum of *mutaah* (consolatory gift to the wife); and
- (b) assisting an applicant father in a cross-border marriage to successfully obtain an injunction to restrain his wife from removing their child from Singapore.

As at 31 December 2024, there were 21 LSOs in the Bureau.

Lim Hui Min (Ms)

Director

Legal Aid Bureau



LEGAL AID BUREAU

(Left to Right) Front row:

Louis Agnelo D'Souza, Zheng Shaokai, Ms Lim Hui Min (Director, LAB) and Fu Qijing

(Left to Right) Second row:

Ms Tan Yanying, Ms Ng Huiya Eunice, Christian Charles Yeo Xuan, Ms Tan Si Rui and Ms Goh Yi Ling

(Left to Right) Third row:

Ms Nur Diyanah Binte Mohamad Yusoff, Ms Ho Shing Chian Juliana, Ms Teng Kia Hui Alicia, Ms Thiam Jia Min and Ms Nurul Iman Binte Abdul Rashid

(Left to Right) Back row:

Zhang Shaohua David, Darren Chan Eng Jin and Lim See Wai Victor

INSOLVENCY AND PUBLIC TRUSTEE'S OFFICE

The Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office ("IPTO"), the largest department in the MinLaw, is headed by the Official Assignee and Public Trustee, who is concurrently the Official Receiver, the Licensing Officer under the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018 ("IRDA"), the Registrar of Moneylenders, the Registrar of Pawnbrokers, and the Chief Maintenance Enforcement Officer.

LSOs in the IPTO work closely with over 100 non-legal officers in a fast-paced operational environment, providing timely legal advice in the areas of insolvency and trusts, and the regulation of moneylenders and pawnbrokers. They also represent the Official Assignee and the Official Receiver before the HC in matters under the IPTO's purview, and conduct prosecutions in the State Courts for offences investigated by the IPTO.

In 2024, the IPTO's LSOs provided integral support to various key law reform and policy workstreams.

Under the Insolvency Office, the LSOs played key roles in preparing amendments to the IRDA to revamp the Simplified Insolvency Programme ("SIP") by improving access to simpler and more cost-effective

insolvency processes, and making it a permanent feature of Singapore's insolvency framework.

The LSOs in the Maintenance Enforcement Division were instrumental in introducing subsidiary legislation under the Women's Charter 1961, empowering maintenance enforcement officers to conduct conciliation sessions and obtain financial information from third parties to assist the court in making more effective orders when dealing with applications to enforce maintenance orders. They also led the design of a seamless operational workflow to ensure smooth execution of the new maintenance enforcement process.

With the LSOs' assistance, the Public Trustee's Office worked with the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Singapore Exchange to launch a simplified process for small value claims against deceased persons' assets with the Central Depository.

As at 31 December 2024, there were nine LSOs in the IPTO.

Francis Ng Yong Kiat

Official Assignee & Public Trustee/Official Receiver/
Licensing Officer/Registrar of Moneylenders/
Registrar of Pawnbrokers/Chief Maintenance
Enforcement Officer
Insolvency & Public Trustee's Office



INSOLVENCY AND PUBLIC TRUSTEE'S OFFICE

(Left to Right):

Ms Yap Cai Ping, Benjamin Yim Geok Choon, Lim Jian Yi, Francis Ng Yong Kiat (Official Assignee & Public Trustee/
Official Receiver/Licensing Officer/Registrar of Moneylenders/Registrar of Pawnbrokers/Chief Maintenance Enforcement
Officer), Ms Beverly Wee Ying Ling, Ms Goh Yin Dee, Ms Kwang Jia Min

SINGAPORE LAND AUTHORITY

The Singapore Land Authority (“SLA”) is the primary agency in Singapore responsible for safeguarding and optimising the use of State land and properties. The SLA is also responsible for maintaining accurate and reliable land ownership and land boundary data, and driving the use and development of geospatial information science and technology.

In 2024, the work of the SLA’s Legal Division included:

- (a) advising on the SLA’s sustainability initiatives such as feasibility of deployment of solar panels on State land and properties;
- (b) presenting the digital conveyancing project, which aims to transform the current paper-based conveyancing process into a digitalised process, at the 50th Registrars of Title Conference held in Vancouver, Canada;
- (c) reviewing multiple tenancy agreement and temporary occupation licence templates (used by both the SLA’s business units and other Government agencies) to comply with the Lease Agreements for Retail Premises Act 2023;
- (d) advising on the Land Betterment Charge Act 2021, the Residential Property Act 1976 and the State Lands Protection Act 2022; and
- (e) drafting and advising on State leases, tenancy agreements, temporary occupation licences and various other agreements and memoranda of understanding.

As at 31 December 2024, there were two LSOs in the SLA.

Bryan Chew Chee Wan

Assistant Chief Executive (Regulatory & Corporate)/
Registrar of Titles & Deeds
Singapore Land Authority



SINGAPORE LAND AUTHORITY

(Left to Right):

Bryan Chew Chee Wan (Assistant Chief Executive [Regulatory & Corporate] and Registrar of Titles & Deeds, SLA), Ms Joan Chew Jia Yi

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SINGAPORE

The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (“IPOS”) is a statutory board under the MinLaw. The IPOS focuses on developing and promoting Singapore’s innovation and intellectual property (“IP”) ecosystem to drive economic growth.

The IPOS is guided by the Singapore IP Strategy 2030, a blueprint introduced in 2021 to strengthen Singapore as an IP and intangible assets hub and maintain a top-ranked regime.

In 2024, the IPOS undertook various activities to promote innovation and IP, including in the areas of valuation, commercialisation, dispute resolution, and emerging technologies such as AI.

Domestically, IPOS’ flagship event, IP Week @ SG 2024, brought together IP thought leaders, legal experts and innovative enterprises from over 40 countries.

