



# SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE

*2022  
In Review*

# VISION

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

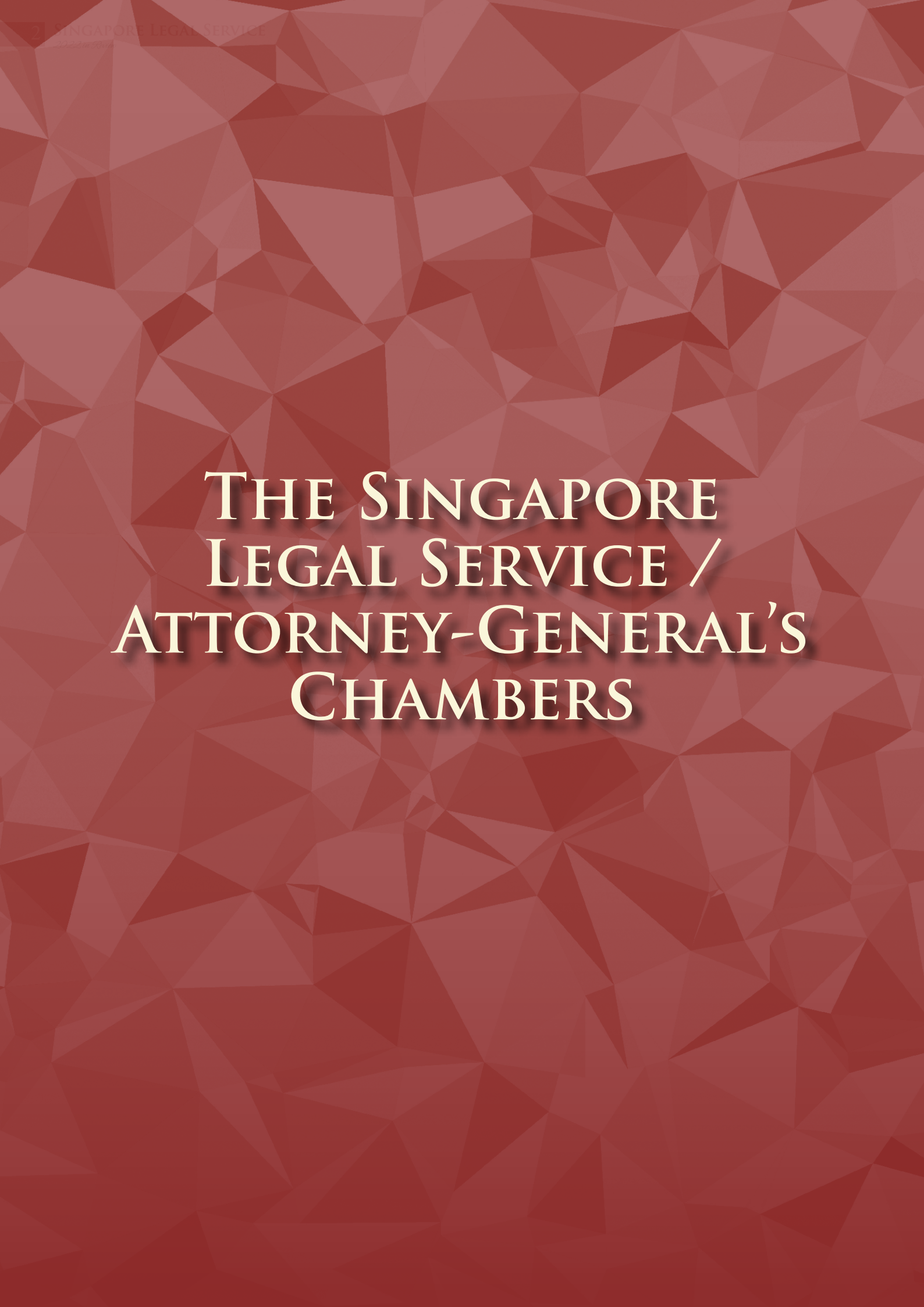
# MISSION

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

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Departments and  
Statutory Boards/  
Statutory Bodies





# THE SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE / ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS



# THE SINGAPORE LEGAL SERVICE

The Singapore Legal Service is headed by the Attorney-General who is also the President of the Legal Service Commission. Legal Service Officers (“LSOs”) serve in the Attorney-General’s Chambers (“AGC”) or as representatives of the Attorney-General in the legal departments of Ministries, statutory boards/statutory bodies (“MSB” or “MSBs”) and key public institutions with LSO positions.

## The Attorney-General’s Chambers

The AGC is led by the Attorney-General, the Deputy Attorneys-General, and the Solicitor-General. In 2022, the AGC continued under the leadership of Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai as the Attorney-General, and Deputy Attorneys-General Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin and Mr Tai Wei Shyong. Mr Ang Cheng Hock was appointed as Deputy Attorney-General with effect from 1 October 2022 while Mr Hri Kumar Nair relinquished his role as Deputy Attorney-General in December 2022 to take on his current appointment as a Judge of the High Court. Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin was appointed as the Solicitor-General with effect from 1 April 2022.

The AGC performs a critical role as the guardian of public interest and the steward of the rule of law. As the office of the Public Prosecutor, the AGC exercises overall control and direction in the conduct of criminal proceedings independently of the Government. As the Government’s chief legal advisor and drafter of laws, the AGC advises the Government on a wide spectrum of legal issues and the development of proposals for legislation, 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, and 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 (“IAD”), and the Legislation Division (“LEGIS”). The LSOs in the Advocacy Group, the AGC-Legal Service Academy, and the Legal Technology & Innovation Office (“LTiO”) are also crucial pillars of the work of the AGC.

## Advocacy Group

Focusing on litigation and dispute resolution, LSOs in the Advocacy Group represent the Government as State Counsel and prosecute offences as Deputy Public Prosecutors across diverse matters, often in close collaboration with other legal divisions. In 2022, the Advocacy Group’s notable matters included:

- (a) **COVID-19:** The Advocacy Group, working with the Civil Division, defended two judicial review challenges on constitutional and other grounds against various aspects of the Government’s

response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as vaccination-differentiated safe management measures, workforce vaccination measures and the healthcare charging policy for COVID-19 medical bills.

- (b) **Combatting falsehoods:** The Advocacy Group resisted appeals brought in the High Court (“HC”) against Correction Directions issued under the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act 2019 by the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (c) **Exercise of prosecutorial discretion:** The Advocacy Group defended an Article 12 challenge against the Attorney-General’s decision to bring contempt proceedings, resulting in the first decision by the Court of Appeal (“CA”) providing guidance on the application of the test in *Syed Subail bin Syed Zin v Attorney-General* [2021] 1 SLR 809 to the exercise of prosecutorial discretion.
- (d) **Mutual legal assistance:** The Advocacy Group continued its collaboration with the IAD to execute mutual legal assistance requests, resisting various contested proceedings in the HC.

Additionally, the Advocacy Group worked with the Academy to organise the second edition of the Case Theory Workshop for younger prosecutors, which was well-received.

As at 31 December 2022, there were six LSOs in the Advocacy Group.

### Kristy Tan (Ms)

Senior Director

Advocacy Group

Attorney-General’s Chambers

## AGC-Legal Service Academy

The AGC Academy was renamed the AGC-Legal Service Academy (“Academy”) on 19 January 2022 to reflect its expanded mandate to support the learning and knowledge management (“KM”) needs of all LSOs.

To cater to LSOs in the MSBs, the Academy launched new competency frameworks and training roadmaps customised to their needs. The Academy increased its service offerings with new sessions tailored to MSB LSOs, such as a webinar on the policy-making process and a brown bag sharing by LSOs with experience in regulatory work. The Academy also conducted leadership milestone programmes, such as the “Foundational Leadership Programme” and “Emerging Leaders Programme”, which MSB LSOs participated in.

Additionally, the Academy made its Learning Management System available to MSB LSOs and extended library access and AGC Legal Memos to them. Concurrently, the Academy worked on identifying and updating relevant KM resources for dissemination to MSB LSOs.

Within AGC, the Academy held engagement sessions with various legal divisions to attune itself to the learning and KM needs of each in order to provide better support to them.



Lastly, the Academy resumed more in-person trainings in 2022 for greater learning effectiveness. These included the “Common Pupillage Programme” and “AGC Primer Programme” to promote camaraderie and onboard new officers, the “AGC-Legal Service Leadership Retreat” focusing on transformational leadership, and the “Public Sector Legal Forum Seminar Series” for the larger public legal sector. The Academy also organised a fireside chat with the Minister for Law, in a series of fireside chats with political office holders which will be run annually.

As at 31 December 2022, there were seven LSOs in the Academy.

### **Hui Choon Kuen**

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

## **Legal Technology & Innovation Office**

In 2022, the LTiO brought several new legal technology solutions to the AGC to aid its officers with their work.

The Automated Sentencing Knowledge Management Engine (known as “AskMe”) is an Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) solution that allows the AGC’s prosecutors to search for sentencing precedents in an unstructured database. Prosecutors can search for the closest precedents based on sentencing factors, such as the offender’s antecedents, the type of weapon used, the injury suffered, and the amount of money involved.

Apart from AI, the LTiO has also begun leveraging on robotic process automation (“RPA”) to streamline work processes. For example, the LTiO is working with other AGC departments to use RPA to automatically download documents from eLitigation. Another potential use case for RPA for the AGC is to scan the Judiciary’s online hearing lists and identify any cases involving the Government. This will save the manual effort involved and reduce the risk of human error.

LTiO also assisted LEGIS to develop the Bill Milestone Calculator, which automatically generates a timetable with the various timelines to be met for a Bill to be introduced, after a user enters a target Bill introduction date.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the LTiO.

### **Hui Choon Kuen**

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



## Advocacy Group, AGC-Legal Service Academy and Legal Technology & Innovation Office



### *(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ms Kristy Tan Ruyan (Head, Advocacy Group), Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive / Dean, AGC-Legal Service Academy), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Leong Wing Tuck, Ms Sarah Lam Yan Xia

### *(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Krystle Chiang Jing Ya, Ms Andrea Gan Yingtian, Ms Jean Goh Sue Jean, Ms Wan Wai Yee, Ms Gay Hui Yi, Ms Elizabeth Chua Ming Ying, Ms Audrey Choo Wen Yee

### *(Left to Right) Back row:*

Liew Kuang Ping, Timothy Ashby Straughan, Dan Pan Xue Wen, Jheevanesh Sivanathan, Wong Woon Kwong, Sivakumar Ramasamy

## Crime Division

In 2022, the Crime Division continued to protect and advance public interest through fair and independent prosecutions, seeking appropriate punishments for those found guilty:

### (a) Seeking appropriate punishments:

- (i) *Public Prosecutor v Azlin bte Arujunah and another appeal* [2022] 2 SLR 1410; [2022] 2 SLR 825 – Two offenders were jointly tried for, *inter alia*, murder of their five-year-old son. The HC acquitted them of murder and convicted them for voluntarily causing grievous hurt by means of heated substance. The Prosecution successfully appealed against the acquittal of one party on the murder charge and for the sentence imposed on the other to be enhanced to life imprisonment. The CA sentenced both offenders to life imprisonment.
- (ii) *Public Prosecutor v Juandi bin Pungot* [2022] 5 SLR 470 – One of the masterminds of a large-scale conspiracy, involving the misappropriation of gas oil worth around S\$128 million from Shell Eastern Petroleum Pte Ltd's facility at Pulau Bukom, was prosecuted. The Prosecution successfully sought for the offender to be sentenced to 29 years' imprisonment.
- (iii) *Public Prosecutor v Soh Chee Wen and Quah Su-Ling* (Criminal Case No 9 of 2019) – The two masterminds behind the most serious stock market manipulation were convicted after a long trial

before the HC and sentenced to 36 years' and 20 years' imprisonment respectively.

