

# DIALOGUE AND TRAINING SESSION ON THE NEW FAMILY JUSTICE RULES FILING IN ELITIGATION

14 MARCH 2025



# **TODAY'S PROGRAMME**

Time	Activity
0830HRS	Registration and Breakfast
0930HRS	Introductory Remarks
0935HRS	Demonstration of eLitigation Filing
1015HRS	Use of eLitigation
1050HRS	Break
1100HRS	Sharing on Practice Directions
1120HRS	Sharing on Forms
1140HRS	Sharing on Divorce by Mutual Agreement
1150HRS	Questions and Answers Session



# OPENING REMARKS BY REGISTRAR, FJC





# DEMONSTRATION OF ELITIGATION FILING



Agenda for the Demo

Demo on Amendment feature

Demo on the type of FJR applications







Family Justice Rules (FJR) -

User Training: Amendment



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# Overview on the types of Amendment

- Amendment of Originating Applications
  - Re-signing/re-attestation of the application is not required.
  - The Draft Ancillary Reliefs Order section of a Fully Simplified OAD cannot be amended. If the terms of the agreement between parties have changed, please file a fresh Draft Ancillary Reliefs Order signed by both parties.
  - For amended OADs, if proceeding on an uncontested basis, Applicant will be required to file an Affidavit for Uncontested Dissolution Hearing to confirm the amended OAD.
- Amendment of Summons
  - If the summons contains a signature section, re-signing/re-attestation will be required.
- Amendment of other subsequent filing documents
  - <u>Affidavits cannot be amended. Not all documents available for subsequent filing can be amended, a pop-up alert</u> will appear if the user attempts to amend a document that cannot be amended. Refer slide 6.
  - If the document contains a signature section, re-signing/re-attestation will be required.



# Overview on the types of Amendment

# <u>Note</u>:

- Only the document selected in the document tab will be amended.
- Multiple documents cannot be amended at the same time even if the original filing entailed the drafting of multiple eForms at the same time for submission.





Possible alerts:





# Amending an Originating Application:

Y	ou are amending the following doc	ument	This mandatory question appears at the
D	ocument Title: ORIGINATING APPLI	CATION FOR JU	top of the application.
C	Case Overview		If the user has permission for
	For Filing in:	Family Courts	amendment, the user should select "Yes' and enter the order details.
	Case No:	FC/0AD 7/20	
	Case Name:	John Doe v Ja	Else, the user should select "No" and enter basis of amendment pursuant to
C	order Of Court For Amer	ndment	the rules/practice directions.
	Do you need permission of Cou	rt?	There is no change in requirements.
	⊖ Yes		
	O No		
	Basis of amendment		
	(state the provision in the	Rules of Court/Far	nily Justice Rules or Practice Directions relied on) *
	Pursuant to Part [cite spe	cific rule number]	
			1

# Amending a Summons or other documents:









Applicant     Responde     Marriage     Jurisdicti     Children	t ent ion	Suppor * marked f You must a It is For	ting Docu ields are mar ttach, with your recommende each row, sel	uments didatory sur application, a copy of the documents listed in the table below and all documents which you inten ad to save the information entered by clicking "Save as draft" at regular intervals. This prevents any po ect "choose file", click the upload icon. then proceed to the next row.	d to rely on to support your position (collectively "Required Documents"). Itential loss of data due to network error.	Under the "Supporting documents" section, the originally uploaded supporting documents will be displayed by default.
Proceeding	ngs		S/No.	Doc Title	Select File (PDF format only)	Action
Divorce	(	$\underline{+}$	1	Copy of Marriage Certificate *	* Choose file oath - christian.pdf	22 🛍 🛢
Ancillary	Reliefs	$\wedge$	2	Copy of child(ren)'s Birth Certificates - Adult Child1 *	* Choose file NOTICE OF P CHARGED.pdf	<u>له</u>
Relief(s)	ciaimed		3	Copy of child(ren)'s Birth Certificates - Bam Bam Flintstone Lim *	* Choose file NOTICE OF P CHARGED.pdf	上 🛍 📋
		^↓	4	Copy of child(ren)'s Birth Certificates - Pebbles Flintstone Lim *	* Choose file NOTICE OF P CHARGED.pdf	& 🛍 盲
If there is a change in	the	$\wedge$	5	Bankruptcy search results from Ministry of Law's Insolvency Office for Applicant *	* Choose file oath - non- christian.pdf	上 🗎 👕
supporting documen the user nee <u>ds to</u>	its,	${\wedge}\!$	6	Bankruptcy search results from Ministry of Law's Insolvency Office for Respondent *	* Choose file Record of Appeal vol 1.pdf	£ 🗎 🕇
manually delete or a	dd	$\wedge$	7	My Parenting Programme exemption note *	* Choose file oath - christian.pdf	<b>上 前</b>
via "Add document		${\wedge}\!$	8	My spouse's Parenting Programme Certificate of Attendance *	* Choose file oath - non- christian.pdf	& 🛍 盲
putton. There will not prompt to upload th	be a ne	1	9	CPF Checklist signed by both parties *	* Choose file Record of Appeal vol 2.pdf	£ 🛍 🛢
additional document of to the change in e-da	due ata.	Add Doc Please ens	ument ure that you h	ave completed all relevant fields and attached all Required Documents. If there are missing informati	on or documents, the Court may subsequently require you to provide these inform	ation or documents. You may incur additional fees as a result.