Internationally, the IPOS participated actively in negotiations that culminated in the adoption of two new treaties by the member states of the World Intellectual Property Organization (“WIPO”), being the WIPO Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge, and the Riyadh Design Law Treaty.

As testament to its achievements, Singapore was ranked the 4th most innovative nation in the Global Innovation Index 2024, the highest in over a decade.

As at 31 December 2024, there were two LSOs in the IPOS.

Rena Lee (Mrs)

Chief Executive
Intellectual Property Office of Singapore



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SINGAPORE

(Left to Right):

Teh Joo Lin, Mrs Rena Lee (Chief Executive, IPOS)

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

The Legal Division (“LD”) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (“MHA”) provides legal advice to MHA and its various departments, such as the SPF, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, the Singapore Civil Defence Force, the Singapore Prison Service and the Central Narcotics Bureau of Singapore. The LD provides legal support on operational and policy matters, including advising on over 50 statutes that come under MHA’s purview, assisting with policy formulation, reviewing legislation and vetting contracts, agreements and cross-border memoranda of understanding.

In 2024, the LD supported the introduction of several pieces of significant legislation such as the Protection from Scams Bill, the Anti-Money Laundering and Other Matters Act 2024 and the Law Enforcement and Other Matters Act 2024. The LD also supported the operationalisation of the Foreign Interference (Countermeasures) Act 2021 (“FICA”), and advised on the issuance of FICA directions and orders in respect of harmful online communications

activity and politically significant persons. The LD also routinely provides assessments on the use of levers under the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act 2019.

The LD administers the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act 1955 (“CLTPA”), and is in charge of its policy and operations, including staffing the Secretariat that supports the Criminal Law Advisory Committees. In 2024, the LD led the renewal of the CLTPA for a further term of five years.

The LD also plays a key role in managing litigation and claims involving the MHA. These range from accident and injury claims to public interest litigation, and can often be sensitive and/or high-profile.

As at 31 December 2024, there were eight LSOs in the LD.

Tan Wen Hsien (Ms)

Senior Director
Legal Division
Ministry of Home Affairs



MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(Left to Right) Front row:

Quek Jing Feng, Ms Tan Wen Hsien (Senior Director, Legal Division, MHA), Ms Diana Ngiam Hian Theng

(Left to Right) Back row:

Wong Tai Shen, Vincent Lim Jun'An, Kiron Cheong Rui Jie, Lum Wen Yi Dwayne, Derek Ee Xing Bei

POLICY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

The Policy Development Division (“PDD”) of the MHA formulates policy and legislation, and oversees safety and security programmes. Within the PDD, the Criminal Justice desk oversees policies and legislation relating to criminal law and sentencing, regularly reviewing aspects of Singapore’s criminal laws to ensure that they are fit for purpose. In 2024, this work included working with the Sentencing Advisory Panel on sentencing guidelines for scams-related offences, contributing to interagency workgroups on a range of issues, and reviewing various offences under the Penal Code 1871.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the PDD.

Wu Yu Jie

Senior Assistant Director (Policy Development)
Policy Development Division
Ministry of Home Affairs



**POLICY DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION, MINISTRY
OF HOME AFFAIRS**

Wu Yu Jie (Senior Assistant Director [Policy Development],
PDD, MHA)

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE

The Commercial Affairs Department (“CAD”) is Singapore’s principal white-collar crime investigation agency and Financial Intelligence Unit.

2024 saw multiple notable high-profile prosecutions and convictions. In Singapore’s largest money laundering case, 10 foreigners were convicted of offences including money laundering and forgery and were sentenced to between 13 and 17 months’ imprisonment. \$944 million of their assets were forfeited to the State. The case against 15 absconded foreigners was resolved upon their voluntary surrender of \$1.85 billion of seized assets to the State.

In one of Singapore’s largest trade financing fraud cases, Lim Oon Kuin, founder of failed oil trading giant Hin Leong, was convicted of cheating and abetment of forgery charges after a 62-day trial. He was sentenced to 17.5 years’ imprisonment.

As evidence to CAD’s commitment to fight crime by punishing and deterring criminals who facilitate scams, 2024 saw the introduction of new money laundering offences and the prosecution of 110 money mules under these new offences.

Partnering the Central Narcotics Bureau and the Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau, the CAD published Singapore’s “Law Enforcement Strategy to Combat Money Laundering” to guide law enforcement agencies in achieving effective enforcement and asset recovery.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the CAD.

David Chew Siong Tai

Director

Commercial Affairs Department
Singapore Police Force



COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE

David Chew Siong Tai (Director, Commercial Affairs Department, SPF)

HOME TEAM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

The Home Team Science and Technology Agency (“HTX”) is a statutory board under the MHA. The HTX bolsters Singapore’s homeland security by developing and enhancing science and technology capabilities.

In 2024, the HTX’s Legal Division provided legal advice on various matters integral to the HTX’s operations, such as those arising from HTX agreements, MHA contracts and scientific or technological cooperation managed by the HTX under the Home Team Science and Technology

Agency Act 2019, procurement, intellectual property, building infrastructure, facilities management and human resource issues.

Beyond its advisory role, the Legal Division held talks to help HTX officers navigate legal issues effectively in the HTX.

As at 31 December 2024, there were two LSOs seconded to the HTX.

Daphne Chang Wei Hsian (Ms)

Director

Legal Division

Home Team Science and Technology Agency



HOME TEAM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY

(Left to Right):

Sivabalan s/o Thanabal, Ms Amanda Tan Chek Yin, Ms Daphne Chang Wei Hsian (Director, Legal Division HTX)

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH

The Legal Unit (“LU”) of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (“MCCY”) provides legal services to the MCCY’s divisions as they strive to inspire Singaporeans through the arts and sports, engage the youth, strengthen community bonds, and promote charitable giving. The MCCY’s divisions include the autonomous National Youth Council, the Registry of Muslim Marriages, and the Syariah Court (for administrative matters).

