

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

**PRACTICE DIRECTION NO. 4 OF 2003**

**INTRODUCTION OF THE CORE BUNDLE IN APPEALS ON ANCILLARY  
MATTERS OR CUSTODY MATTERS FROM THE FAMILY COURT TO  
THE HIGH COURT**

To facilitate the conduct of appeal hearings before the Judge of the High Court in Chambers, the appellant will be required to file a Core Bundle in addition to the Record of Appeal, where the Record of Appeal exceeds 1000 pages. The respondent will likewise file a supplemental Core Bundle where necessary.

2 The Core Bundle should contain a copy of the grounds of decision, the judgment or order appealed from, the documents or portions thereof that are of particular relevance to any question in the appeal or that will be referred to in the appeal, and the index of the documents included therein, which shall cross-refer each document to its location in the Record of Appeal. If the respondent intends to refer to documents that are not included in the Core Bundle, the respondent shall file a supplemental Core Bundle with the relevant documents.

3 The Core Bundle should not exceed 100 pages, excluding the order appealed from, the grounds of decision and the index of documents. The supplemental Core Bundle should not exceed 50 pages.

4 This practice direction will take effect on 5 May 2003.

5 This practice direction should be included in *The Supreme Court Practice Directions (1997 Ed.)* immediately before the first page of the table of contents. Instructions for effecting the amendments to *The Supreme Court Practice Directions (1997 Ed.)* are contained the Appendix hereto.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2003

  
CHIAM BOON KENG

REGISTRAR

SUPREME COURT

## **APPENDIX**

### **Instructions for amendment of**

#### ***The Supreme Court Practice Directions (1997 Ed.)***

The existing pages 57, 58, 58A and 58B should be replaced with the attached pages 57, 58 and 58A.

**49. Additional copies of certain documents required**

(deleted)

**50. Transfer of divorce proceedings, matrimonial causes and matters relating to the guardianship of infants to the Family Court of the Subordinate Courts**

- (1) The Honourable the Chief Justice has, by an order made in pursuance of section 28A of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Cap 322) dated 12 March 1996 and gazetted on 15 March 1996, empowered the District Court, with effect from 1 April 1996, to hear and determine proceedings under section 59 and Part X of the Women's Charter (Cap. 353) and the Guardianship of Infants Act (Cap. 122) commenced on or after 1 April 1996.
- (2) Pursuant to the above-mentioned order, a sub-registry of the Supreme Court will be established in the Family Court of the Subordinate Courts at the Family and Juvenile Court Building at No 3 Havelock Square ("the Family and Juvenile Court") to receive all processes under section 59 and Part X of the Women's Charter and the Guardianship of Infants Act commenced on or after 1 April 1996.
- (3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4) below, the Registry of the Supreme Court in the City Hall building will cease to accept the filing of the processes referred to above with effect from 1 April 1996. These processes shall be filed at the sub-registry of the Supreme Court at the Family and Juvenile Court.
- (4) All proceedings under section 59 and Part X of the Women's Charter and the Guardianship of Infants Act commenced before 1 April 1996 will continue to be heard and determined in the High Court until they are finally disposed of, and all applications and documents in respect of all such proceedings shall continue to be filed at the Registry of the Supreme Court in the City Hall building.

**50A. Appeals on ancillary matters or custody matters from the Family Court to the High Court**

- (1) Appeals against final orders made by the District Judge in chambers on ancillary matters in divorce proceedings under the Women's Charter or custody proceedings under the Guardianship of Infants Act are governed by Order 55C of the Rules of Court. In practice, the District Judges furnish grounds of decision within 8 weeks of the filing of the notice of appeal although the furnishing of grounds of decision is not a requirement under the Rules.
- (2) To facilitate the conduct of appeal hearings before the Judge of the High Court in Chambers, parties are required to file the following documents prior to the appeal hearing:
  - (i) the appellant shall, within one week from the date of the release of the grounds of decision, file his Submission, the Record of Appeal, and where the Record of Appeal exceeds 1000 pages, a Core Bundle, and serve a copy thereof on every respondent to the appeal or his solicitor; and
  - (ii) the respondent shall, within one week from the date of the service of the documents referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(i), file his Submission and a supplemental Core Bundle, where necessary, and serve a copy thereof on the appellant or his solicitor.
- (3) The Submissions to be filed by parties shall set out as concisely as possible:
  - (i) the circumstances out of which the appeal arises;
  - (ii) the issues arising in the appeal;
  - (iii) the contentions to be urged by the party filing it and the authorities in support thereof; and
  - (iv) the reasons for or against the appeal, as the case may be.
- (4) The parties shall file together with their Submissions a bundle of authorities relied on by the court below as well as other authorities to be relied on at the hearing of the appeal and serve such bundle of authorities on the other party.
- (5) The Record of Appeal shall consist of:
  - (i) the notice of appeal;

- (ii) the certified copy of the grounds of decision;
  - (iii) the certified copy of the notes of evidence;
  - (iv) the originating process and all subsequent pleadings;
  - (v) the affidavits filed or referred to by parties for the hearing and any other documents, so far as relevant to the matter decided and the nature of the appeal; and
  - (vi) the judgment or order appealed from.
- (6) The Core Bundle shall contain a copy of:
- (i) the grounds of decision;
  - (ii) the judgment or order appealed from;
  - (iii) the documents, including notes of evidence, pleadings and affidavits or portions thereof that are of particular relevance to any question in the appeal or that will be referred to at the appeal; and
  - (iv) an index of the documents included therein, which shall cross-refer each document to its location in the record of appeal,
- (7) If the respondent intends to refer to documents at the appeal that are not included in the Core Bundle filed by the appellant, the respondent shall file a supplemental Core Bundle that contains a copy of the documents, together with an index of the documents which shall cross-refer each document to its location in the record of appeal.
- (8) The Core Bundle filed by the appellant shall not exceed 100 pages and the supplemental Core Bundle filed by the respondent shall not exceed 50 pages. In computing the number of pages, the copy of the order appealed from, the grounds of decision and the index of documents shall be excluded. The Judge of the High Court may take into consideration, any failure to comply with this direction in deciding the costs to be awarded at the hearing of the appeal.
- (9) The Submissions, the Record of Appeal, the Core Bundle and the Respondent's Core Bundle shall be filed at the Registry of the Subordinate Courts at No 1 Havelock Square, Singapore.