- (iv) *Public Prosecutor v BWJ* [2023] SGCA 2 – The Prosecution successfully appealed against the HC's acquittal of an offender of having committed aggravated rape. The offender strangled his ex-girlfriend to commit rape and tried to abscond thereafter. The offender was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment and 12 strokes of the cane.

The Crime Division also assisted in the development of Singapore's jurisprudence on criminal law through its submissions to the Courts:

### (a) Development of Sentencing Frameworks:

- (i) *Public Prosecutor v Rizwan bin Rohmat* [2023] SGHC 62 – The HC formulated a sentencing framework with a benchmark sentence for the archetypal case for an offence of driving without a valid licence under the Road Traffic Act (Cap 276, 2004 Rev Ed) ("RTA"), following the 2019 amendments to the RTA.
- (ii) *Pua Om Tee v Public Prosecutor and another appeal* [2022] 5 SLR 689 – The HC set out a five-step sentencing framework based on a harm-culpability analysis for goods and services tax evasion.
- (iii) *Sue Chang v Public Prosecutor* [2022] SGHC 176 – The HC adopted a five-step sentencing framework based on the framework set out in *Logachev Vladislav v Public*



*Prosecutor* [2018] 4 SLR 609 (“*Logachev*”) for offences of careless driving causing grievous hurt after the 2019 amendments to the RTA.

- (iv) *Public Prosecutor v Manta Equipment (s) Pte Ltd* [2022] SGHC 157 – The HC devised a two-stage sentencing framework for corporate employers who fail to take reasonably practicable measures to ensure the health and safety of their employees.
- (v) *Public Prosecutor v GED and other appeals* [2022] SGHC 301 – A three-judge panel of the HC laid down the appropriate sentencing approach and framework for an offence of the non-consensual distribution of intimate images or recordings of another person.
- (vi) *Goh Ngak Eng v Public Prosecutor* [2022] SGHC 254 – The HC developed a revised sentencing framework for private sector corruption offences (including those which engage the public sector rationale) that is modelled after the *Logachev* framework.

#### (b) Jurisprudential Developments:

- (i) *Poh Yuan Nie v Public Prosecutor and another matter* [2022] SGCA 74 – Two offenders were found guilty of scheming to help six students cheat in the 2016 GCE ‘O’ Level Examinations. They referred a question of law to the CA after their appeal against conviction was dismissed, namely, whether the offence of cheating involving a dishonest concealment of facts requires the offender to have had the intention to cause

wrongful loss or gain of property. The CA agreed with the Prosecution’s submissions that the question should be answered in the negative.

- (ii) *Leck Kim Koon v Public Prosecutor* [2022] 2 SLR 595 – The CA clarified that illustration (d) to s 279(1) of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap 68, 2012 Rev Ed) did not impose a requirement for the court to hold an ancillary hearing where the sole challenge to an offender’s statement related to its accuracy.

The Crime Division continued to undertake initiatives to streamline its work processes, strengthening its ability to advance the public interest:

#### (a) Streamlining Initiatives:

- (i) The State Prosecuting Officers (“SPO”) Scheme was enhanced to widen the scope of cases which SPOs can prosecute and the Pre-Trial Conferences (“PTC”) which they may attend on behalf of the Public Prosecutor.
- (ii) The Division also embarked on a pilot project with the State Courts for PTCs to be conducted asynchronously to better utilise resources and to save time.

As at 31 December 2022, there were 203 LSOs in the Crime Division.

**Tan Kiat Pheng &  
Mohamed Faizal**

Chief Prosecutors

Crime Division

Attorney-General’s Chambers



## Crime Division



### *(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ng Yiwen, Adrian Loo Yu Hao, Wong Woon Kwong, Jiang Ke-Yue, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hay Hung Chun, Mohamed Faizal s/o Mohamed Abdul Kadir (Second Chief Prosecutor), Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat, Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Anandan s/o Bala, Peter Koy Su Hua, Christopher Ong Siu Jin, Teo Guan Siew

### *(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Grace Chua Zhu Ern, Ms Goh Qi Shuen, Ms Kelly Ng Wei Qi, Ms Ashley Poh Shiyun, Ms Emily Koh Jia Ling, Ms Manickamalar Kayalvizhi Pillay, Ms Tan Jing Min, Ms Janessa Phua Pei Xuan, Ms Melissa Heng Yu Qing, Ms Sarah Siaw Ming Hui, Ms Gladys Lim Hinn Teng, Ms Phoebe Tan Hern Hwei, Ms Kathy Chu Weng Yan, Dillon Kok Yi-Min, Ms Wong Shiau Yin, Jordy Kay Boon Khai, Teo Yao Long

### *(Left to Right) Third row:*

Ms Yvonne Poon Yirong, Ms Susanna Abigail Yim, Ms Teo Lu Jia, Ms Norine Tan Yan Ling, Ms Boppana Sai Prasuna Sruthi, Ms Selene Yap Wan Ting, Ms Tin Shu Min, Colin Ng Guan Wen, Ms Lim Tze Etsuko, Tay Jia En, Sheldon Anthony Lim Wei Jie, Joseph Gwee Ming Wei, Kevin Liew Yong Peng, Lee Zu Zhao, Brian Tan Eu-Hern

### *(Left to Right) Back row:*

Muhd Nur Hidayat Bin Amir, Tung Shou Pin, Yohanes Ng Yu Wei, Kenny Yang Yong, Andrew Low Szu Kiat, Marcus Foo Guo Wen, R Arvindren, Timotheus Koh Rong En, Niranjana Ranjakunalan, Sean Teh Lien Wern, Derek Ee Xing Bei, Thaddeus Tan Zhi En

## Crime Division



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ng Yiwen, Adrian Loo Yu Hao, Wong Woon Kwong, Jiang Ke-Yue, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hay Hung Chun, Mohamed Faizal s/o Mohamed Abdul Kadir (Second Chief Prosecutor), Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat, Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Anandan s/o Bala, Peter Koy Su Hua, Christopher Ong Siu Jin, Teo Guan Siew

*(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Agnes Chan Huseh Mei, Ms April Phang Suet Fern, Ms Charlene Tay-Chia, Ms Theong Li Han, Edwin Ho Wei, Gabriel Lee Heng Bin, Jotham Tay Zi Xun, Ms Quek Lu Yi, Ms Stephanie Koh Wan Ling, Vishnu Menon, Ms Ramkumar Pavithra, Ms Lim Woon Yee, Ms Nicole Teo Sey En, Ms J Jayaletchmi, Ms Teo Siu Ming, Ng Jun Kai

*(Left to Right) Third row:*

Nicholas Khoo Tian Lun, Bhajanvir Singh, Leong Wing Tuck, Dwayne Lum Wen Yi, Tang Shangjun, Darren Ang Jin Wee, Tan Wee Hao, Benedict Chan Wei Qi, Chong Yong, Ms Regina Lim Siew Mei, Ms Tan Yanying, Ms Kwang Jia Min

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Eugene Lee Yee Leng, Sunil Nair, Lau Wing Yum, Mark Tay Swee Keng, Nicholas Wuan Kin Lek, Chan Yi Cheng, Maximilian Chew Jian Hao, Cai Chenghan, Mark Chia Zi Han, Ethan Lee



## Crime Division



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ng Yiwen, Adrian Loo Yu Hao, Wong Woon Kwong, Jiang Ke-Yue, David Khoo Kim Leng, Hay Hung Chun, Mohamed Faizal s/o Mohamed Abdul Kadir (Second Chief Prosecutor), Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Tan Kiat Pheng (Chief Prosecutor), Isaac Tan Choon Kiat, Ivan Chua Boon Chwee, Anandan s/o Bala, Peter Koy Su Hua, Christopher Ong Siu Jin, Teo Guan Siew

*(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Ariel Tan Hui Ru, Ms Alexandria Shamini Joseph, Ms Lynn Tan Jin Ling, Ms Delicia Charmaine Tan Li Fang, Gan Ee Kiat, Ronnie Ang Yao Long, Ms Tan Shi Yun, Ms Ashley Chin Sze-En, Ms Janice See Yup Queen, Ms Sarah Sabir Thaker, Ms Yeow Xuan, Ms Foong Ke Hui, Ms Kiera Yu Jiaqi, Ms Kang Jia Hui, Ms Ng Jean Ting, Eric Hu Youda, Foo Shi Hao, Matthew Choo Hou Chong, David Koh Yi-Da

*(Left to Right) Third row:*

Edwin Soh Chin Yuen, Ms Yap Jia Jun, Benjamin Low Junjie, Tay Zhi Jie, Yee Jia Rong, Samuel Chew Tongjun, Jordon Li Mingjie, Kevin Yong Ee Wen, Nicholas Tan Beng Leong, Ms Michelle Tay Xin Ying, Louis Ngia Jin Liang, Andrew Chia Cheng Yi, Ong Xin Jie, Eugene Phua Liang Wei, David Rajeev Menon

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Bryan Wong Jun Bin, Thiagesh Sukumaran, Alan Loh Yong Kah, Joshua Phang Tze En, Lee Da Zhuan, Darren Sim Chun Teck, Kor Zhen Hong, Ben Mathias Tan, Suriya Prakash Uthayasurian, Kelvin Chong Yue Hua, Suhas Malhotra, Hon Yi, Gordon Oh Chun Wei



## International Affairs Division

The IAD advances and protects Singapore's interests in international law and coordinates all treaty-making activities in Singapore.

In 2022, the IAD advised Government agencies on wide-ranging international law matters, including those that arose out of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The IAD also participated in key international meetings and negotiations, including:

- (a) the United Nations ("UN") Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction;
- (b) the 77<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly;
- (c) the 27<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference;
- (d) investor-state dispute settlement reform discussions at the UN Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL") and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes;
- (e) the UN Open-Ended Working Group on cybersecurity and the UN *Ad Hoc* Committee on cybercrime;
- (f) Singapore's first review under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (g) new multilateral negotiations on combating plastic pollution and strengthening pandemic prevention, preparedness and response;
- (h) the Pacific Alliance-Singapore Free Trade Agreement ("FTA"), the MERCOSUR-Singapore FTA, and the Eurasian Economic Union-Singapore FTA;

- (i) the Singapore-Australia Green Economy Agreement (the first agreement of its kind) and the Singapore-Korea Digital Partnership Agreement; and
- (j) negotiations between Singapore and neighbouring and regional states concerning maritime and airspace issues.