In 2024, the LU’s notable work included:

- (a) advising on the setting up of the Singapore College of Islamic Studies, an institution of higher learning that aims to nurture Islamic religious leaders grounded in Singapore’s multi-cultural context;
- (b) supporting an interagency workstream where the Government passed urgent amendments to the Insurance Act 1966 to address concerns over the proposed deal between Income Insurance Limited and Allianz Europe B.V.;
- (c) vetting several significant tenders, including for works to the former Saint Joseph’s Institution, which is a national monument, and to a whole-of-government volunteer management system; and
- (d) advising on the assignment of the copyright in “Singapore Town” from the songwriters to the Government.

The LU also spoke on legal aspects of funding agreements and updated template agreements for the MCCY’s officers to use.

As at 31 December 2024, there were three LSOs in the LU.

Joel Chen
Director (Legal)
Legal Unit
MCCY

SINGAPORE SPORTS COUNCIL

The mission of the Singapore Sports Council (“SportSG”) is to inspire the Singapore Spirit and to transform Singapore through sport.

The Legal Division (“LD”) renders legal advice to SportSG on a variety of transactional matters, including contracts, memoranda of understanding, tenancy and licence agreements, grants, intellectual property licences and collaboration agreements. The LD actively managed actual and potential disputes concerning ongoing construction projects, incidents at sports centres, and SportSG’s intellectual property and trademarks. The LD oversees compliance with the Singapore Sports Council Act 1973 (“the 1973 Act”).

In 2024, the LD advised on the 1973 Act, the Kallang Alive Masterplan, and the plan to create a steady and sustainable pipeline for high performance sport. The LD assisted to negotiate the hosting agreement for the World Aquatic Championships and World Aquatics Masters Championships, scheduled for July 2025.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the LD.

Ailene Chou Xiujue (Ms)
General Counsel
SportSG



MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH AND SPORT SINGAPORE

(Left to Right):

Joel Chen Zhi'en (Director [Legal], Legal Unit, MCCY), Ms Ailene Chou XiuJue (General Counsel, SportSG), Ms Loh Jia Wei, Ms Amanda Han Jin Juen

SYARIAH COURT

The Syariah Court (“SYC”) determines disputes relating to Muslim marriage and divorce, and issues inheritance certificates in respect of Muslim estates. SYC strives towards strengthening Muslim families, beyond adjudication.

In 2024, the LSOs in SYC held the statutory roles of Senior President, Registrar and Deputy Registrar. The LSOs drove legal and public education, played key roles in stakeholder engagement and made new connections with the Justice Committee of the United Kingdom, Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam, SGCourts’ interpreters and Pro Bono SG.

SYC organised the inaugural SYC Practice Forum with the theme “The Ties that Bind”, representing the various collaborative actors in the family justice system whose common goal is to support divorcing families and preserve family relationships.

SYC implemented the Child Representative scheme where social science professionals empanelled by SYC are appointed by the Court to assist the child in expressing views to the Court.

To advance Muslim family law jurisprudence, SYC published the 9th volume of the Singapore Syariah Appeal Reports which addressed novel legal issues such as the powers of SYC.

The LSOs also worked on legislative amendments which enhanced the judge-led approach and improved substantive and procedural parity between SYC and the civil family courts.

As at 31 December 2024, there were three LSOs in SYC.

Masayu Norashikin Mohd Amin (Ms)
Registrar
Syariah Court of Singapore



SYARIAH COURT

(Left to Right):

Ms Masayu Norashikin Bte Mohamad Amin (Registrar, Syariah Court), Ms Wileeza A Gapar

MAJLIS UGAMA ISLAM SINGAPURA

The Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (“MUIS”) administers all matters relating to the Muslim religion and Muslims in Singapore. It oversees mosques, Islamic education, madrasahs, charitable contributions, charitable endowments, and advises the President of Singapore on matters relating to Islam in Singapore.

In 2024, the LSO rendered 385 pieces of legal advice on civil suits, criminal cases, contracts, affidavits and notices.

The LSO chairs two workgroups: to review amendments to the Administration of Muslim Law Act 1966; and to assess statutory powers required to investigate offences. The Administration of Muslim Law (Amendment) Bill No. 3/2024 was passed by Parliament in February 2024 and was partially in force from 1 August 2024.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in MUIS.

Shahla Taufiq (Ms)

Director (Legal)
MUIS



MINISTRY OF DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION AND THE SMART NATION GROUP

The Legal Division (“LD”) of the Ministry of Digital Development and Information (“MDDI”) provides legal support to MDDI (including the Smart Nation Group), and the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (“CSA”) in the exercise of their regulatory and statutory functions. The LD’s work spans various areas, including transactional, legislative and advisory matters.

In 2024, the LD’s key work included:

- (a) assisting CSA on its review and proposed amendments to the Cybersecurity Act 2018 by way of the Cybersecurity (Amendment) Bill 2024;
- (b) advising on legal issues relating to regulation of the infrastructure that undergirds digital services, including telecom systems, subsea cables, cloud service providers and data centres;
- (c) coordinating and negotiating Singapore’s positions on certain key issues for the EU-Singapore Digital Trade Agreement, which ultimately concluded successfully on 25 July 2024;

- (d) advising on challenges arising from certain whole-of-government procurement contracts, in connection with the disqualification and evaluation of tender offers;
- (e) advising on issues relating to the Government’s digital platforms, services, and products, data sharing, anti-scam measures, and the use of AI within the public sector; and
- (f) advising on legal issues relating to the merger of the Smart Nation and Digital Government Group (now known as the “Smart Nation Group”) with then-Ministry of Communications and Information in October 2023, and the subsequent renaming of the unified ministry, including the requisite legislative amendments.