For example, if the user had amended the OAD such that the marriage cert is in a foreign language, the user will need to add the "Translation of Marriage Certificate" manually into the table.

Add Supporting Document	$\otimes$
Supporting Documents	
Agreement that Marriage has Irretrievably Broken Down	
Copy of Mental Capacity Act order / Lasting Power of Attorney	
Document(s) to show a change in a party's name or identification number stated in the Marriage Certificate My Parenting Programme Certificate of Attendance	
My spouse's Parenting Programme exemption note	
Supporting Document(s) for Permission to proceed without Parenting Programme Translation of child(ren)'s Birth Certificates	
Translation of child(ren)'s Birth Certificates - Adult Child1 Translation of Marriage Certificate	
If this section contains a list of documents, and the document you wish to add does not fall within any of the categor new document as "Other Document".	ies listed, please add the
Number of "Other document" to add :   Enter number of other documents.	
Cancel Add	















ACTIONS STATUS NOTICE OF OBJECTIONS TO THE AFFIDAVIT(S) OF EVIDENCE IN CHIEF 0 💌 Pending Signature AMENDMENT NO. 1 COPY OF NOTICE OF OBJECTIONS TO THE AFFIDAVIT(S) Cancel Finalised Docur Note: The documents that you are scanning to generate a PDF version must be scanned properly e.g., manually signed Click here for guidelines. on to update the generated document Note: If you have amended the information entered in previous step(s) after viewing the generated document, please click the Cancel User will be required to sign and upload the amendment document before proceeding to Step 3.

4

Submission

3

Admin Details

# Amending a PDF document:

<b>•</b>	2	3	- 4
Case info	Form	Admin Details	Submission
The following form	m(s) have been prepared based on the information you have p	provided so far:	
SNO	FORM NAME & DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS	STATUS
1	REPLY TO DISCLOSURE (Amendment No. 1)*	Ŧ	Pending Confirmation
Note: It is mandat	Add Document	Delete Document Finalise Document	For amendment of PDF, user will be brought to step 2 on starting the application.
Note: If you have a	amended the information entered in previous step(s) after vie	ewing the generated document, please click the update	User will be able to proceed to Step 3 after uploading the document.
	Previous	Cancel Next	







- Family Justice Rules (FJR) -
- User Training: Type Ahead Function



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# User Journey for Commencement of a Case

#### **Case Overview**

1 This Notice serves as a reminder to the Applicant and does not appear as part of the issued Originating Application.

#### **IMPORTANT: Duty to consider amicable resolution**

Pursuant to the Family Justice Rules (FJR), you are required to consider amicable resolution of the dispute before and after commencing Court proceedings. This means that you should either:

(a) explore alternative ways of settling the dispute without resorting to legal action OR

(b)make an offer to the other party to settle the dispute.





# User Journey for Commencement of a Case

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(a)explore alternative ways of settling the dispute without resorting to legal action OR

(b)make an offer to the other party to settle the dispute.

For more information on your obligations, please refer to the Information Sheet on Amicable Dispute Resolution and Part 4 of the FJR(G) and Part 5 for the FJR(P).