As the central authority for international criminal cooperation matters, the IAD handled a number of high-profile requests in 2022, including: (a) enforcing a foreign confiscation order in a case involving the embezzlement of public funds that resulted in over S\$8 million being repatriated to the foreign State; (b) assisting foreign States in the investigation and prosecution of large-scale, cross-border fraud cases; and (c) extraditing a foreign fugitive for child sexual offences.

The IAD profiled Singapore's thought leadership by organising the 2022 Public International Law Seminar by Professor Dapo Akande on "The Applicability of Existing International Law to the Governance of Cyberspace". IAD officers also served in significant international roles, such as Rapporteur of Working Group III of the UNCITRAL, Rapporteur of the International Civil Aviation Organization's Working Group reviewing its dispute settlement rules, Member of the Paris Agreement Implementation and Compliance Committee, and co-Chair of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA Working Group on Legal and Institutional Issues.

As at 31 December 2022, there were 41 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:***

Toh Shin Hao, Sellakumaran s/o Sellamuthoo, Ms Diane Tan Yi-Lui, Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General/Director-General), Derek Loh Kong Yue, Marcus Song Ee Pin, Ong Chin Heng, Ms Chung Yoon Joo, Kenneth Wong Weixiong

***(Left to Right) Second row:***

Ms Jean Kua Zhizhen, Ashley Ong Jia Hong, Ms Terri Lim Chia Chia, Ms Deena Abdul Aziz Bajrai, Ms Seraphina Fong Mian Yi, Ms Fu Qui Jun, Ms Yvonne Guo Yunwen, Ms Ryce Lee, Ms Ng Kexian

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Ms Natalie Yu-Lin Morris-Sharma, Ms Vanessa Lam Xiu Ping, Ms Jessie Lim, Ms Carene Poh Kai Lin, Mansoor Amir, Scott Tan Chun Wen, Ms Mary-Elisabeth Chong Xinling, Ms Kristi How Suqian



## Civil Division

The Civil Division is the Government's principal legal advisor. In 2022, we advised the Government on a broad range of legal matters, including those pertaining to:

- (a) measures to ensure Singapore's energy security given our growing energy needs;
- (b) measures to be taken by various agencies in light of the sanctions against Russian entities;
- (c) the repeal of section 377A of the Penal Code 1871; and
- (d) the scope of privilege and public interest immunity over confidential information collected by agencies.

The Civil Division also vetted many complex contracts, including the adoption of agile application development as well as bulk tenders for network, server and storage equipment, cabling infrastructure and services, and robotic process automation for the whole of Government. We also assisted the Government to operationalise major projects such as eGuarantee@Gov, which digitalises the processing of paper guarantees, and the setting up of a co-investment fund to support high-growth enterprises in equity fundraising.

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

- (a) challenges to COVID-19 policies – working together with other AGC divisions, we successfully defended the Government's COVID-19 legislation and policies in various judicial review and other court applications.

(b) *Application by the Singapore branch of a foreign bank to be placed under judicial management* (HC/OA 434/2022, unreported) – we intervened on the Attorney-General's behalf in the public interest, to point out the jurisdictional concerns with the application and the lack of public interest for the application to be granted. The bank eventually consented to the Court's dismissal of the application.

(c) *Wee Teong Boo v Singapore Medical Council (Attorney-General, intervener)* [2022] SGHC 169 – we intervened on the Attorney-General's behalf to address the Court on the admissibility of an accused's evidence given in prior criminal proceedings, in the accused's subsequent disciplinary proceedings. The HC accepted the Attorney-General's arguments, and its decision was upheld on appeal.

(d) admission applications of several applicants who had cheated in the examinations for admission to the Singapore Bar – this resulted in seminal judgments by the Chief Justice on the ethical standards required of aspiring lawyers (e.g. *Re Tay Quan Li Leon* [2022] SGHC 133).

As at 31 December 2022, there were 67 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 Kristy Tan Ruyan, Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), 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), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Phua Wee Chuan, Ms Toh Hwee Lian, Ms Tammy Low Wan Jun

*(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Rachel Chin Wan Yew, Au Wei Hoe, Lim Toh Han, Wong Tai Shen, Daryl Pang Jia Jie, Jeremy Yeo Shenglong, Wong Thai Chuan, Evans Ng Hian Pheng, Benjamin Sng Jun Yi, Ms Ho May Kim, Ms Sarah Shi Pei-Yi

*(Left to Right) Third row:*

Ms Chong Yun Ling, Ms Beulah Li Sile, Ms Genevieve Lee Hui Shan, Ms Ailene Chou Xiujue, Ms Teo Siqi, Edmund Wong Wei Jie, Ms Chow Zi En, Ms Alison See Ying Xiu, Ms Darshini Ramiah, Ms Stephanie Ng Wenli, Ms Vanita Jegathesan, Ms Lindsay Lu Xuan Hui

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Ms Joan Pang Wei En, Jasper Wong Chun Yin, Ms Joan Janssen, Ms Tan Kim Ping, Ms Joyce Low Wei Lin, Ms Du Xuan, Christopher Zheng Rui, Wong Chun Han, Jonathan Chua Soo Meng, Pesdy Tay Jia Yi, Daniel Ho Zhengyuan

*Not in picture:*

Ms Low Siew Ling (Chief Counsel)



## Legislation Division

LEGIS is the Government's central law drafting office in charge of drafting all legislation for the Government and public sector agencies. LEGIS also provides online access to Singapore legislation through its Singapore Statutes Online ("SSO") and Legis@Gov websites.

In 2022, LEGIS drafted 39 Bills (2,257 pages) for introduction in Parliament and published 1,045 pieces of subsidiary legislation (5,985 pages).

Notable legislation enacted in 2022 include:

(a) **Amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore and Penal Code 1871**

Section 377A of the Penal Code 1871, which prohibited indecent acts between men, was repealed. Concurrently, the Constitution was amended to safeguard the definition of marriage as a union between a man and a woman, and laws and policies based on that definition.

(b) **Financial Services and Markets Act 2022**

This Act enables the Monetary Authority of Singapore to conduct sector-wide regulation to address the financial sector's rapid development due to innovation, digitalisation and new products and services, and regulates digital token service providers to mitigate money laundering and terrorist financing risks.

(c) **Electric Vehicles Charging Act 2022**

Part of Singapore's efforts to reduce carbon emissions in road transport, this Act regulates the supply and use of electric vehicle ("EV") chargers,

charging station operators and providers of EV charging services, and enacts infrastructure development measures to expand Singapore's network of EV charging points.

(d) **Public Defenders Act 2022**

This Act establishes a criminal defence aid scheme by providing for the appointment of a Chief Public Defender and public defenders, to provide legal representation to Singapore citizens and permanent residents with limited means in certain non-capital criminal matters.

Throughout 2022, as Singapore recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, LEGIS continued to support the Government by drafting legislation to facilitate reopening. The COVID-19 Legislation Drafting, Editorial and Publication Team received the President's Certificate of Commendation (COVID-19) in recognition of its exceptional efforts which significantly impacted Singapore's fight against COVID-19.

Other initiatives by LEGIS to make more information available within AGC and to Ministries, agencies and the public include a new Statutory Snapshots column in the KM Bulletin, Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") on the 2020 Revised Edition published on SSO, FAQs on Making and Publishing Legislation published on the Government Intranet and a Bill Milestone Calculator to facilitate Bill planning.

As at 31 December 2022, there were 32 LSOs in LEGIS.

**Jeanne Lee (Ms)**

Chief Legislative Counsel  
Legislation Division  
Attorney-General's Chambers



## Legislation Division



***(Left to Right) Front row:***

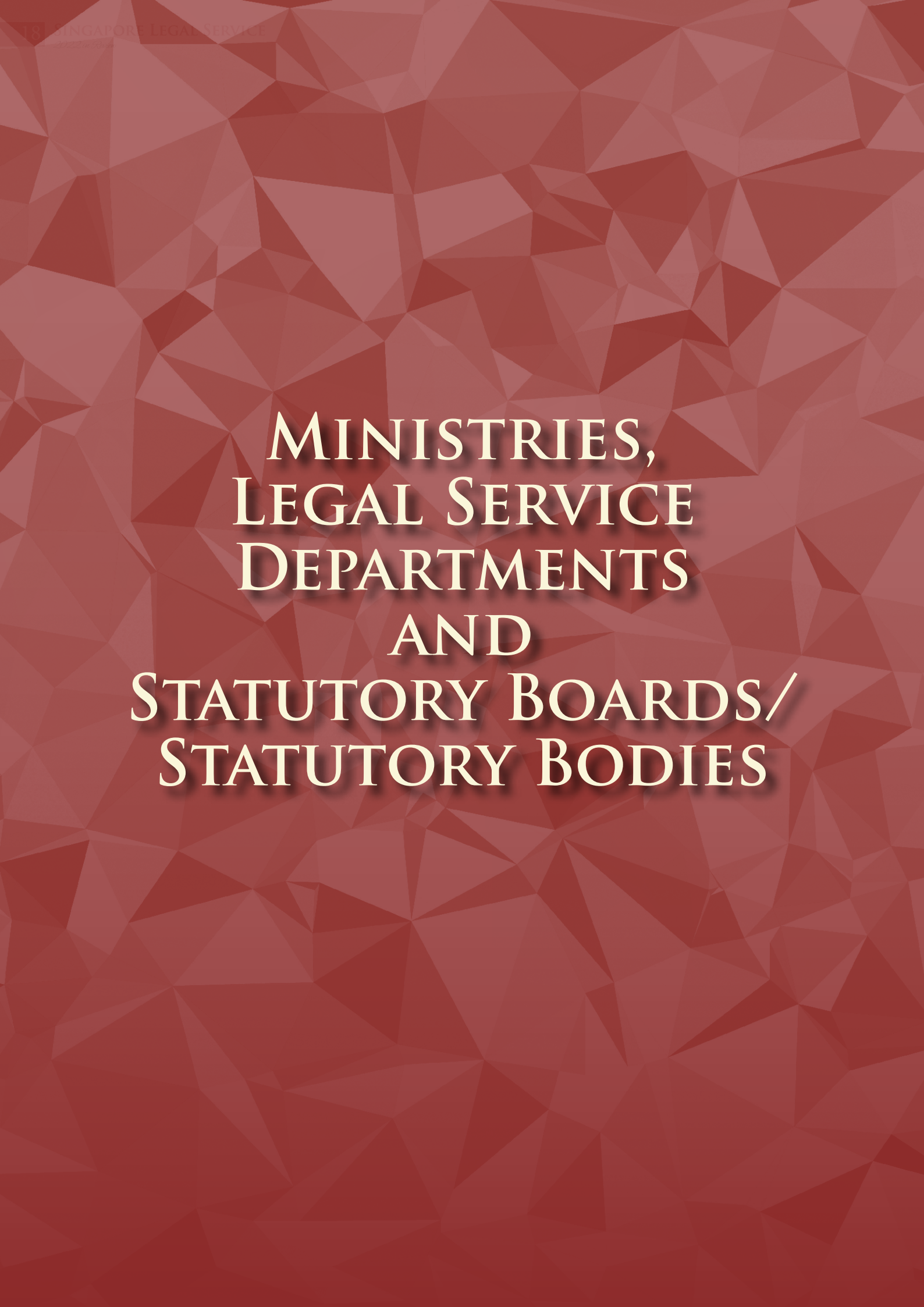
Lee Chuan Huei, Hui Choon Kuen (Chief Executive), Mr Ang Cheng Hock (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lionel Yee Woon Chin (Deputy Attorney-General), Mr Lucien Wong Yuen Kuai (Attorney-General), Mr Tai Wei Shyong (Deputy Attorney-General), Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin (Solicitor-General), Ms Jeanne Lee Ming En (Chief Legislative Counsel)

***(Left to Right) Second row:***

Ms Hung Ning Shing, Ms Jaime Tey Su Fung, Ms Clarissa Chern Xin Yi, Ms Shana Poon Jingjie, Ms Jeslyn Chionh Hui Qi, Charles Lim Aeng Cheng, Mrs Wendy Chang Mun Lin, Ms Janna Chua En Ning, Ms Anne Goh Su Yee, Mrs Joyce Chao Suling

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Chong Kah Kheng, Tay Li Hang, Fong Jing Heng, Philip Ng Wuheng, Stanley Kok Pin Chin, Tang Siau Yan, Leonard Goh Choon Hian, Graham Chua Xing Jian, David Lim Jit Hee, Ng Junyi



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.