As at 31 December 2024, there were seven LSOs in the LD.

Ramasamy Nachiappan

Director, Legal (Info-comms)

Legal Division

Ministry of Digital Development and Information
(including the Smart Nation Group)

David Low Quan Ming

Director, Legal (Smart Nation Group)

Legal Division

Ministry of Digital Development and Information
(including the Smart Nation Group)



MINISTRY OF DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION

(Left to Right):

Ho Lian-Yi, Ms Kam Kai Qi, Ramasamy Nachiappan (Director, Legal [Info-comms], Legal Division, MDDI), Ms Ang Ching Hwei, Lee Da Zhuan



SMART NATION GROUP, MINISTRY OF DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION

David Low Quan Ming (Director, Legal [Smart Nation Group], Legal Division, MDDI)

SMART NATION STRATEGY OFFICE

The Smart Nation Strategy Office (“SNSO”) of the MDDI oversees the development and implementation of Singapore’s Smart Nation Strategy.

The LSO posted to SNSO works on policies relating to digital trust, safety, and wellbeing. In 2024, he contributed to the development of Smart Nation 2.0, Singapore’s refreshed vision and strategies for improving citizens’ lives through technology.

The LSO also helped coordinate and lead efforts to study various policy issues and advised MDDI divisions and senior management on possible steps. The LSO also spoke at various internal and external events, helping to advance MDDI’s policies and perspectives.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the SNSO.

Ng Song Yeong

Deputy Director (Smart Nation Strategy)

Smart Nation Strategy Office

Ministry of Digital Development and Information



**SMART NATION STRATEGY
OFFICE, MINISTRY OF
DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT
AND INFORMATION**

Ng Song Yeong (Deputy Director [Smart Nation Strategy], SNSO, MDDI)

INFOCOMM MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

LSOs are seconded to the Data Innovation and Protection Group (“DIPG”) and the Connectivity Development & Regulation Wing (“CDR”) in the Infocomm Media Development Authority (“IMDA”).

The DIPG administers and enforces the Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (“PDPA”) as the Personal Data Protection Commission (“PDPC”) and oversees AI and data policies. The CDR oversees a broad portfolio including media and info-communications policy.

LSOs in the PDPC oversaw the publication of guidelines on the use of children’s personal data, and personal data to develop and deploy AI recommendation and decision systems.

LSOs in the DIPG contributed to Singapore’s international standing on AI by developing the Model AI Governance Framework for Generative AI and contributing to the International Scientific Report on the Safety of Advanced AI, and participating in a joint Large Language Model testing exercise co-led by Singapore.

LSOs in the CDR contributed to the following:

- (a) designing and operationalising the Shared Responsibility Framework on a loss sharing framework between industry players and phishing scam victims via regulatory directions and guidelines to telecommunications companies; and
- (b) leading and/or contributing to the policy development of legislation on online elections advertising, a new Code of Practice on online safety for app distribution services and a new online safety agency to provide relief to victims of online harms.

As at 31 December 2024, there were nine LSOs in the IMDA.

Denise Wong Huiwen (Ms)

Assistant Chief Executive, Data Innovation and Protection Group
Infocomm Media Development Authority/
Deputy Commissioner
Personal Data Protection Commission



INFOCOMM MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Left to Right):

Ng Song Yeong, Vikneswaran s/o Kumaran, Ms Darshini Ramiah, Ms Vanessa Yeo Xue Ying, Ms Denise Wong Huiwen (Assistant Chief Executive, DIPG, IMDA/Deputy Commissioner, PDPC), Ms Lee Ti-Ting, Ms Larissa Lim Fen Ping, Ms Seah Ee Wei, Quilindo Michael Zhi Cheng, Makoto Hong Cheng

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Legal Services Branch (“LSB”) of the Ministry of Education (“MOE”) advises MOE headquarters and Government schools on a wide range of legal issues including contract law, tort law, family law, administrative and constitutional law, statutory interpretation and reform, and intellectual property.

In 2024, the LSB supported the MOE’s efforts to mitigate the effects of manpower shortages in the essential areas of the provision of school canteen meals and school bus services. The LSB assisted in drafting contractual documents incorporating new models for the procurement of these services, such as having one school bus operator serve students from different schools in the same vicinity. The LSB also worked closely with policy colleagues

to develop guidelines for the use of AI in the education context.

The LSB also provided legal support in respect of the MOE’s various initiatives to improve student well-being. The LSB advised on copyright issues arising from the development of Parenting for Wellness materials, as well as agreements with SportSG and the Football Association of Singapore for the School Football Academies and the Sports Education Programme.

As of 31 December 2024, there were six LSOs in the LSB.

Cheryl Siew May Yee (Ms)

Director
Legal Services Branch
Ministry of Education



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(Left to Right):

Ms Joyce Lee Ling Wei, Douglas Chi Qiyuan (Director, Legal Services Branch, MOE [with effect from 1 January 2025]), Ms Chloe Mercy Lee Weiming, Ms Elizabeth Lee Liang Mae

Not in picture: Ms Cheryl Siew May Yee (Director, Legal Service Branch, MOE [until 31 Dec 2024])

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

The Ministry of Finance (“MOF”) Legal Directorate (“LD”) supports the work of MOF directorates by providing legal advice on a wide range of legal issues, including Government finance and reserves, domestic and international taxation, and certain aspects of corporate law.

The LD works closely with MOF directorates through the various stages of policy development, legislative reform and policy implementation. In 2024, these included MOF Inc-related matters, closure of the Singapore Turf Club, and GST treatment for Government supplies. The LD also supported MOF’s ongoing work relating to the OECD’s Base Erosion and Profit Shifting initiative, and played an active role in advancing various legislative projects such as the Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2024.