Vhat type of case are you	commencing for this filing?			
Case Type Category:	Dissolution of Marriage	•		
Commencing Case Ty	ype Document for Filing? *			Types of $OA$ selection
Select				Types of OA selection
-Select-				
ORIGINATING APPL	ICATION FOR DIVORCE ICATION FOR SIMPLIFIED DIVORCE		•ication	
CROSS APPLICATIO ORIGINATING APPLI	N FOR DIVORCE ICATION FOR NULLITY			
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				

# **Case Types & Details of Category – Dissolution of Marriage**

Case Category	Some Available Case Types	When to choose
Dissolution of Marriage	Originating Application for Maintenance (Variation, Rescission) in a Dissolution Case	Varying or rescinding a maintenance order in a pre FJR 2024 Divorce/Judicial Separation/Nullity case file
	Originating Application for Children Orders (Variation, Rescission) in a Dissolution Case	Varying or rescinding an order relating to children in a pre FJR 2024 Divorce/Judicial Separation/Nullity case file
	Originating Application for Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside of Other Orders in a Dissolution Case	Varying, rescinding or setting aside an order (that does not involve maintenance or children orders) in a pre FJR 2024 Divorce/Judicial Separation/Nullity case file



# **Case Types & Details of Category – Children Orders**

S

Case Category	Available Case Types	When to choose
Children Orders	Originating Application for Children Orders	<ul> <li>Fresh application for orders relating to:</li> <li>(a) Orders under GIA (Excluding s5A, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21). Generally for custody, care and control, access, maintenance or appointment of guardians.</li> <li>(b) Orders under s17(1)(d) of the SCJA</li> </ul>
	Originating Application for Guardianship of Infants Act Orders (Others)	Fresh application for any other orders under GIA (which cannot be applied for under OA for Children orders)
CrimsonLogic	Originating Application for Children Orders (Variation, Rescission)	Application to vary, rescind custody, care and control, access, maintenance, guardianship orders made in concluded cases filed pursuant to GIA or SCJA (pre FJR 2024 and FJR 2024)

# **Case Types & Details of Category – Children Orders**

Case Category	Available Case Types	When to choose
Children Orders	Originating Application for Children Orders (Setting Aside)	Application to set aside, vary or rescind any other types of final orders in GIA or SCJA proceedings (pre FJR 2024 and FJR 2024)



### **Category: Originating Application (Family):**

- a. Originating Application for Maintenance (Variation, Rescission) in a Financial Relief Case (After Foreign Divorce)
- b. Originating Application for Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside of Other Orders in a Financial Relief Case (After Foreign Divorce)
- c. Originating Application for Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside of Division Orders (After Syariah Court Divorce)
- d. Originating Application for Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside of All Other Orders

## **Category: International Child Abduction Act 2010**

a. Originating Application for Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside of ICAA Orders

## Category: Mental Capacity Act 2008:

a. Originating Application for MCA Orders (Variation, Rescission, Setting Aside)



# User Journey for Commencement of a Case

t type of case are you co	ommencing for this fil	ing?		
Case Type Category: *	Originating Applicati	ion (Family)	•	
Commencing Case Type	e Document for Filing	? *		
		N, RESCISSION, SETTING AS	SIDE OF ALL OTHER ORDE	RS V
FC V/ OAX	Case No	st made ^	Vali	date

System will prompt to enter the additional details (if applicable) depending on the Case type.

In this example, user is required to provide the case number in which the first order was made as the user is trying to commence a variation case.

hat type of case are you co	ommencing for this filing?	
Case Type Category: *	Dissolution of Marriage 🔹	In this exam divorce cas
Commencing Case Typ	e Document for Filing? *	have agree divorce AN
ORIGINATING APPLIC	ATION FOR SIMPLIFIED DIVORCE	· ·
Please note tha for Simplified Di	both parties must be in agreement on whether there is any minor child vorce.	who is born of the second second as a c
All parties have ag	eed to the Divorce ONLY	
All parties have ag	eed to BOTH the Divorce AND all ancillary matters	

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

n this example, user is trying to file a simplified divorce case and is required to indicate if the parties have agreed to the Divorce ONLY or to both the divorce AND all ancillary matters.

e or accepted as a child of the marriage before they can file an Originating Application

# User Journey for Commencement of a Case

is not required to indicate any further details in the
section. User will be allowed to proceed to step 1 case filing.
•

#### **Points to Note:**

For filing a variation recission case, you must first choose the case type category based on the main case type (e.g., Dissolution of Marriage or Children Orders) and then select the corresponding variation case for filing.