LSOs posted to Ministries act as the representatives of the Attorney-General. They render legal advice on all manner of legal matters and issues arising from the work of the relevant Ministry to which they are posted. The legal support LSOs provide at Ministries also include the vetting and drafting of contracts and other instruments, work related to legislative reform such as the review or drafting of legislation, and Court prosecution when required.

LSOs seconded to Legal Service departments and statutory boards perform similar services as their LSO colleagues posted to Ministries but their work also includes the implementation of legislation or policies which may require public-facing roles and functions.

LSOs may additionally 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 2022, LSOs were posted or seconded to:

## **Ministries**

Communications and Information; Culture, Community and Youth; Defence; 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; Defence Science and Technology Agency; Economic Development Board; Health Sciences Authority; Home Team Science and Technology Agency; Info-communications 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; Public Service Commission Secretariat; Singapore Land Authority; Singapore Medical Council; Syariah Court; and the Office of the Public Guardian.

## 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. The MLS practises domestic civil law, military law and prosecution, operations law and public international law. The MLS is headed by the Director, Legal Services, who is also the Chief Military Prosecutor.

In 2022, the MLS was involved in the passing of important amendments to the SAF Act 1972 and Constitution of the Republic of Singapore. These amendments established, among other things, the SAF's new Digital and Intelligence Service ("DIS"). The MLS rendered significant advice on the drafting of these amendments, and associated legal issues.

In addition to the establishment of the DIS, the MLS continued to provide legal support in the MINDEF/SAF's enhancement of Singapore's digital defence, including the development of Singapore's national positions on cyberspace. The MLS also supported the MINDEF/SAF in various military exercises, including the 41<sup>st</sup> Exercise Tiger Balm 2022, a bilateral exercise with the United States army held in Singapore.

As the COVID-19 pandemic abated and military exercises resumed, the MLS ensured that SAF units received sufficient legal support in their operations. The MLS collaborated with other MINDEF/SAF departments to expand the Expertise Deployment Scheme, recruiting and

training more operationally ready national servicemen as Legal Specialist Staff Officers. This led to a notable increase in the staffing level of legal advisors across the SAF.

The MLS also continued to leverage on the benefits brought about by remote work arrangements. The MLS worked closely with MINDEF/SAF stakeholders to successfully implement video teleconferencing for General Court Martial ("GCM") hearings. This made it easier for the GCM to hear urgent cases, and reduced the resources needed to conduct physical GCMs. Throughout the year, the MLS also advised on legal issues with such remote hearings, and on the electronic signing of GCM documents.

As at 31 December 2022, there were 14 LSOs in the MLS.

### **Leong Kwang Ian**

Director, Legal Services  
Legal Services Department  
Ministry of Defence



## Ministry of Defence



***(Left to Right) Front row:***

Jared Ravin Dass, Ms Asanthi Mendis, Lee Cheow Han, Leong Kwang Ian (Director, Legal Services Department, MINDEF), Ms Hee Mee Lin, Daniel Foo Ee Yeong, Teo Yu Chou

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Ng Der Lim, Tow Chew Chi, Enoch Wong Lok Hang, Roy Lim Rui Cong, Gerald Tan Jiamin, Paul Lie Yi Fang, Kho Qin Yao



## Defence Science and Technology Agency

The Defence Science and Technology Agency (“DSTA”) is a statutory board under the MINDEF which harnesses and exploits science and technology to support and meet Singapore’s defence and national security needs.

The Legal Department (“LD”) provides legal and policy advice to the DSTA and its subsidiaries on procurement, contract, intellectual property, building infrastructure and estate/facilities management, data protection and employment issues.

In 2022, the LD provided legal advice on various matters arising out of the

COVID-19 pandemic, including project delays and financial difficulties faced by suppliers. Notably, the LD supported the DSTA’s ongoing efforts to better mitigate future supply chain disruptions that would adversely impact Singapore’s national security. As part of its training mandate, the LD also conducted seminars to familiarise DSTA officers with basic contract law and intellectual property law principles.

As at 31 December 2022, there were three LSOs in the DSTA.

### **Douglas Chi**

Director, Legal

Legal Department

Defence Science and Technology Agency

## Defence Science and Technology Agency



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ms Karin Lai Yiling, Douglas Chi Qiyuan (Director, Legal Department, DSTA), Arjuna Segathesan



## 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 maintain Singapore's position as a leading international legal and dispute resolution hub.

The IAG comprises the International Legal Division ("ILD") and the Policy Advisory Division ("PAD").

The ILD develops and implements progressive international legal policies to advance Singapore's interests, and represents Singapore at international fora such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the UNCITRAL. In 2022, the ILD:

- (a) modernised Singapore's extradition regime by amending the Extradition Act 1968;
- (b) participated in the process leading to the signing of the extradition treaty between Singapore and Indonesia;
- (c) modified the Permanent Court of Arbitration ("PCA") Host Country Agreement to strengthen the PCA's presence in Singapore;
- (d) led negotiations in the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Jurisdiction Project;
- (e) participated in the first Constructive Dialogue for the review of Singapore's implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

- (f) participated in investor-state dispute settlement ("ISDS") reform negotiations at the UNCITRAL; and
- (g) organised the UNCITRAL Academy ISDS capacity-building workshop.

The PAD provides policy departments with legal support in areas including legal industry development and regulation, land matters, and intellectual property. The PAD also undertakes independent law reforms relating to litigation funding and restructuring and insolvency ("R&I"). In 2022, the PAD:

- (a) commenced the new Conditional Fee Agreements framework;
- (b) led the introduction of legislative amendments refining the scope of foreign lawyers' rights of representation in international R&I cases in the Singapore International Commercial Court;
- (c) supported the introduction of the State Lands Protection Bill;
- (d) played a key role in insolvency-related negotiations at the UNCITRAL; and
- (e) led in organising the UNCITRAL Academy capacity-building workshops.

The LPG comprises the Civil & Legislative Policy Division and the Criminal Policy Division. LSOs in the LPG – working closely with the Judiciary, the AGC, and other agencies – drive reforms in civil, criminal, family and community justice, and governance matters. This involves identifying emerging issues Singapore faces, and developing and implementing solutions to pressing challenges. The LPG also works closely with the legal profession, key industry groups, and the public on consultations and feedback. In 2022, the LPG:

- (a) worked with agencies to amend or operationalise over 60 pieces of subsidiary legislation, to commence the Courts (Civil and Criminal Justice) Reform Act 2021 and the Rules of Court 2021;
- (b) assisted agencies to make miscellaneous amendments to more than 50 pieces of primary legislation through the introduction of the Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2022;
- (c) worked with the Ministry of Social and Family Development and the Family Justice Courts on family justice improvements, including a new Maintenance Enforcement Process;
- (d) introduced the Post-appeal Applications in Capital Cases Act 2022, which clarifies the process for post-appeal applications in capital cases; and
- (e) established and provided Secretariat support to the inter-agency Sentencing Advisory Panel, that is tasked to formulate guidelines on sentencing matters.
- (i) organising the Singapore Convention Week 2022; and
- (ii) co-organising the 2<sup>nd</sup> Singapore-China International Commercial Dispute Resolution Conference with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade;
- (c) continued to support the growth and development of the dispute resolution ecosystem in Singapore in close partnership with Singapore institutions (e.g. the Singapore International Arbitration Centre);
- (d) continued to strengthen Government-to-Government cooperation, in partnership with various stakeholders;
- (e) represented Singapore in dispute resolution-related negotiations at the UNCITRAL; and
- (f) continued to keep a pulse on the ground by deepening engagements and increasing collaborations with legal industry stakeholders, thereby better informing policy making across the MinLaw.

The LID is responsible for policies and initiatives relating to legal industry development, international partnerships in the legal field, legal sector regulation, and legal sector manpower development. In 2022, the LID:

- (a) led the reform of legal education curriculum, together with the Judiciary, to equip law undergraduates and the legal workforce with the skills and competencies required to address future challenges and seize growth opportunities;
- (b) promoted Singapore as a premier legal and dispute resolution hub by:

As at 31 December 2022, there were 42 LSOs in the MinLaw.

### **Sharon Ong Su Min (Ms)**

Director-General  
International & Advisory  
Ministry of Law

### **Colin Chow Zhiquan**

Director-General  
Legal Policy  
Ministry of Law

### **Jessie Tan (Ms)**

Director  
Legal Industry  
Ministry of Law



## Ministry of Law



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Luke Tang, Ms Delphia Lim Hui Min, Ms Sarah Ong Hui'en, Mrs Jasmine Chin-Sabado, Ms Sharon Ong Su Min (Director-General [International & Advisory], MinLaw), Ms Sarala Kumari d/o Subramaniam (Director-General [International & Advisory], MinLaw [with effect from 1 September 2023]), Colin Chow Zhiquan (Director-General [Legal Policy], MinLaw), Ms Tan Jessie (Director [Legal Industry], MinLaw), Stephen Yeo Zhi Yuan, Eugene Sng Yi Zhi

*(Left to Right) Second row:*

Ms Ng Xinyuan, Harold Foo Xian Yong, Chong Joe En, Ms Ang Siok Chen, Terence Szetoh Khai Hoe, Ms Queenie Angeline Lim Xiaoyan, Ms Han Shurou, Ms Sharmini Sharon Selvaratnam, Timothy Seet Qianren, Joshua Matthew Goh, Ms Li Yihong

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Ms Elsie Lee Yuejia, Lee Zhicong, Jonathan Ee Wenyang, Ng Shu Chin, Neo Eng Hong, David Zhang Shaohua, Lim Chau Jie Clement, Alastair Simon Chetty, Senthilkumaran Sabapathy, Kiron Cheong Rui Jie

## 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 2022, the Bureau handled 6,788 legal aid, assistance and advice cases (1,894 of which were done in-house), supported by 171 Assigned Solicitors from private practice and 13 Volunteer Assistant Directors of Legal Aid.