Further, the LD oversees the administration of the Boards of Review (“BOR”) constituted under the Income Tax Act 1947 (“ITA”), Goods and Services Tax Act 1993 (“GSTA”) and Property Tax Act 1960 (“PTA”). In 2024, the LD worked on streamlining the BOR’s processes, revising the filing fee structure for tax appeals, and legislative revisions to align the procedural framework of the PTA with the ITA and GSTA.

As at 31 December 2024, there were seven LSOs in the LD.

Ng Shi Zheng Louis

Chief Legal Officer
Legal Directorate
Ministry of Finance



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(Left to Right) Front row:

Ng Shi Zheng Louis (Chief Legal Officer, Legal Directorate, MOF), Wong Tsui Hern Daryl, Ms Chong Yun Ling, Ms Cheng Xin Ying Hannah

(Left to Right) Back row:

Ms Lim Shi Ying Laura, Ms Germaine Boey Yi Ling, Timothy Ashby Straughan, Ms Lim Tze Etsuko

ACCOUNTING AND CORPORATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (“ACRA”) is the national regulator of business entities, public accountants, and corporate service providers (“CSPs”). LSOs seconded to the Legal Services Department and the Prosecution Department in the ACRA are supervised by the Chief Legal Officer.

Our LSOs worked closely with AGC’s Legislation Division and MOF on the ACRA (Registry and Regulatory Enhancements) Act 2024, the Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2024 and the Corporate Service Providers Act 2024 to:

- (a) increase data protection and facilitate digital government-to-business correspondence;
- (b) enhance Singapore’s beneficial ownership regime;
- (c) combat the misuse of commercial nominee directorship arrangements; and
- (d) strengthen the regulatory regime for the CSP sector and Singapore’s compliance with international standards on money laundering.

Working in close collaboration with the AGC’s Civil Division, our LSOs successfully argued to dismiss a HC application to restore a struck-off company on the ground that its restoration could result in the company being used to receive proceeds of criminal conduct. Our LSOs also provided legal advice to our colleagues in the ACRA on various other matters, including contractual matters and statutory appeals.

On the enforcement front, a director of a listed company was prosecuted by the ACRA and fined \$22,400 for presenting consolidated financial statements at the company’s annual general meeting which breached the Accounting Standards prescribed by the Companies Act 1967, by failing to recognise a \$16 million impairment loss. Several individuals associated with CSPs and directors were prosecuted and convicted for making false filings to the ACRA and the CSP’s registrations were cancelled. An individual was also prosecuted and fined \$38,000 for practising as a public accountant without registration under the Accountants Act 2004.

As at 31 December 2024, there were nine LSOs in the ACRA.

Leong Weng Tat

Assistant Chief Executive (Compliance & Legal Group/Chief Legal Officer)
Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority



ACCOUNTING AND CORPORATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

(Left to Right) Front row:

Ms Nor'Ashikin Binte Samdin, Zhuo Wenzhao, Leong Weng Tat (Assistant Chief Executive [Compliance & Legal Group/ Chief Legal Officer], ACRA), Cheok Yu-Liang, Ms Ava Wang Yuxuan, Ms P Arul Selvamalar

(Left to Right) Back row:

Kenny Kung Yong Jin, Joshua Lai Zhiyang, Gilbert Low Teik Seang, Ramesh Ethan s/o Ananda Suppiah

INLAND REVENUE AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

The Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (“IRAS”) is a statutory body under the MOF. IRAS acts as an agent of the Government in the administration of taxes and enterprise disbursements. IRAS also advises the Government, and represents Singapore internationally, on matters relating to taxation.

The Law Division supports IRAS in its tax advisory, corporate legal and legislation functions, and represents IRAS in tax-related legal proceedings such as tax appeals before the tax tribunals and the General and Appellate Divisions of the HC.

In 2024, our legal officers continued to hone their specialisation in tax law and advised on a wide

range of issues such as in income tax, property tax, goods and services tax and stamp duty, and on international tax, tax recovery and corporate matters. They worked closely with the IRAS tax policy experts to prepare drafts of tax legislation for the Annual Budget and for tax reform. Our legal officers were also engaged in significant tax-related prosecution work such as complex tax evasion and significant litigation work for income tax and property tax matters, and GST missing trader fraud cases.

As at 31 December 2024, there were five LSOs in IRAS.

Quek Hui Ling (Ms)

Chief Legal Officer

Law Division

Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore



INLAND REVENUE AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

(Left to Right):

Goh Yong Ngee, Jasper Wong Chun Yin, Ms Quek Hui Ling (Chief Legal Officer, Law Division, IRAS), Thomas Mathew Koshy

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Legal Office (“LO”) of the Ministry of Health (“MOH”) provides comprehensive legal services to MOH, including advising on healthcare policies and disputes, vetting and drafting healthcare and drug-related contracts, prosecuting offences under MOH’s purview, and assisting to promulgate and amend health-related legislation.

Following Singapore’s transition into COVID-19 endemicity, the LO supported the passing of the Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Bill, which establishes a tiered hierarchy of disease outbreak responses, and consolidates disease management powers into a single statute. The LO was also heavily involved in establishing the Communicable Diseases Agency (“CDA”), including advising on governance issues and corporate structures, and working with AGC to pass the CDA Bill.

Pandemic matters aside, the LO supported the passing of Part 9 of the Food Safety and Security Bill, which enables MOH to regulate food to promote better health outcomes for the public. The LO also worked with MHA to amend section 7 of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) Act 2008, to clarify that there is no need for imminent danger to be posed before a police officer may apprehend a person who is suspected to have a mental disorder.

The LO also advised on various innovative initiatives that support MOH’s efforts in enhancing Singapore’s healthcare sector, including working on the Health Information Bill, which will regulate the collection, use and sharing of patient information across the healthcare sector. The LO was also instrumental in establishing the contractual framework for Community Care Apartments, a multi-ministry initiative to provide elderly-friendly accommodation and services.