You may choose generic variation application ONLY if the specific variation case is not available.





# **USE OF ELITIGATION FILING**







- Family Justice Rules (FJR) -
- **User Training: General Topics**



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- This section will focus on some of the key issues encountered /common enquires raised in relation to FJR 2024
- Enquires/Issues raised regarding general eLitigation or State Court or High Court will not be addressed in this session.



# **Sequence of the Codified Orders in Generated Document**

- 1. The orders will be listed by group based on the category which will be sequenced based on the order in which the order in that category is created.
- 2. The orders within the category will be sequenced <u>based on the</u> <u>order in which they are created</u>.

i.e., in the example screenshot the orders were created in the following sequence:

Appointed as guardian followed by Care and Control followed by Appointed to act together with

**3.** <u>Note:</u> It is **NOT** mandatory to add an order under every category tab.

The tabs exists only to help users navigate to/search for a specific order.

of the child(ren): Cl	ıris.	
act together with	Raja.	
the child/ren of th	e marriage, namely Cl	nris (C123).
of	of the child(ren): Ch > act together with F	of the child(ren): Chris. 5 act together with Raja. 1f the child/ren of the marriage, namely Cf





**4.** <u>Note:</u> it is important to select the correct category when drafting a custom order.

There are multiple links where the user can click to create custom order, all of them leads to the same pop-up for order creation so it is not required for users to select the custom order link under a specific tab.

				:= View your order:
	*	\$	\$	
HDB Property	Private Property	Other Assets	Costs	
Choose sub-ca	ategory:			
No Order Indicates that made for the proceedings	t no order is costs of the	No Order No Order Indicates that r Select order	no order is made for t	he costs of the proceedings
		Can't find an order	suitable for you?	
		Check through the	different categories	or create a custom order

Select	n cateç	gory													
- S4	elect -	-											~		
Write	your c	ustor	n orde	r											
0	Past appr sour	ting te earant ice he	ext fro ce of f ere. To	m an e oreigr previ	char w th	ial sour acters. e text i	ce maj See tij n the g	y resi os on enera	ult in cop ated	loss ( ying a docur	of forma and past ment, pla	itting ar ing text iase vie	nd / or from a w orde	n externa rs.	al
B	I	U	8	: <b>=</b>	••	=••	Ti	¥	r	7	1 Rese		*		



# **Guidelines for uploading supporting documents/exhibits**

Points to note while uploading supporting documents/exhibits:

- 1. PDFs should NOT be password protected.
- 2. DO NOT embed attachments (i.e., image, videos etc) inside the PDFs.
- 3. DO NOT upload PDFs that are not in A4 size.
- 4. Upload the documents one-by-one. Ensure that the document is uploaded before uploading the next document.

Documents that had completed upload will show the page number under "Count of pages":

Table	l It is recommended to save the information entered by clicking "Save as draft" at regular intervals. This pr	revents any potential loss of data due to network error.			
0	For each row, select "choose file", click the upload icon, then proceed to the next row.				
<b>Exhibi</b> fg	Prefix (character limit:10) • Preview Affidavit				
S/N	Exhibit	Reference in Affidavit to the exhibit <i>(e.g. Paragraph 1)</i> *	Upload File (PDF format only)*	Count of Pages	Action
fg-1	Other Document test	paragraph 1	Choose file FE20240807_2 04504hkcN7k3 D.pdf	2	£
Add	Document				



# **Guidelines for uploading supporting documents/exhibits**

Points to note while uploading supporting documents/exhibits:

5. If the page number is not shown even after sometime, it means that the upload is unsuccessful likely due to the document.

S/No Exhibit	Reference in Affidavit to the exhibit (e.g. Paragraph 1) <sup>6</sup>	Upload File Count Action (PDP format of only)* Pages
fg-1 Other Document test	paragraph 1	Choose file FE20240607_2 04504/tick77k3 D.pdf

6. At Step 2, if the user encounter the error below upon clicking on "Print" for the generated document, it means that the PDF document cannot be annexed due to some errors in the document highlighted in red.

