



GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

## *SUB JUDICE* REMINDER ON THE PUBLICATION OF AFFIDAVITS NOT YET ADDUCED IN EVIDENCE

It has come to the attention of the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC) that the contents of affidavits that have yet to be admitted into evidence in court have been circulated and published online.

2 The AGC would like to remind members of the media and the public that the contents of such affidavits should not be published or otherwise publicised until they are admitted into evidence in Court. Breach of this rule risks prejudicing or interfering with the course of pending court proceedings (see: <u>https://www.agc.gov.sg/legal-processes/publication-of-affidavits</u>). This rule is also reflected in paragraph 29A(3) of the Singapore Supreme Court Practice Directions ("**PD**"), which states:

"All concerned are not to publish, report or comment on publicly any affidavit or statutory declaration which has not been adduced as evidence or referred to in any hearing in open Court or in Chambers or any other court document which has not been served on the relevant party or parties in the court proceedings."

Paragraph 29A(3) of the PD applies to solicitors, litigants (whether acting by solicitors or in person), the media and all other persons reporting on or commenting about cases which are before any court: see paragraph 29A(1) of the PD.

3 All persons are therefore advised to refrain from publishing, reporting and/ or publicly commenting on the contents of affidavits that have yet to be admitted into evidence. Any person who has done so should remove any such publication, report or comment from circulation (whether online or in print) immediately. 4 The AGC takes a serious view of *sub judice* contempt and will not hesitate to take any appropriate action to protect the administration of justice.

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