

[Fireside Chat]

Perspectives from the Bench -Appeals Against Decisions in the Family Justice Courts

Fireside Chat Details

Date: Wednesday, 10 November 2021 Time: 4.30pm - 6.00pm Mode: Zoom Meeting Platform

Overview

This Fireside Chat will focus on appeals against the decisions in the Family Justice Courts (FJC) to the Family Division of the High Court, as well as appeals from the Assistant Registrar to the District Judge in the FJC.

The Fireside Chat will cover the following:

- How should lawyers prepare for the appeals to the District Judge in the FJC?
- How should lawyers draft their Appellant and Respondent's Cases in appeals to the Family Division of the High Court?
- What are the best practices lawyers should adopt during such hearings?
- What do Appellate Judges look out for in the Appellant's and Respondent's Cases in an appeal?
- What are the considerations the Appellate Judges in the FJC and the High Court bear in mind during the appeal hearings in the light of the current judge-led environment and the aspirations to deliver Therapeutic Justice?

4.15PM	Participants log in
4.30PM	 Fireside Chat hosted by: Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts, The Honorable Justice Debbie Ong Deputy Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts, The Honorable Judge Chia Wee Kiat
5.30PM	Q&A moderated by Mr Yap Teong Liang, Managing Director, TL Yap Law Chambers LLC
6.00PM	End

Registration

Click <u>here</u> to register. This session will be conducted via Zoom meeting and does not carry any CPD points. Limited spaces available.



Fireside Chat Hosts



The Honourable Justice Debbie Ong Presiding Judge, Family Justice Courts

Justice Debbie Ong joined the Supreme Court in 2014 as Judicial Commissioner, and was appointed Judge of the High Court on 30 September 2017 and Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts on 1 October 2017.

Justice Ong began her legal career as a law academic at NUS's Faculty of Law in 1989. A published writer, her works are prolific in the law on the family, children and international issues in family disputes. While teaching in the law faculty, she also assisted the Family Courts as a court mediator and the Supreme Court as amicus curiae. She was a member to various boards and councils, including the Review Board constituted under the Children and Young Persons Act.

Justice Ong published the book entitled International Issues in Family Law in Singapore in January 2015, and has contributed numerous articles in local as well as international scholarly journals. She currently remains a member of the International Advisory Board of the Child and Family Quarterly Journal (UK) and the Singapore Academy of Law's Publications and Legal Education Committees.

As Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts, Justice Ong is a specialist Judge responsible for much of the recent legal jurisprudence in family law.

Justice Ong co-chaired the inter-agency Committee to Review and Enhance Reforms in the Family Justice System and currently oversees the implementation of various reforms and the building of a problem-solving family justice system.



The Honourable Judge Chia Wee Kiat Deputy Presiding Judge, Family Justice Courts

Mr Chia Wee Kiat is the Deputy Presiding Judge of the Family Justice Courts. He obtained his Bachelor of Laws and Master of Laws from the National University of Singapore. His previous appointments include serving as State Counsel and Deputy Public Prosecutor in the Attorney-General's Chambers, Deputy Director of Legal Aid in the Legal Aid Bureau and District Judge in the State Courts.

Mr Chia had served as Commissioner of Land Appeals, Chairman of the Valuation Review Board, Referee of the Industrial Arbitration Court and President of the Courts Martial, and was appointed Resource Person in two Committees of Inquiry in 2004 and 2011 respectively. He currently serves on the Singapore Medical Council (SMC)'s Panel of Disciplinary Tribunal.

Moderator



Mr Yap Teong Liang
Managing Director, T L Yap Law Chambers LLC

Teong Liang was called to the Bar of England and Wales (Middle Temple) in 1991 and admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in June 1992. On 10th June 2002, he set up his boutique law firm specialising in Family Law.

Teong Liang has represented high net worth clients and handles cases involving foreign marriages, cross-border international complex child abduction and relocation cases, as well as jurisdictional and forum issues (Australia, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States of America), child custody and access cases, maintenance for the child and wife, division of matrimonial assets and family violence. He is listed as a Preeminent and Leading Family & Divorce Lawyer in the Doyle's Guide.

Teong Liang also practices as a Collaborative Family Practitioner, Parenting Coordinator, and is an Associate Mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre; he is an Accredited Mediator with the Family Justice Courts and Regent's University, London (Mediation and Psychology). He is on the panel of Cross-Border Family Mediators of Mediation bei Internationalen Kindschaftskonflikten (MiKK), Berlin, Germany and the Cross-Border Family Mediators' Network.

He was Chairperson of the Family Law Practice Committee of the Law Society of Singapore from 2006 to 2015. He is currently the Head of the Family Law and Children's Rights Chapter of the Professional Affairs Committee of the Singapore Academy of Law, and Chairperson of the Family Law and Family Rights Section and Vice President of LAWASIA.

He has been appointed by the Chief Justice as a member of the Family Justice Rules Committee constituted pursuant to Section 46(1) of the Family Justice Act and appointed onto the panel of Child Representatives by the Family Justice Courts since October 2014. Teong Liang has presented papers at both local and overseas family law conferences over the years and recently co-authored the chapter on Dispute Resolution Options in the book "The Art of Family Lawyering" (2019 Special Edition) and authored the chapter on Ancillary Relief: Orders That Can be Made in "The Law and Practice of Family Law in Singapore".