Separately, the LO assisted in the investigations and enforcement actions taken in respect of errant healthcare service licensees, including blood bank Cordlife and telemedicine provider MaNaDr.

In 2024, the LO rendered 378 pieces of advice, processed 352 prosecution files, drafted/vetted 156 contractual agreements, and was involved in promulgating 12 pieces of legislation, of which four are primary legislation.

As at 31 December 2024, there were nine LSOs in the LO.

Tan Sze Yao

Director
Legal Office
Ministry of Health



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

(Left to Right) Front row:

Ms Joan Sim Su Mei, Tan Sze Yao (Director, Legal Office, MOH), Ms Tang Soo Yee Ellis

(Left to Right) Second row:

Ms Kerry Chan Soh Lei, Ms Yvonne Goh Qiu Ting, Jason Lee Hong Jet, Ms Michelle Lu Wei Yi

(Left to Right) Back row:

Andre Moses Tan Chang Ann, Ethan Liu Junhao

HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY

The Legal Department (“LD”) of the HSA provides legal solutions and advice on regulatory and policy issues, reviews transactional documentation with healthcare institutions, and prosecutes offences involving health and tobacco products. We play a critical role in supporting the multi-agency effort to step up enforcement against electronic vaporisers, to protect our population from such harmful products. In 2024, we started prosecutions in the Night Court to address the higher number of offenders caught for possession of electronic vaporisers.

The LD also provides courtroom training and organises learning journeys to the State Courts for HSA’s forensic experts who regularly testify in criminal proceedings.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the HSA.

Yang Ziliang

Director
Legal Department
Health Sciences Authority



HEALTH SCIENCES AUTHORITY

Yang Ziliang (Director, Legal Department, HSA)

MINISTRY OF MANPOWER

2024 was a significant year for the Legal Services Division (“LSD”) of the Ministry of Manpower (“MOM”), as it accelerated transformation efforts and the adoption of AI tools in its work.

Prosecution and Regulatory Enforcement Department (“PRD”)

The PRD successfully prosecuted several high-profile matters, including:

- (a) *PP v Ho Chiak Hock (SC-906023-2022, unreported)* involving the collection of employment kickbacks from town council conservancy workers by an operations manager of a contracting company;
- (b) *PP v Mohamad Hafiz bin Salim Alkhatib (SC-907122-2022, unreported)* involving an owner of a well-known restaurant chain who had underpaid foreign workers and falsified salary declarations; and
- (c) the successful collaboration with the AGC’s Crime Division to secure convictions against several high-net worth foreigners, who had committed various MOM offences, in Singapore’s largest money laundering case to date.

Notably, PRD officers have begun utilising AI tools to assist them in their work, particularly, the drafting of charging assessments, plead-guilty papers, replies to representations, and closing submissions, which has helped to save considerable man-hours and enhanced productivity.

Civil Department (“CD”)

In recognition of its increasing workload and growing importance within MOM, the original Civil Branch was re-organised into a full department, the CD, with an LSO appointed as the new Director. The CD enhanced the provision of legal support to other MOM divisions across existing and new areas of work and played a crucial role in various legal policy projects; it was instrumental in developing and implementing two pieces of landmark legislation, the Platform Workers Bill and the Workplace Fairness Bill, both aimed at bolstering labour protection in Singapore. The CD also advised on the legal documentation for significant new initiatives, including the Majulah Package, a strategic partnership with the National Trades Union Congress for managing migrant worker recreation centres, and a collaboration with labour market stakeholders to advance the Career Health SG initiative; these projects collectively strengthened Singapore’s employment landscape.

As at 31 December 2024, there were six LSOs in the LSD.

Adrian Loo Yu Hao

Chief Legal Officer & Divisional Director
Legal Services Division
Ministry of Manpower



MINISTRY OF MANPOWER

(Left to Right):

Houston Johannus, Ms Ilona Tan, Adrian Loo Yu Hao (Chief Legal Officer and Divisional Director, Legal Services Division, MOM), Jonathan Chua

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Legal Services Unit (“LSU”) of the Ministry of National Development (“MND”) provides a comprehensive suite of legal services to MND in support of its vital role in national land use and development planning, so as to achieve MND’s vision of making Singapore an endearing home and a distinctive global city. The LSU advises MND on a diverse range of issues, including public housing, land use planning, infrastructure development, town councils and municipal affairs, and wildlife and greenery matters. The LSU also drafts and advises on various transactional documents, including contracts, memoranda of understanding, research agreements, as well as tenancy and licence agreements.

In 2024, the LSU provided extensive legal support to several notable matters. This included the continued provision of legal assistance to the newly established Community Relations Unit under the Municipal Services Office to address complex neighbourly disputes, pilot projects to enhance cleanliness at specific hawker centres, as well as proposed amendments to legislation pertaining to wildlife and building construction.

As at 31 December 2024, there were three LSOs in the LSU.

Crystal Ong Wai Mun (Ms)

Senior Director (Legal)

Legal Services Unit

Ministry of National Development



MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(Left to Right):

Terence Tan, Ms Crystal Ong Wai Mun (Senior Director, Legal Services Unit, MND), Nate Wong

MUNICIPAL SERVICES OFFICE, COMMUNITY RELATIONS UNIT, MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Community Relations Unit (“CRU”) of the Municipal Services Office (“MSO”) in the MND is a newly constituted enforcement unit intended to address egregious community disputes in Singapore. Its powers are derived from legislative amendments made in 2024 to the Community Disputes Resolution Act 2015.

The CRU Legal was formed in October 2024 to support the CRU’s operations. It played an active role in the operationalisation of the CRU by providing legal advice in the lead up to the second reading of the Community Disputes Resolution (Amendment) Act 2024. Additionally, the CRU Legal has provided advice and training to CRU enforcement officers on legal issues relating to its enforcement operations.

