

MAGISTRATE'S COMPLAINT QUICK GUIDE



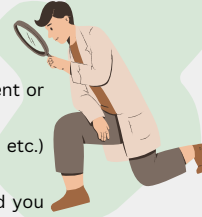
Before you start filing a Magistrate's Complaint, use this to understand **who can file**, and **understand possible offences under the law** which may apply to your situation.

This infographic is not legal advice. Please seek legal advice if you are unsure if it is appropriate for a Magistrate's Complaint to be filed in your case.

You are eligible to file if:

You meet **any** of the following conditions:

- You are the victim and you are 21 years and above
- The victim is under 21 years and you are the parent or legal guardian
- The victim is an entity (company, society, MCST etc.) and you are the duly authorised representative
- The victim is considered a "vulnerable adult" and you are a person duly authorised to represent the victim under the Vulnerable Adults Act



The person(s) whom you are filing against (the "respondent"), to the best of your knowledge:

- Is 16 years and above
- Has not been charged in court for the alleged offence
- Has not been issued a stern warning by the Police for the alleged offence

What could be considered as possible offences?

A Magistrate's Complaint can be filed for offences that are punishable by up to 3 years' imprisonment, or a fine, or both.



Examples of what could be considered as possible offences include:

Offence	Example
Voluntarily causing hurt [Sections 319 – 320 of the Penal Code 1871]	Someone hurt me. For example, the person(s) punched/kicked me.
Harassment (threatening, abusive, or insulting words or actions) [Sections 3 – 4 of the Protection from Harassment Act 2014]	Someone used threatening, abusive, or insulting words or actions towards me, causing me harassment, alarm or distress. For example, the person(s) said vulgarities to me. There was no threat of violence towards me.
Fear, provocation or facilitation of violence [Sections 5 of the Protection from Harassment Act 2014]	Someone used threatening, abusive, or insulting words or actions towards me, making me feel that violence would be used against me or provoke me to use violence. For example, the person(s) threatened to hurt me.
Stalking [Section 7 of the Protection from Harassment Act 2014]	Someone stalked me. For example, the person(s) followed me home.
Mischief [Section 425 of the Penal Code 1871]	Someone damaged my property. For example, the person threw away my bicycle.
Cheating [Section 415 of the Penal Code 1871]	Someone cheated me. For example, the person told me that his "magic stone" had healing powers and made me pay \$10,000 for it.
Breach of Protection Order [Section 10 of the Protection from Harassment Act 2014]	Someone knows that I have a Protection Order against him and yet he breached it.
Breach of Special Direction / Exclusion Order [Section 7 or 10 of the Community Disputes Resolution Act 2015]	Someone knows that I have a Special Direction / Exclusion Order against him and yet he breached it.

If you are unsure of the type of the offence and its punishment, please refer to the statutes at [Singapore Statutes Online](#).