Error Reference Code :- 3773491783514dab9eb24d1b00da446a	
Error Occurance date time :- 3/3/2025 3:39:24 PM	
Error Occured while Processing Exhibit Document :- test with Exhibit No :- fg-1	٦
Error Occurance at Sequence :- Exhibit Page Merging PDF Error	



# **Guidelines for uploading supporting documents/exhibits**

Points to note while uploading supporting documents/exhibits:

To resolve the issues mentioned in point 5 and 6, open the document in browser, click on "Print" and save as PDF, this will remove most of the incompatible formatting.

## Upload the saved PDF document.






Below are the guidelines to follow while preparing the PDF documents of the manually signed documents:



*Note: These guidelines are available for reference in step-2. Below is the screenshot for reference:* 

		2	_ 3	4				
Case in	fo	Form	Admin Details	Submission				
The fol	lowing for	m(s) have been prepared based on the information you have provide	ed so far:					
	SNO	FORM NAME & DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS	STATUS				
	1	ORIGINATING APPLICATION FOR SIMPLIFIED DIVORCE*		Pending Signature				
	2	NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS TO RESPONDENT (SIMPLIFIED)*		Finalized				
	3	MANUAL SIGNED COPY OF ORIGINATING APPLICATION FOR SIM DIVORCE*						
		Finalise Document	Cancel Finalised Document					
Note: T	Note: The documents that you are scanning to generate a PDF version must be scanned properly e.g., manually signed document. Click here for guidelines.							
Note: It	is manda	tory to view & save all eForms to proceed to next step.						
Note: If	you have	amended the information entered in previous step(s) after viewing t	the generated document, please clic	k the update icon to update the generated document				

#### **Guidelines for preparing documents**

Common errors to avoid while preparing the PDF documents:

- 1. DO NOT upload PDFs that are not in A4 size.
- 2. DO NOT scan the pages with different orientations.
- 3. Do not change the sequence of the pages.
- 4. Do not remove or add supporting documents in the uploaded copy.
- 5. Do not change the borders/margins.
- 6. Do not change the first page.

Pages with different orientation	All pages in portrait orientation		
Test Document – Page 1	8	Test Document – Page 1	<b>⊘</b>
Test Document – Page 2		Test Document – Page 2	



#### **Guidelines for rich text fields**

- 1. Pasting text from an external source ("source document") into rich text fields may lead to unpredictable results, such as loss of formatting and/or appearance of foreign characters.
- 2. To minimise the errors, the source document should be from <u>Notepad (recommended)</u> or a MS Word document. For text from non-MS Word source documents, you may wish to copy and paste it in Notepad/MS Word first to correct any foreign characters that appear.

An example of how a character may get turned into foreign characters when copied from different sources is the apostrophe: ```

- 3. To ensure that indentation and numbering show up accurately in the rich text fields, use the indentation and numbering functions in Word, as well as other formatting tools.
- 4. Avoid using unusual symbols not commonly used in the English text.
- 5. Check the generated document in Step 2 to ensure that the input is appearing per expected.



#### **Guidelines for rich text fields**

5. Rich text fields do support the insertion of tables. However, the complex formatting of the tables (such as merging of rows/columns etc.) will not be supported in the rich text fields. But, such complex formatting of the tables can be performed in the MS Word and pasted into the rich text fields.

To make things easier, eLitigation system is currently undergoing an enhancement to allow the users to download the generated affidavits in MS Word format.

This enhancement will enable the users to do the complex formatting in MS Word, obtain client's instructions and edits directly in the MS Word version and upload the PDF version back into the system without having to return to Step 1 to enter it into the data fields...

