

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 1 OF 2006**

**ELECTRONIC HEARINGS IN CHAMBERS BEFORE THE REGISTRAR**

Several enhancements have been made to the Electronic Filing System and the info-technology resources within the Supreme Court to facilitate the efficient conduct of hearings before registrars in chambers. Notable improvements include the introduction of “local prefetch” in the Electronic Filing System and the use of dual screens within the chambers. These enhancements have been in place for about a year.

2 In view of these developments over the past year, registrars have been increasingly relying on documents filed on the Electronic Filing System instead of hard copies of documents tendered by lawyers during the hearings. In order to facilitate the conduct of hearings before registrars in a “paper-less” manner, lawyers appearing before the registrars should no longer reproduce hard copies of documents that have been filed electronically for the registrars’ reference. This applies to all hearings before registrars in chambers except:

- (a) hearings for assessment of damages, in which counsel may prepare bundles of affidavits of evidence-in-chief and bundles of documents for the witnesses and, if they are conducive to the efficient conduct of the assessment, for the registrar hearing the assessment;
- (b) hearings involving voluminous documents; or
- (c) where reference is made to documents that could not have been filed before the hearing (e.g. written submissions) or documents that need not be filed (e.g. bundles of authorities).

3 To facilitate ease of reference to the documents filed within the Electronic Filing System, lawyers should refer registrars to documents according to the date in which they have been filed, the relevant page number within the document as well as the relevant paragraph number. In addition, lawyers’ attention are drawn to paragraphs 46(1)(e) and 47(2)(b) of the Supreme Court Practice Directions (2006 Ed.), which

provides that all separators and dividing pages between exhibits within affidavits ought to be paginated. Compliance with these directions will ensure the smooth conduct of proceedings within chambers.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006.



KOH JUAT JONG  
REGISTRAR  
SUPREME COURT