To enhance service delivery and increase access to justice, the Bureau:

- (a) launched the Divorce Assets Informative Division Estimator (“Divorce AIDE”), the first publicly-available online tool that computes and quantifies an individual’s estimated share of the matrimonial pool upon divorce;
- (b) added a civil cases module to the Intelligent Legal Assistance Bot (“iLAB”) (a chatbot that provides tailored legal information);
- (c) expanded its Applicant Portal online statement taking module to include Letters of Administration and Grant of Probate applications; and
- (d) expanded its videoconferencing legal advice service to four community centres, 28 Family Service Centres and 24 Social Service Offices, to enhance access to legal advice across Singapore.

In 2022, the Bureau successfully represented a centenarian in claiming for monies that her daughter unlawfully withdrew from their joint account. The Bureau also acted in two HC cases with novel legal issues – *CSR v CSS* [2022] 5 SLR 675 (on pre-action discovery) and *Dai Yi Ting v Chuang Fu Yuan* (Grabcycle (SG) Pte Ltd and another, third parties) [2022] SGHC 253 (on bifurcation in personal injury cases).

LSO Ms Istyana Putri Ibrahim co-authored “Muslim Family Law in Singapore”, Singapore’s first textbook on the applicability and practice of Muslim family law. She and the Director of Legal Aid, LSO Ms Lim Hui Min, also co-authored a chapter on legal aid for the local family law textbook “Law and Practice of Family Law in Singapore” (Second Edition).

As at 31 December 2022, there were 20 LSOs in the Bureau.

### **Lim Hui Min (Ms)**

Director  
Legal Aid Bureau



## Legal Aid Bureau



***(Left to Right) Front row:***

Ms Joanne He Xiuwen, Ms Istyana Putri Ibrahim, Ms Yap Cai Ping, Zheng Shaokai, Ms Lim Hui Min (Director, LAB), Louis Agnelo D'Souza, Davyd Chong Wenquan, Victor Lim See Wai

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Cheong Zhi Hao Jonathan, Ms Thiam Jia Min, Sivabalan s/o Thanabal, Ms Lynda Lee, Ms Geraldine Kuah Wen Ling, Ms Goh Yi Ling, Ms S Puspha, Ms Teng Kia Hui Alicia, Darren Chan Eng Jin

## Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office

The Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office ("IPTO"), the largest department under the MinLaw, is headed by the Official Assignee and Public Trustee, who is concurrently the Official Receiver, Licensing Officer, Registrar of Moneylenders, and Registrar of Pawnbrokers.

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, as well as in relation to 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, such as bankruptcy offences.

In 2022, the LSOs' work was integral to supporting various key workstreams.

Under the Insolvency Office, amendments to the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018 were introduced in Parliament to pave the way for a major reform of Singapore's bankruptcy laws by having private trustees-in-bankruptcy administer nearly all bankruptcy cases. The revamped Debt Repayment Scheme portal was also launched to enhance the processing of cases. In relation to insolvency practitioners, licensing requirements were promulgated for foreign insolvency practitioners undertaking work in Singapore.

The Public Trustee's Office implemented the Beneficiary Representative approach to distributing un-nominated Central Provident Fund ("CPF") monies of deceased CPF members to lawful beneficiaries. This approach, following from legislative amendments passed by Parliament in 2021, simplified and significantly expedited the distribution process for the public.

Finally, the Registries of Moneylenders and Pawnbrokers digitalised the administration of the test required for persons to manage a moneylending business and developed a prototype for end-to-end online lending by licensed moneylenders. The Pawnbrokers Rules 2015 were also amended to respond to the changing needs of the pawnbroking industry.

As at 31 December 2022, there were six LSOs in the IPTO.

### Francis Ng

Official Assignee, Official Receiver,  
Licensing Officer, Public Trustee,  
Registrar of Moneylenders and  
Registrar of Pawnbrokers  
Insolvency Office, Public Trustee's Office  
and Registries of Moneylenders &  
Pawnbrokers



## Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office



***(Left to Right) Front row:***

Ms Goh Yin Dee, Francis Ng (Official Assignee, Official Receiver, Licensing Officer, Public Trustee, Registrar of Moneylenders and Registrar of Pawnbrokers, IPTO [with effect from 1 April 2022]), Ms Beverly Wee Ying Ling

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Lim Jian Yi, Lim Yew Jin, Sean Lee Weiheng, Benjamin Yim Geok Choo

***Not in picture:***

Tan Boon Heng (Official Assignee, Official Receiver, Licensing Officer, Public Trustee, Registrar of Moneylenders and Registrar of Pawnbrokers, IPTO [until 31 March 2022])



## 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, maintaining accurate and reliable land ownership and land boundary data, and driving the use and development of geospatial information science and technology.

The SLA started the development of the Digital Conveyancing Portal to digitalise the conveyancing practice. Stakeholders consulted included lawyers, property agents, banks and public agencies like the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the CPF Board, and the Housing and Development Board.

A new State Lands Protection Act 2022 was enacted to enhance the SLA’s effective management and protection of State land. It repeals the State Lands Encroachment Act 1883.

The work of the SLA’s Legal Advisory Division and Legislation & Projects Division includes:

- (a) drafting and advising on State leases, tenancy agreements and temporary occupation licences;
- (b) reviewing legislation, including the State Lands Act 1920, Boundaries and Survey Maps Act 1998 and Residential Property Act 1976; and
- (c) drafting memoranda of understanding (“MOU”) to facilitate collaboration and research projects with research institutions, foreign governments and private entities.

As at 31 December 2022, there was one LSO in the SLA.

### **Bryan Chew Chee Wan**

Registrar of Titles & Deeds  
Assistant Chief Executive  
Singapore Land Authority

## Singapore Land Authority



### ***(Left to Right):***

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



## Intellectual Property Office of Singapore

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

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

In 2022, the IPOS introduced multiple initiatives to promote innovation in areas including IP protection, strategy and dispute resolution.

Domestically, the Intellectual Property (Amendment) Act 2022, which introduced enhancements to different IP-related statutes, entered into force. The IPOS also launched the IPOS Digital Hub to improve user experience in the IP registration process.

Internationally, the IPOS continued to grow its presence and partnerships at various fora.

At IP Week @ SG 2022, the role of IP amid global challenges and game-changing technologies was discussed.

The IPOS also contributed to the substantive conclusion of negotiations on the MERCOSUR-Singapore FTA.

As testament to its achievements, Singapore was ranked the 7<sup>th</sup> most innovative nation in the Global Innovation Index 2022, up one spot from 2021.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the IPOS.

### **Rena Lee (Mrs)**

Chief Executive

Intellectual Property Office of Singapore



**(Left to Right):**

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

## Ministry of Home Affairs Legal Division and Policy Development Division

The Legal Division (“LD”) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (“MHA”) is the first port of call for divisions within the MHA and the Home Team agencies seeking legal advice. The LD undertakes a broad range of legal work, from advising on policy, operational and legislative matters, to providing support in transactional work and disputes. The LD also oversees the administration of the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act 1955, and staffs a full-time secretariat to the Criminal Law Advisory Committees which provides legal and administrative support at hearings and review meetings.

In 2022, the LD advised on the operationalisation of the Foreign Interference (Countermeasures) Act 2021 and supported the introduction of the Post-Appeal Applications in Capital Cases Act 2022. We also provided extensive support in the review of existing legislation, and in legislative amendments to the Registration of Criminals Act 1949, Misuse of Drugs Act 1973 and the Immigration Act 1959. Our officers were also involved in the establishment of the Sentencing Advisory Panel. In addition, the LD conducted training sessions for officers within the MHA and the Home Team on matters such as the conduct and management of statutory appeals.

Apart from the LD, an LSO was also seconded from the AGC to the MHA’s Policy Development Division (“PDD”), where he was involved in the formulation and review of policies on criminal justice, including amendments to the Penal Code 1871 under the Penal Code (Amendment) Act 2022.

As at 31 December 2022, there were six LSOs in the LD and one LSO in the PDD.

### **Tan Wen Hsien (Ms)**

Senior Director  
Legal Division  
Ministry of Home Affairs



## Ministry of Home Affairs Legal Division and Policy Development Division



*(Left to Right):*

Ms Ruth Wong Shuyi, Quek Jing Feng, Ms Tan Wen Hsien (Senior Director, Legal Division, MHA), Jason Nim Kia Meng, Vincent Lim Jun'an

## Commercial Affairs Department, Singapore Police Force

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

In 2022, Director, CAD was made the Head of the Singapore Delegation to the Financial Action Task Force, an inter-governmental body that sets global standards on anti-money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation financing.

In December 2022, after a four-year trial in *Public Prosecutor v Soh Chee Wen and Quah Su-Ling* (Criminal Case No 9 of 2019), John Soh and Quah Su-Ling, the masterminds behind Singapore’s largest market manipulation case, were respectively sentenced to 36 years’ and 20 years’ imprisonment.

2022 saw the successful conviction of Lulu Lim in *Public Prosecutor v Lim Beng Kim, Lulu* [2023] SGDC 9. The former Chief Financial Officer of Agritrade was sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment for deceiving financial institutions of over US\$467 million. The case arose from a Public-Private Partnership, the Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism Industry Partnership (“ACIP”). The ACIP’s sharing of case-specific information resulted in the commencement of a successful investigation.

In 2022, the Anti-Scam Command was operationalised. It investigated over 8,000 scammers and money mules, crippled 13 transnational scam syndicates and recovered S\$146.6 million in scam proceeds.

As at 31 December 2022, 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 (Director, CAD, Singapore Police Force)



## Home Team Science and Technology Agency

The Home Team Science and Technology Agency (“HTX”) is a statutory board under the MHA that develops science and technology capabilities to support the Home Team operations and enhance homeland security.

In 2022, the Legal Division of the HTX rendered legal advice to the HTX on wide-ranging issues, including general contract (arising from HTX agreements, MHA contracts, and scientific or technological cooperations managed by the HTX under the Home Team Science

and Technology Agency Act 2019), procurement, intellectual property, building infrastructure and estate/facilities management, and human resource issues. The Legal Division also conducted several educational talks and clinics on contract law issues for the HTX officers.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the HTX.

### Daphne Chang

Director  
Legal Division  
Home Team Science and Technology Agency



*(Left to Right):*

Ms Daphne Chang Wei Hsian (Director, Legal Division, HTX),  
Ms Amanda Tan Chek Yin

## Ministry of Manpower

2022 was an eventful year for the Ministry of Manpower's ("MOM") Legal Services Division ("LSD").