As of 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the CRU Legal, MSO.

Thiagesh Sukumaran

Deputy Director (Legal), Community Relations Unit,
Municipal Services Office
Ministry of National Development



MUNICIPAL SERVICE OFFICE, MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thiagesh Sukumaran (Deputy Director [Legal], Community Relations Unit, Municipal Services Office, MND)

NATIONAL PARKS BOARD

The Prosecution Branch (“PB”) of the National Parks Board (“NParks”) works closely with AGC, as well as key internal and external stakeholders, to combat environmental and animal welfare offences, including the illicit import, export and transshipment of endangered species.

Notable achievements include achieving a two-thirds increase in concluded prosecution cases alongside a 50% increase in advice rendered from the previous year. Working together with AGC, NParks also secured a successful outcome before the HC Court of Three Judges in *Dao Thi Boi v PP [2024] 6 SLR 277*, which held that the offence of importing a scheduled species without permit under Section 4(1) of the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act 2006 does not require proof of knowledge of the nature of the things being imported.

The PB also provided extensive legal advisory support for several key initiatives of NParks, including the launch of the Cat Management Framework, amendments to various subsidiary legislation of the Animal and Birds Act 1965 (“ABA”), proposed setting up of a new Veterinary Council, and the amendments to the ABA and Code of Animal Welfare.

As at 31 December 2024, there were two LSOs in NParks PB.

Jean Chan Lay Koon (Ms)

Director
Prosecution Branch
National Parks Board



NATIONAL PARKS BOARD

(Left to Right):

Ms Jean Chan Lay Koon (Director, Prosecution Branch, NParks), Lee Zu Zhao

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

The Legal Services Unit (“LSU”) provides legal services to the Ministry of Social and Family Development (“MSF”) and the Early Childhood Development Agency in support of its mission to nurture resilient individuals, strong families, and a caring society.

In 2024, the LSU provided legal support to the MSF on:

- (a) upcoming legislative amendments, including a new Social Residential Homes Bill to introduce a comprehensive regulatory framework for such homes, and amending the National Council of Social Service Act 1992 to reflect the National Council of Social Service’s expanded role in developing the social service sector;
- (b) operationalising recently-passed Acts on adoption, family violence, and maintenance of parents; and

- (c) contractual matters, including a key sponsorship agreement for a new ComLink+ initiative to support low-income families, and a new funding agreement for the Childminding Pilot for Infants.

To enhance capabilities within MSF, the LSU established the MSF Community of Practice on Legislation (“COP”) to foster knowledge sharing and collaboration between policy, operations and legal officers involved in legislative projects. The COP’s inaugural Symposium saw some 80 participants, and presentations by the AGC’s Legislation Division, MinLaw’s Civil & Legislative Policy Division, and various MSF Divisions.

As at 31 December 2024, there were five LSOs in the LSU.

Zhong Zewei

Director

Legal Services Unit

Ministry of Social and Family Development



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

(Left to Right):

Ms Ang Swee Yan, Ms Eunice Chong Miao En, Zhong Zewei (Director, Legal Services Unit, MSF), Ms Chew Xin Ying, Ms Elena Yip Luyang

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

To encourage more Singaporeans aged 50 years and above to make their Lasting Power of Attorney (“LPA”), the Office of the Public Guardian (“OPG”) engaged and trained stakeholders and grassroots organisations to organise LPA talks and certification sessions. As at 31 December 2024, 246,562 of all existing registered LPAs were made by this age group, which exceeded the campaign target of 240,000. In total, the OPG received 65,241 LPA applications in 2024.

The Deputy supervision regime was also reviewed during the process of developing an automated risk-profiling tool to sieve out high risk cases for further assessment and closer supervision. 6,732 deputies were supervised, a 13% increase from 2023. Fifty-five Court reports were furnished, and 51 Professional Deputies remain registered with the OPG.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the OPG.

Regina Chang (Ms)

Public Guardian

Office of the Public Guardian

Ministry of Social and Family Development



OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Ms Regina Chang (Public Guardian, Office of the Public Guardian, MSF)

FAMILY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DIVISION, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

The Family and Early Childhood Division (“FEC”) of the MSF steers policy and legislative reviews to strengthen families, and ensures that legislation under MSF’s purview supports its policies and programmes.

To provide stronger caregiving support to parents of infants, FEC amended the Child Development Co-Savings Act 2001 to introduce the new Shared Parental Leave scheme and increase mandatory Government-Paid Paternity Leave.

FEC also worked with the Family Justice Courts to implement the enhanced enforcement regime for child access orders under the Women’s Charter 1961, which aims to help divorced parents seek recourse for breaches while ensuring the child’s best interests are protected.

As at 31 December 2024, there was one LSO in the FEC.

Eunice Lau Su Hui (Ms)

Deputy Director
Family and Early Childhood Division
Ministry of Social and Family Development



FAMILY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DIVISION, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Ms Eunice Lau Su Hui (Deputy Director, Family and Early Childhood Division, MSF)

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION OF SINGAPORE

The Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (“CCCS”) administers and enforces the Competition Act 2004 and the Consumer Protection (Fair Trading) Act 2003 and seeks to maintain and enhance efficient market conduct and fair-trading practices in Singapore. CCCS also represents Singapore on competition and consumer protection matters internationally.

In 2024, in the competition front, CCCS issued a provisional decision opposing the proposed acquisition by Grab Holdings Limited of TransCab Holdings Ltd., which led to the merging parties terminating the transaction. In response to the potential acquisition by Grab of Delivery Hero’s Foodpanda business, CCCS issued Interim Measures Directions (“IMDs”) to ensure that the market remained open and contestable until the completion of CCCS’s investigation. The IMDs ceased after CCCS was informed that the potential acquisition was abandoned. CCCS also issued an infringement decision and imposed significant financial penalties of about \$10 million on two parties for engaging in bid rigging conduct for interior fit-out construction services in non-residential properties across Singapore.

