

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 4 OF 2019

AUDIO RECORDINGS OF HIGH COURT HEARINGS (IN OPEN COURT TRIALS) MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO PARTIES UPON APPLICATION

The Honourable the Chief Justice has authorised the release of audio recordings of High Court hearings in open court trials upon application by a party. This will run as a pilot from 15 October 2019. The release of the audio recordings will be subject to:

- (a) approval by the Judge;
- (b) the giving of the prescribed undertakings as to the use of the audio recordings; and
- (c) payment of the appropriate fees and charges by the applicant to the service provider.

2. For morning hearings, the audio recordings can be collected by 5 pm on the same day. For afternoon hearings, the audio recordings can be collected by 10 am the next business day. For afternoon hearings that end by 5 pm, expedited production of the audio recordings will also be available upon payment of an additional fee by the applicant to the service provider.

3. The audio recordings shall be used only for the preparation for hearings or appeals in the Singapore courts. To this end, parties may produce or obtain their own unofficial transcripts from the audio recordings, for their own use. The audio recordings shall not be used for any other purpose, and shall not be uploaded, distributed, or caused to be uploaded or distributed (whether on the Internet, on any social media, on any messaging service, or otherwise), unless express approval is given by the Judge.

4. Further information relating to the application for and use of such audio recordings is available on the Supreme Court website at the following Internet address: <https://www.supremecourt.gov.sg/services/court-services/audioandtranscriptionservices>.

5. This pilot will be reviewed in due course, and the Supreme Court Practice Directions may then be amended to include provisions on applications for audio recordings by parties.

Dated this 15th day of October 2019.



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REGISTRAR
SUPREME COURT