Noteworthy cases that the Prosecution and Regulatory Enforcement Department ("PRD") prosecuted in 2022 were:

- (a) *Public Prosecutor v Chiang Zhi Wei* (SC-905846-2021, unreported), the first case under s 22(1)(d) of the Employment of Foreign Manpower Act 1990 which fell under Band 2 of the framework in *Chiew Kok Chai v Public Prosecutor* [2019] 5 SLR 713;
- (b) *Public Prosecutor v Kyowa Security Guard & General Services Pte Ltd* (SC-900462-2022, unreported), where the highest fine was imposed to date involving overworking of security officers; and
- (c) *Public Prosecutor v Manta Equipment (S) Pte Ltd* [2022] SGHC 157 and *Public Prosecutor v Yeduvaka Mali Naidu* [2022] SGHC 191, where the HC enhanced the sentence upon the prosecution's appeal.

In 2022, the Civil Branch collaborated with the AGC in successfully defending two judicial review challenges against the MOM's response to the COVID-19 pandemic — *Han Hui Hui and others v Attorney-General* [2022] 5 SLR 1023, and *Loy Hwa Wei v Attorney-General* (HC/OS 156/2022, unreported). The Civil Branch also worked with the AGC to craft numerous legislative amendments, including (a) the Workplace Safety and Health (COVID-19 Safe Workplace) Regulations 2021; and (b) the Employment

of Foreign Manpower (Work Passes) Regulations 2021.

On the international front, the Civil Branch partnered with policy divisions in providing legal and logistical support to the UN's International Labour Organisation in organising the 17<sup>th</sup> Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting ("APRM") held in Singapore. The Civil Branch also helped draft The Singapore Statement that was adopted at the 17<sup>th</sup> APRM.

In the area of legal policy, the Civil Branch supported policy divisions on the design of new legislative frameworks in relation to landmark legislation on workplace fairness and platform workers. Given its novelty, there was a need to conduct comparative research and advise on creative solutions beyond the legal ambit to value-add.

As at 31 December 2022, there were seven LSOs in the LSD.

### Alvin Koh Meng Sing

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



## Ministry of Manpower



*(Left to Right):*

Samuel Chua Hwa Kuan, Ms Valathammai d/o Muthupalaniappan, Alvin Koh Meng Sing (Chief Legal Officer and Divisional Director, Legal Services Division, MOM), Ang Boon Kwan, Gregory Gan Wee Kiat, Houston Tian Jin Johannus

## Ministry of Education

The Legal Services Branch (“LSB”) of the Ministry of Education (“MOE”) provides legal services to MOE Headquarters and Government schools. The LSB advises on a wide spectrum of matters including the MOE’s regulatory powers under the Education Act 1957 and the Compulsory Education Act 2000, implementation of education policies, contract, family law, disciplinary matters, negligence and intellectual property.

In 2022, the LSB was significantly involved in setting up Singapore’s first and only arts university, the University of the Arts. The LSB also reviewed the MOE’s school deferment policies which aim to place children with special educational needs in the most appropriate educational setting. We continued to support the MOE’s funding and oversight of special education schools by working on funding agreements. To support the MOE’s digitalisation efforts, the LSB worked closely with policy officers to address data protection issues underpinning the shifting of systems to digital platforms and the implementation of facial recognition in MOE systems.

The LSB continued with our client engagement efforts by conducting in-person trainings for our policy colleagues on basic legal principles involving intellectual property and contract law. Throughout 2022, the LSB also participated in the MOE’s Corporate Social Responsibility programme and guided vulnerable students at risk of absenteeism.

As of 31 December 2022, there were six LSOs in the LSB.

### Cheryl Siew (Ms)

Director

Legal Services Branch  
Ministry of Education



## Ministry of Education



*(Left to Right):*

Ms Joyce Lee Ling Wei, Ms Chloe Mercy Lee Weiming, Ms Cheryl Siew May Yee (Director, Legal Services Branch, MOE), Ms Hui Jia Lun, Ms Elizabeth Lee Liang Mae, Ms Rachel Ng Bao Ling



## Ministry of Health

The Legal Office (“LO”) of the Ministry of Health (“MOH”) provides comprehensive legal support to MOH divisions, including advising on healthcare policy and operations, vetting and drafting transactional documentation, conducting prosecutions of offences under the MOH’s purview, managing litigation matters and the MOH’s exposure to potential disputes, and assisting with the promulgation of and amendments to health legislation.

In 2022, the LO continued to be heavily involved in the Government’s COVID-19 related work. Working closely with MOH policy divisions and the AGC, the LO assisted in the Government’s successful resisting of three judicial reviews relating to the MOH’s vaccine-related policies, as well as one claim against the Minister for Health under the Protection from Harassment Act 2014. The LO also advised on and vetted numerous contracts and documentation in connection with the procurement and donation of COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics. In addition, the LO was instrumental in the review and promulgation of various legislative amendments, including to the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 and subsidiary legislation thereunder, as Singapore continued to transition towards COVID-19 endemicity.

Apart from COVID-19 related work, 2022 also marked the MOH’s return to business-as-usual. The LO continued to provide support for the MOH’s key healthcare initiatives and reform, including advising on legal frameworks for data-sharing and other matters in connection with Healthier SG, a national policy encouraging upstream interventions for population health. On the legislative front, the LO advised the MOH extensively on the forthcoming Health Information Bill (which will facilitate the collection, use and sharing of patient information across

healthcare providers and care settings), as well as planned amendments to the Infectious Diseases Act 1976 (to incorporate lessons learnt from the Government’s COVID-19 after-action-review, including the introduction of a tiered response to the management of future epidemics). In tandem with the implementation of further amendments to the Healthcare Services Act 2020 to account for new modes of healthcare service delivery, the LO was also tasked to review more than 100 regulatory documents such as licensing terms and conditions. In addition, the LO continued to support the MOH in the implementation of the Trusted Research and Real World-Data platform, a health-related data exchange platform that will facilitate the sharing of health data across academia, public and private sectors.

Separately, the LO has commenced work on a new legal portal on the MOH intranet for policy and operational divisions to easily access and use legal resources drafted or collated by the LO. These include various contract templates, frequently asked legal questions and guides and primers on common topics raised in queries to the LO such as data sharing and the legislative process. The LO has also been working closely with the MOH enforcement divisions to digitalise the MOH’s processes for the review and assessment of investigation papers.

In 2022, the LO rendered 330 pieces of legal advice, processed 531 prosecution files, drafted and/or vetted 191 contractual agreements, and was involved in promulgating 53 pieces of primary and subsidiary legislation.

As at 31 December 2022, there were 11 LSOs in the LO.

### Tan Sze Yao

Director  
Legal Office  
Ministry of Health



## Ministry of Health



***(Left to Right) Front row:***

Ms Michelle Lu Wei Yi, Ms Lye Hui Xian, Ms Zhou Yihong

***(Left to Right) Second row:***

Ms Kerry Chan Soh Lei, Ms Tan Luoyi, Ms Tan Jun Ya, Ms Joan Sim Su Mei

***(Left to Right) Back row:***

Jason Lee Hong Jet, Tan Sze Yao (Director, Legal Office, MOH), Andre Moses Tan Chang Ann, Ethan Liu Junhao

## Singapore Medical Council

The Legal Division (“LD”) supports the Secretariat of healthcare Professional Boards (“SPB”), which is an amalgamation of all healthcare professional councils and boards in Singapore. They are the Singapore Medical Council (“SMC”), the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioner’s Board, the Singapore Dental Council, the Singapore Nursing Board, the Allied Health Practitioners Council and the Singapore Pharmacy Council.

The LD advises the various boards and councils on matters pertaining to professional conduct, registration, accreditation, surveillance, investigation, procurement, legislation and policies. The LD also oversees prosecution of respondents in the disciplinary proceedings of each board or council.

As at 31 December 2022, there were three LSOs in the SMC.

### **Andrew Tan**

Director, Legal  
Legal Division  
Singapore Medical Council

## Singapore Medical Council



Andrew Tan  
(Director, Legal Division, SMC)



## Health Sciences Authority

The Legal Department (“LD”) of the Health Sciences Authority (“HSA”) renders advice on regulatory and policy issues, reviews transactional documentation with healthcare institutions, and prosecutes offences involving health and tobacco products.

The LD provided crucial support during the World Health Organization audit that led to the HSA achieving the highest recognition worldwide for its medicines regulatory system. The LD also assisted in judicial review proceedings concerning vaccination-differentiated measures during COVID-19.

With significant amendments to the Healthcare Services Act 2020, the LD collaborated with in-house clients to ensure all affected departments achieved full compliance. The LD also worked with the MinLaw to operationalise the Coroners Act 2010 and Criminal Procedure Rules 2018 involving expert witnesses.

As at 31 December 2022, there was one LSO in the HSA.

### **Eunice Lau (Ms)**

Director  
Legal Department  
Health Sciences Authority

## Health Sciences Authority



Ms Eunice Lau  
(Director, Legal Department, HSA)

## Ministry of National Development

The Legal Services Unit (“LSU”) of the Ministry of National Development (“MND”) provides legal services to the MND in support of the MND’s vision of making Singapore an endearing home and a distinctive global city. The LSU renders legal advice on a broad range of issues, including public housing, town councils and municipal affairs, planning and infrastructure development, building and construction as well as greenery and wildlife matters. The LSU also drafts and advises on a variety of transactional documents, including contracts, MOU, tenancy agreements and issuance of licences for State land.

In 2022, the LSU advised on several notable matters, including the successful implementation and proposed expansion of a new integrated model of municipal service delivery in specific towns, building-related issues arising from the Formula One race events held in Singapore, the removal of an unauthorised building on State land, as well as amendments to legislation pertaining to public housing and wildlife.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the LSU.

### Crystal Ong Wai Mun (Ms)

Senior Director, Legal  
Legal Services Unit  
Ministry of National Development





## Ministry of Social and Family Development

The Legal Services Unit (“LSU”) of the Ministry of Social and Family Development (“MSF”) advises the MSF Divisions and the Early Childhood Development Agency (“ECDA”) on various issues involving children, vulnerable and needy persons, and families.

In 2022, the LSU advised the MSF on several policy and legislative matters, including issues related to enacting Article 156 of the Constitution to protect the definition of marriage, amending the Women’s Charter 1961 and the Maintenance of Parents Act 1995, and operationalising the new Adoption of Children Act 2022.

The LSU reviewed two notable MOU, namely an MOU with Families for Life and Gardens by the Bay to set up

a Family Zone, a centrepiece of the MSF’s “Year of Celebrating SG Families”, and an MOU with Indonesia’s Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection on women empowerment, child protection and family development.

The LSU continued closely supporting the ECDA, including by vetting several funding and research agreements on early intervention and inclusive support for preschool children. The LSU also undertook an additional litigation support role, assisting the Child Protective Service in contested court proceedings by drafting affidavits and legal submissions.