On consumer protection, CCCS conducted unannounced visits at a hair salon for suspected unfair trade practices, including exploiting elderly customers and charging higher prices without prior agreement, and secured undertakings from Sterra Tech Pte Ltd and Loft Home Furnishing Pte Ltd to cease false and misleading marketing practices and posting fake 5-star reviews of products on their website, respectively. CCCS also successfully instituted contempt proceedings against Nail Palace and its managing director and obtained a substantial fine and imprisonment sentence for their contemptuous conduct.

Internationally, CCCS represented Singapore as Chair of the ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection and the inaugural OECD Ministerial Meeting of the Committee on Consumer Policy in Paris.

CCCS was also involved in negotiating the ASEAN Framework on Competition and ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement.

As at 31 December 2024, seven LSOs were seconded to CCCS.

Alvin Koh

Chief Executive

Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore



COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION OF SINGAPORE

(Left to Right):

Caleb Tan Tian-Le, Ms Serene Seet Lay Cheng, Alvin Koh Meng Sing (Chief Executive, CCCS), Loke Shiu Meng, Ms Ng Yee Ting, Ms Melina Chew Ying Fei

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Economic Development Board (“EDB”) is a statutory board under the Ministry of Trade and Industry which is responsible for strategies that enhance Singapore’s position as a global centre for business, innovation and talent.

The Legal Division (“Division”) provides legal advice to the EDB and DesignSingapore Council Pte Ltd (a subsidiary of EDB) on tax and financial incentives, contracts (including sponsorship agreements, memoranda of understanding, loan agreements and non-disclosure agreements), procurement, EDB’s regulatory functions under various statutes, trade issues, employment and data protection matters.

In 2024, the Division advised EDB on several new initiatives, including the EDB Office for Space Technology & Industry’s collaboration with overseas agencies on the promotion of space research and technology; and several secured repayable loans and grants made to further Singapore’s economic objectives.

As at 31 December 2024, two LSOs were seconded to the EDB.

Edrick Guo Zhixian

General Counsel
Legal Division
Economic Development Board



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(Left to Right):

Andrew Teo Jun Yi, Edrick Guo Zhixian (General Counsel, Legal Division, EDB)

MONETARY AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (“MAS”) is Singapore’s central bank and financial services regulator.

In 2024, MAS’ Enforcement Department’s (“ENF”) investigations led to criminal proceedings against eight individuals, prohibition orders against 13 individuals, composition of \$4.4 million on financial institutions for breaches of anti-money laundering rules and civil penalties of \$3.26 million for market misconduct offences. Via the Financial Institutions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, ENF also enhanced MAS’ investigative powers for obtaining and sharing evidence.

MAS’ Prudential Policy Department (“PPD”) continued to develop regulatory frameworks for digital assets, and monitor consumer credit trends to identify the risk of consumer over-indebtedness. PPD also worked to enhance banking practices to support the underserved and codify practices on banks’ management of dormant and fixed deposit accounts.

MAS’ Markets, Infrastructures and Intermediaries Department (“MII”) continued to enhance supervision over markets, infrastructures and broker intermediaries. MII issued a revised set of corporate governance regulations for exchanges, clearing houses, trade repositories and holding companies. Together with MAS’ Anti-Money Laundering Department, MII published a consultation paper to introduce requirements for approved exchanges and local recognised market operators to perform checks for anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.

MAS’ Payments Department (“PD”) enhanced its licensing application process. PD also issued a set of guidelines jointly with the IMDA on a shared responsibility framework for financial institutions and telecommunications companies on losses arising from scam transactions, and issued guidelines to digital payment token service providers on consumer protection safeguards.

As at 31 December 2024, five LSOs were seconded to MAS.

Peggy Pao-Keerthi Pei Yu (Ms)

Executive Director

Enforcement Department

Monetary Authority of Singapore



MONETARY AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

(Left to Right):

Tan Zhi Hao, Ms Uni Khng, Ms Peggy Pao-Keerthi Pei Yu (Executive Director, Enforcement Department, MAS), Nicholas Lim

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

The National Environment Agency (“NEA”) is responsible for environmental protection, public health, and resource sustainability. Mr Andy Sim helms the NEA’s Legal Division (“LD”), and is supported by Ms Yolanda Lee and Mr Imran Hamid who head the Civil and Prosecution Departments, respectively.

In 2024, the LD advised on a broad range of civil matters, which include contracts concerning urgent high-value oil spill response, the \$1.5 billion Integrated Waste Management Facility, and complex waste-to-energy services.

On the regulatory and enforcement front, apart from the routine prosecution of about 800 cases weekly, the LD provided regulatory advice on the increased enforcements in congregational areas and refuse centres, cleanliness near dormitories, illegal structures and dumping on public cemeteries, breaches arising from oil spills, oversight of funeral parlours, and proposed amendments to expedite prosecution of cases by issuing notices to attend court instead of summons.

As at 31 December 2024, there were three LSOs in the NEA.

Andy Sim Yock Ann

Director

Legal Division

National Environment Agency



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

(Left to Right):

Yew Li Chuen Norman, Ms Lee Yinghui Yolanda, Andy Sim Yock Ann, Imran Abdul Hamid

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Ms Ong Ai Hui

The background of the entire page is composed of numerous thin, orange, wavy lines that create a sense of movement and depth. These lines are layered, with some appearing closer to the viewer than others, giving the impression of a 3D landscape or a complex, organic structure. The lines generally flow from the top left towards the bottom right, with some branching and curving in different directions.

SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE

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