

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 4 OF 2006

CHANGES TO THE MODES OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS:

PHASE 2

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

The Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Act 2005 was passed by Parliament on 21 November 2005 and assented to by the President on 7 December 2005. Under this Act, several statutes have been amended to reduce the number of modes of commencement of proceedings from four to two. Consequential changes have also been made to the relevant subsidiary legislation. The first phase of these statutory amendments commenced on 1 January 2006. The second phase will be operative on 1 April 2006 and affect bankruptcy proceedings, proceedings relating to winding up and judicial management and proceedings under Part X of the Women's Charter ("Phase 2 proceedings"). Lawyers may refer to articles and other materials concerning these amendments on the Supreme Court website at <http://www.supremecourt.gov.sg>.

MODIFICATION TO THE ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

2 Certain modules within the Electronic Filing System (EFS) will be shut down between Friday, 31 March 2006, 11.59 pm and Sunday, 2 April 2006, 8 pm, in order to implement the necessary technical modifications to the EFS. During this period, *lawyers will not be able to file any documents through the EFS relating to Phase 2 proceedings*. Other documents not relating to Phase 2 proceedings may continue to be filed through the EFS.

3 The Legal Registry of the Supreme Court will be open from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1 April 2006. Lawyers with urgent applications relating to Phase 2 proceedings may see the Duty Registrar for leave to file hard copies of the relevant documents upon undertaking to file them electronically subsequently. Where necessary, a request to backdate the documents to 1 April 2006 should be made when the documents are filed electronically. Manual filing of documents will not be processed after 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1 April 2006.

4 For *urgent* applications relating to Phase 2 proceedings *which will be time-barred if not filed between 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1 April 2006 and 8 p.m. on Sunday, 2 April 2006*, they may be sent to the Supreme Court Registry via e-mail to Supcourt_QSM@supcourt.gov.sg. Once the EFS server is activated, these documents should be electronically filed with a request to backdate the time of filing. When the Legal Registry resumes operation on 3 April 2006, the Registry will backdate the EFS application to the date and time of receipt of the e-mail, upon accepting that there is a need to backdate the application to preserve time. However, the Legal Registry reserves the right not to backdate the documents where the applications are not genuinely urgent.

CRIMSONLOGIC HELPDESK

5 The hotline **6887 7888** manned by CrimsonLogic Pte Ltd's Helpdesk will continue to answer all queries concerning filing procedure in EFS and other technical difficulties arising from the legislative changes. In keeping with the current practice, no legal advice will be provided.

Dated this 17th day of March 2006.



KOH JUAT JONG
REGISTRAR
SUPREME COURT