As at 31 December 2022, 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 Elena Yip Luyang, Zhong Zewei (Director, Legal Services Unit, MSF), Ms Chew Xin Ying, Ms Eunice Chong Miao En



## Office of the Public Guardian, Ministry of Social and Family Development

The Office of the Public Guardian (“OPG”) launched the OPG online system (“OPGO”) in November 2022. The use of secure electronic signatures, digitally-encrypted documents, system validation checks and cross-agency data-sharing transformed the Lasting Powers of Attorney (“LPA”) registration process into a faster and more operationally efficient one. Online LPAs were auto-accepted upon submission, and auto-registered after the three-week mandatory waiting period, instead of six weeks previously. Manpower required to process LPAs was halved, and will reduce further by end-2023. The OPG supported those less comfortable with technology to navigate and transact on OPGO. Based on ratings received from December 2022 to February 2023, the customer satisfaction for OPGO was 85%, higher than the whole-of-government average and benchmark.

In 2022, the OPG received 37,278 LPAs (6% decrease from 2021), supervised 5,239 deputies (19.6% increase from 2021), and furnished 69 Court reports (62 in 2021). Fifty-nine Professional Deputies are registered with the OPG.

As at 31 December 2022, 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)



## 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, including the autonomous National Youth Council, in support of the MCCY’s vision to inspire Singaporeans through the arts and sports, engage the youth, strengthen community bonds and promote charitable giving.

In 2022, the LU supported many prominent Government initiatives. These included Forward SG (under the “Unite” pillar, which concerns strengthening the Singapore identity), the SG Mental Well-Being Network, and the taking over of the Sports Hub to enhance its vibrancy and our community’s affinity to it, and to further raise our level of sports participation. The LU rendered significant advice on different facets of charities and co-operatives regulation in response to the growing complexities in these sectors.

The LU also worked closely with LEGIS on the National Symbols Act 2022, which provides statutory recognition to national symbols introduced after 1959 and presidential symbols, and allows for the calibrated regulation of their use.

Apart from its core work, the LU worked on educational initiatives on various topics, including copyright law in Singapore, and the legal implications of non-fungible tokens in relevant sectors.

As at 31 December 2022, there were three LSOs in the LU.

### Joel Chen

Director, Legal

Legal Unit

Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth  
(with effect from 1 May 2023)

## Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth



### *(Left to Right):*

Joel Chen Zhi'en (Director, Legal Unit, MCCY [with effect from 1 May 2023]),  
Ms Loh Jia Wei, Ms Hannah Cheng Xin Ying

### *Not in picture:*

Ms Ang Ching Pin (Senior Director, Legal Unit, MCCY [until 30 April 2023])

## Syariah Court

The Syariah Court (“SYC”) constituted under the Administration of Muslim Law Act 1966 (“AMLA”) determines disputes on marriage and divorce, and issues Inheritance Certificates in respect of Muslim estates.

2022 was a productive year for the SYC’s LSOs, who helmed the following:

- (a) the amendment of AMLA to enable the SYC to use digital processes for court administration, update and streamline the SYC’s processes, extend support programmes to ensure parity of services within the family justice system, and enhance the *hakam* process;
- (b) the amendment of the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Rules to, *inter alia*, facilitate the AMLA amendments;
- (c) the development and launch of the SYC’s divorce e-services portal;
- (d) the establishment of the SYC’s court counselling framework. The first phase introduced joint child interviews in the SYC’s process;
- (e) the publication of Volume 8 of the Singapore Syariah Appeal Reports, containing the SYC’s landmark judgments on jurisdiction and powers, and legal principle and methodologies applicable to SYC cases; and
- (f) participation at conferences and seminars as part of legal education efforts on Muslim family law,

and contribution to a chapter in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Law and Practice of Family Law in Singapore.

As at 31 December 2022, there were three LSOs in the SYC.

### Masayu Norashikin Mohd Amin

Registrar

Syariah Court of Singapore

### Syariah Court



#### (Left to Right):

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



## Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura

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

In 2022, the Legal Unit (“LU”) of the MUIS rendered 440 pieces of legal advice on wide-ranging issues, including MOU, contracts, affidavits, and notices.

The LU chairs a workgroup to review amendments to the AMLA. The Administration of Muslim Law (Amendment) Bill 2022 was passed in Parliament on 15 February 2022. The Administration of Muslim Law (Halal Certificates) Rules were also amended.

The LU also conducted several lectures and tutorials on legal compliance and legal awareness for MUIS officers.

As at 31 December 2022, there was one LSO in the MUIS.

### Shahla Taufiq (Ms)

Director, Legal  
Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura



Ms Shahla Taufiq (Director, Legal, MUIS)

## Ministry of Communications and Information

The Legal Services Department (“LSD”) of the Ministry of Communications and Information (“MCI”) provides legal assistance on various matters, including drafting transactional agreements and advising on, *inter alia*, content and digital regulation, parliamentary procedures and corporate governance. These span a wide range of laws, including telecommunications, media and technology, data protection, intellectual property and cybersecurity laws. Notably, the LSD advised on:

- (a) legislative changes to the online content regulatory regime, including amendments to the Broadcasting Act 1994 (“BA”), and updating of online election advertising laws;
- (b) initiatives to combat scams and other malicious cyber activities, including blocking of scam-related websites and anti-scam filtering of short message service messages;
- (c) revamping the Cybersecurity Code of Practice for Critical Information Infrastructure, and the ongoing review of cybersecurity laws and policies, including regulatory measures covering systems and infrastructure beyond critical information infrastructure, such as cloud services and data centres;
- (d) implementing the new moral rights regime in the Copyright Act 2021; and

- (e) complex whole-of-government tenders, including reviewing tender processes and crafting new critical evaluation criteria.

The LSD also conducted legal education talks, including on Parliamentary procedures, and Law and Technology from an MCI-Family perspective.

Since 2019, an LSO was seconded as 2<sup>nd</sup> Director of MCI’s Information Policy Division (“IPD”), which formulates and reviews Singapore’s media regulation policies. Among other content regulation matters, the IPD led the MCI workstream culminating in the Online Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2022, which amended the BA (as mentioned in (a) above) to enable the regulation of new forms of online communications services for online safety, starting with social media services.

As at 31 December 2022, there were five LSOs in the LSD and one LSO in the IPD.

### Vanessa Yeo Xue Ying (Ms)

Director  
Legal Services Department  
Ministry of Communications and Information



## Ministry of Communications and Information



*Left to Right:*

Kow Weijie Kelvin, Ramasamy Nachiappan (Director, Legal Services Department, MCI [with effect from 1 April 2023]), Ms Vanessa Yeo Xue Ying (Director, Legal Services Department, MCI [until 31 March 2023]), Ms Ang Ching Hwei, Ng Song Yeong, Ms Lee Shi Wee Cassandra

## Info-communications Media Development Authority

LSOs are seconded to the Data Innovation and Protection Group (“DIPG”) and the Connectivity Development & Regulation Wing (“CDR”) of the Info-communications 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 innovation. In 2022, the enforcement regime of the PDPA was enhanced with an increased limit on financial penalties that may be imposed on organisations. Policies were developed to address issues arising from digital trends and emerging technologies, such as the protection of children’s personal data and the use of personal data in AI systems. The DIPG also launched Singapore’s inaugural Privacy Enhancing Technologies sandbox to catalyse industry adoption of privacy enhancing technologies and A.I. Verify, the world’s first AI governance testing framework and toolkit. Finally, the DIPG worked with the European Commission to develop a joint guide on the European Union Standard Contractual Clauses and the ASEAN Model Contractual Clauses to facilitate cross-border data flows.

The CDR oversees a broad portfolio which includes media and info-communications policy. In 2022, the CDR was involved in the following:

- (a) the Online Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2022 (“OSMAA”). The OSMAA was passed to enhance online safety for Singapore users. CDR officers were involved in developing policies to tackle online harms, including the introduction of additional safeguards to protect young users in Singapore; and
- (b) the Singapore Sender ID Registry (SSIR). The SSIR enables organisations to protect their customers from receiving fraudulent SMS messages that spoof the organisations’ SMS Sender IDs. CDR officers were involved in developing policies to ensure safer telecommunications channels.

CDR officers were also involved in developing policies in emerging issues such as cybersecurity and resilience of digital infrastructure.

As at 31 December 2022, there were seven LSOs in the IMDA.

### Denise Wong (Ms)

Assistant Chief Executive  
Data Innovation and Protection Group/  
Deputy Commissioner  
Personal Data Protection Commission  
Info-communications Media Development  
Authority  
(with effect from 1 July 2023)



## Info-communications Media Development Authority



***Left to Right:***

Ms Haniza Bte Mohammad Reeza Abnass, Ms Lee Ti-Ting, Ms Larissa Lim Fen Ping, Ms Denise Wong Huiwen (Assistant Chief Executive, DIPG, IMDA and Deputy Commissioner, PDPC [with effect from 1 July 2023]), Ms Vanessa Yeo Xue Ying, Makoto Hong Cheng, Vikneswaran s/o Kumaran, Francis Zhang Zeyi

***Not in picture:***

Yeong Zee Kin (Assistant Chief Executive, DIPG, IMDA/Deputy Commissioner, PDPC [until 31 March 2023])



## 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, particularly in the areas of 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 and legislative reform.

In 2022, the LD supported the MOF’s introduction of the Accountancy Functions (Consolidation) Act 2022 to merge the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority, the Accounting Standards Council and the Singapore Accountancy Commission under one entity. The LD also supported the MOF’s legislative amendments relating to the Contingencies Fund and its ongoing work relating to the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting initiative.

Further, the LD oversees the administration of the Boards of Review (“BOR”) constituted under the Income Tax Act 1947, Goods and Services Tax Act 1993 and Property Tax Act 1960. In 2022, the LD updated the legislation to streamline the BOR’s procedural rules, so as to ensure that cases before the BOR can be resolved in a timely and efficient manner.

As at 31 December 2022, there were six LSOs in the LD.

### **Ng Shi Zheng Louis**

Chief Legal Officer

Legal Directorate

Ministry of Finance



## Ministry of Finance



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Wong Tsui Hern Daryl, Ms Lim Shi Ying Laura, Ms Ng May

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Joshua Lai Zhiyang, Ms Germaine Boey Yi Ling, Ng Shi Zheng Louis (Chief Legal Officer, Legal Directorate, MOF)



## 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. The Chief Legal Officer supervises the LSOs seconded to the Legal Services Department and the Prosecution Department in the ACRA.

2022 was a busy year for LSOs in the ACRA. On the law reform front, our LSOs worked closely with our colleagues in the ACRA, LEGIS and the MOF, on the passage of:

- (a) the Corporate Registers (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2022, which gives effect to certain recommendations made by the Financial Action Task Force relating to money laundering and terrorism financing;
- (b) the Accountants (Amendment) Act 2022, which enhances the audit regulatory regime by, *inter alia*, providing for firm level quality control inspections; and
- (c) the Accountancy Functions (Consolidation) Act 2022, which merges the ACRA, the Accounting Standards Council and the Singapore Accountancy Commission under one entity.

We also provided legal advice and support on various matters including contractual issues (including a contract which exceeded \$100 million in value), statutory appeals, interpretation of ACRA-administered legislation, and disciplinary matters against public accountants.

On the prosecution and enforcement side, we worked with the Crime Division and other agencies on a breach of Accounting Standards case concerning Noble Resources International Pte Ltd (“NRI”), a subsidiary of listed Noble Group Ltd (“NGL”), which incorrectly recognised future fees from marketing agreements inflating both companies’ reported profits and net assets. The MAS imposed a civil penalty of \$12.6 million on NGL and the ACRA issued stern warnings to two former directors of NRI.

The LSOs also worked on tightening the regulatory approach in dealing with errant corporate service providers (“CSPs”). 2022 saw the cancellation of registrations of two individual CSPs and two CSP firms for various breaches.

As at 31 December 2022, there were nine LSOs in the ACRA.

### Leong Weng Tat

Chief Legal Officer

Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority



## Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Cheok Yu-Liang, Leong Weng Tat (Chief Legal Officer, ACRA), Tay Wei Xiong Elgin, Ms Nor'ashikin Binte Samdin

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Ramesh Ethan s/o Ananda Suppiah, Zhuo Wenzhao, Gilbert Low Teik Seang, Kenny Kung Yong Jin

## Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore

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

The Law Division advises the IRAS on a broad range of legal and tax issues. This includes rendering advice across the various tax types, including individual and corporate income tax, goods and services tax, stamp duty and property tax, and providing corporate legal support. The Law Division represents the IRAS in contentious tax disputes at the tax tribunals as well as the General and Appellate Divisions of the HC. The IRAS tax prosecutors prosecute

various tax-related offences such as complex tax evasion. The Law Division is also involved in the drafting of tax legislation, arising from the Annual Budget announcements or as part of tax reform.

As at 31 December 2022, there were four LSOs in the IRAS.

### **Quek Hui Ling**

Chief Legal Officer

Law Division

Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore



## Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ms Quek Hui Ling (Chief Legal Officer, Law Division, IRAS), Ms Chee Ee Ling

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Pang Jaime, Ong Yao-Min Andre, Goh Yong Ngee



## Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore

In 2022, the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (“CCCS”) continued with its mission of making markets work well to create opportunities and choices for businesses and consumers in Singapore.

On the competition front, the CCCS issued an infringement decision and imposed penalties of \$2.79 million against four warehouse operators for price fixing conduct in Keppel Distripark. In the airline sector, the CCCS granted conditional approval of the proposed commercial cooperation between Singapore Airlines Limited and Malaysia Airlines Berhad after accepting the parties’ commitments. Competition concerns were raised regarding the acquisition by Talace Private Limited of Air India Limited. Separately, the CCCS cleared seven mergers, spanning industries from printing blankets to shipbuilding.

The CCCS rendered 32 competition advisories to 16 Government agencies regarding initiatives such as industry collaboration or consolidation. The CCCS also worked closely with Government agencies to address overlapping issues involving data privacy and intellectual property rights. In this regard, the CCCS’s joint submission with the PDPC titled “Collaborations between Competition and Personal Data Protection Agencies” was selected as a winner in the International Competition Network-World Bank Group 2022 Competition Advocacy Contest.

On the consumer protection front, the CCCS obtained injunctions before the State Courts requiring suppliers to cease engaging in unfair trade practices involving nail fungal treatment packages. Undertakings were also obtained from Lenovo Singapore Pte. Ltd. and Want Join Information Technology Pte. Ltd. to cease making misleading claims about the screen refresh rate of certain laptops, and to implement compliance policies to avoid unfair trade practices. The CCCS also published its Guide on Fair Trading Practices for the Renovation Industry.

At the international level, the CCCS led the development of the ASEAN Investigation Manual on Competition Policy and Law for the Digital Economy and participated in negotiations for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Competition.

As at 31 December 2022, there were seven LSOs in the CCCS.

### **Sia Aik Kor (Ms)**

Chief Executive  
Competition and Consumer Commission  
of Singapore



## Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore



*(Left to Right) Front row:*

Ms Serene Seet Lay Cheng, Ms Sia Aik Kor (Chief Executive, CCCS), Loke Shiu Meng

*(Left to Right) Back row:*

Ms Foong Leong Parn, Quilindo Michael Zhi Cheng, Caleb Tan Tian-Le, Ms Ng Yee Ting, Ms Melina Chew Ying Fei

## Economic Development Board

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

The Legal Division (“Division”) advises on financial and tax incentives for the promotion of investments in Singapore, loans granted by the EDB, the EDB’s regulatory functions under the Control of Manufacture Act 1959, as well as human resource and procurement matters.

The Division is also the legal advisor to DesignSingapore Council Pte Ltd, a subsidiary of the EDB.

In 2022, the Division advised the EDB on projects to support corporate venture building in Singapore as the EDB evolved beyond its traditional modes of investment promotion. It also advised on the EDB’s Corporate Venture Launchpad 2.0 programme, a programme designed to enable companies to launch a new venture from Singapore.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the EDB.

### **Edrick Guo Zhixian**

General Counsel

Legal Division

Economic Development Board

## Economic Development Board



*(Left to Right):*

Edrick Guo Zhixian (General Counsel,  
Legal Division, EDB), Ms Then Ling



## Monetary Authority of Singapore

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

In 2022, the MAS’ investigations led to criminal proceedings against 23 individuals and prohibition orders against nine individuals. The MAS imposed composition amounting to S\$1.5 million on financial institutions for breaches of the MAS’ Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism requirements. The MAS’ Enforcement Department, the ACRA and the CAD also concluded joint investigations into Noble Group Limited (“NGL”), resulting in a civil penalty settlement of S\$12.6 million for publishing misleading information in NGL’s financial statements, in breach of the Securities and Futures Act (Cap. 289, 2006 Rev. Ed.).

The MAS’ Prudential Policy Department (“PPD”) continued developing regulatory frameworks for decentralised finance, conducted a comprehensive review of e-wallet limits and oversaw the operationalisation of the digital banks. To safeguard against consumer over-indebtedness, the PPD also worked with the Singapore Fintech Association’s Buy-Now-Pay-Later Working Group on the development of its Code of Conduct.

The MAS’ Markets Policy and Infrastructure Department (“MPID”) published consultation papers, including proposed regulatory measures to reduce risks on consumer harm from cryptocurrency trading. The MPID also established liquidity and solvency requirements for recognised market operators formed or incorporated in

Singapore. As part of the MPID’s supervision of exchanges and financial market infrastructures, the MPID worked to ensure their continued resilience amid heightened market volatility in 2022.

As at 31 December 2022, there were four LSOs in the MAS.

### **Peggy Pao-Keerthi Pei Yu (Ms)**

Executive Director and Department Head  
Enforcement Department  
Monetary Authority of Singapore

## Monetary Authority of Singapore



### **(Left to Right):**

Nicholas Lim, Ms Peggy Pao-Keerthi Pei Yu (Executive Director and Department Head, Enforcement Department, MAS), Ms Uni Khng



## National Environment Agency

The National Environment Agency (“NEA”) is responsible for environmental protection, public health, resource sustainability, radiation protection and meteorological services.

The Legal Division (“LD”), helmed by LSO Mr Andy Sim, comprises the Civil Department (“CD”) and the Prosecution Department (“PD”). Mr Sim doubles as Head of the CD whilst LSO Mr Imran Hamid heads the PD. The LD advises on contracts, statutory interpretation, law reform, international law, regulatory matters, and prosecutes more than 400 offences. Notable CD work in 2022 included legal support on large-scale projects like the Integrated Waste Management, TuasOne, the construction of Mandai North Crematorium, and the Wolbachia-Aedes mosquito initiative. For the PD, apart from handling more than 750 cases weekly in the night court, notable work included giving regulatory advice leading to the enactment of a presumption clause to combat high-rise littering, and extending liability of certain offences to supervisors of offenders and corporate entities.

As at 31 December 2022, there were two LSOs in the NEA.

### Andy Sim Yock Ann

Director

Legal Division

National Environment Agency

## National Environment Agency



*(Left to Right):*

Imran Abdul Hamid, Ms Lee Yinghui Yolanda, Andy Sim Yock Ann (Director, Legal Division, NEA)



## National Parks Board

The National Parks Board (“NParks”) is a statutory board under the MND and is the lead agency for greenery, biodiversity conservation, and wildlife and animal health, welfare and management.

On 1 April 2022, the Prosecution Branch (“PB”) was established. The PB works closely with the AGC and other law enforcement agencies to combat offences relating to animal welfare and cruelty, including the illicit import, export and transshipment of endangered species listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

In October 2022, in close collaboration with the CAD, INTERPOL and the South African Police, the NParks seized 20 rhinoceros horns (valued at approximately SGD 1.2 million) transiting Singapore at Changi Airport. This seizure of rhinoceros horns is the largest in Singapore to date.

As at 31 December 2022, there was one LSO in the NParks.

### Paul Chia

Director  
Prosecution Branch  
National Parks Board

## National Parks Board



Paul Chia  
(Director, Prosecution Branch, NParks)

## Public Service Commission Secretariat

The Public Service Commission (“PSC”) Secretariat supports the PSC’s role in selecting and developing PSC scholars, appointing officers to senior management roles in the public service, and exercising disciplinary authority.

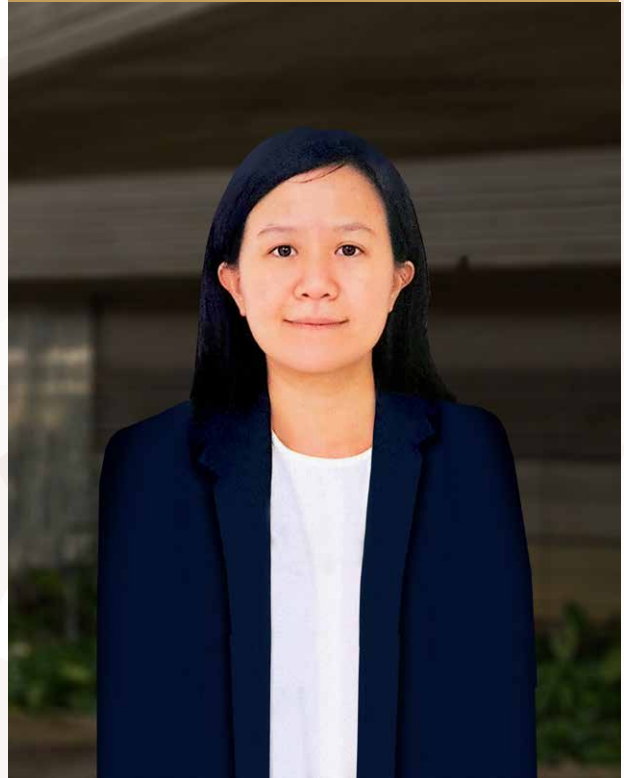
In 2022, the PSC concluded a significant review of the Public Service (Disciplinary Proceedings) Regulations 2023 and other relevant disciplinary legislation. The PSC also processed a total of 293 disciplinary cases in 2022, including 159 cases that had been brought forward from previous years.

As at 31 December 2022, there was one LSO in the PSC Secretariat.

### **Faith Boey (Ms)**

Legal Counsel  
PSC Secretariat

## Public Service Commission Secretariat



Ms Faith Boey  
(Legal Counsel, PSC Secretariat)



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# LEGAL SERVICE COMMISSION

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