9	0			Case info	2 Form	3 Admin Details	4 Submission		
lase info Form Admin Details :			Submission	The following for	The following form(s) have been prepared based on the information you have provided so far:				
SN	FORM NAME & DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS	STATUS	SNO	FORM NAME & DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS	STATUS		
1	ORIGINATING APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN ORDERS*	0	Pending Confirmation	1	ORIGINATING APPLICATION FOR CHILDREN ORDERS*	0	Pending Confirmation		
2	eAFFIDAVIT*	0	Pending Confirmation	2	eAFFIDAVIT*	ŦB	Pending Confirmation		
				3	GENERAL CONSENT*	۲	Pending Confirmation		
	Add Document Def	ele Document Finalise Document		4	NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS TO RESPONDENT (GENERAL)*	0	Pending Confirmation		
lote: It is man lote: If you ha	latory to view & save all eForms to proceed to next step. e amended the information entered in previous step(s) after viewing the generated document, ple	ase click the update icon to update the generated	document		Add Document	Delete Document Finalise Document			
	Previous Cancel				lected to edit the system-generated affidavit. Where there is inconsistency between the rejecting or expunging the affidavit or application.	data provided in Step 1 of this application and the file	ed (and edited) affidavit, the filed edited affidavit will prevail and this may		
					Too anound evolute evolution of operand minimizers completed in the step 1 data interds. Note: It is mandatory to level & save all efforts for proceed to next step.				

Note: If you have amended the information entered in previous step(s) after viewing the generated document, please click the update icon to update the generated document





Refer to the table below for some of the key issues that were reported in the eLitigation system since the launch of Family Justice Rules that have been resolved:

SN	Issues	Resolution
1.	Overlapping of the engrossed details in the documents	It was noticed that these uploaded documents had issues as mentioned in slide #4. To mitigate these issues, the guidelines are included in the eLitigation system for user's reference.
2.	Digital signatures/stamps were invisible in the engrossed documents	This issue was encountered during a brief period of time. The root cause of the issue was addressed and the affected documents are revised. Users can view the revised documents in the respective case files.
3.	ACO QR code was not found in the Court Orders	The root cause of the issue was addressed and the affected documents are recovered. Users can get the recovered Court Orders from the respective case files.



SN	Issues	Resolution
4.	Formatting issues in the rich text fields	Refer to the previous slide for the mitigation steps taken in eLitigation system to address these issues.
5.	Issue with having special characters in the party names	This issue was reported by the users having comma (,) in their names. This issue was addressed and currently eLitigation system supports all the possible special characters that could be in the names.
6.	Drafts appear easily corrupted – e.g. Schedule of Assets filed and saved in draft mode cannot be accessed after a few days and an error message will appear"	There were some issues reported on the SOA document and the refiling/amendment process for which the reported issues were resolved. Previous drafts created before the above issues were resolved <u>cannot be</u> <u>opened</u> after the fixes were deployed as those drafts are based on old templates/implementations.



SN	Issues	Resolution
7.	Case documents are not accessible	There are two possible scenarios for this:
		a. The document is still not processed in the eLitigation system.
		When this issue arise, please retry to view the document after sometime or report to the helpdesk team.
		b. The Applicant's Law Firm had selected the Law Firm for Respondent at the time of commencing. Under the case file, it shows that the Respondent is represented by the Law Firm.
		For the Respondent's Law Firm to get access to the case file, they can file <b>any</b> document into the case.

SN	Issues	Resolution
8.	Sentence on "Grounds not populated in Interim Judgment" appearing in the Interim Judgments.	This issue was resolved. For IJs filed on or after 17 Jan 2025, the generated document will appear as expected (i.e., users will not see this sentence in the generated document). For IJs filed into the case file before 17 Jan 2025 that are affected by the issue, the users will have to refile a fresh IJ.
9.	Inability to file Notice of Withdrawal/Discontinuance	The root cause of the issue was addressed and the affected documents are revised. Users will be able to file the Notice of Withdrawal/Discontinuance.



#### **Commonly Reported Incidents/Feedback**

SN	Issues	Resolution	
10.	Affirmation date cannot be selected as a past date	There is a validation currently to ensure that the affirmation date is on or after the current date of drafting. Once a document is confirmed and finalised and signed, even if the eventual filing date is later than the affirmation/signing date, the system will not block the filing. This is an optional field if the user is not signing via DSS. The user can proceed without filling in this information and indicate the affirmation date manually during manual signature.	
11.	Notice of Appeal filing errors	<ul> <li>For the NOA issue reported previously:</li> <li>a. An error screen is displayed when they click to generate the document in Step 2: The reason for this is because for NOA filings under FJR, the highlighted field below does not cater for non-electronic case numbers, as a result it is throwing an error at Step 2. This issue has been resolved.</li> <li> <b>With a state of a step of the first With a step of the first Wit</b></li></ul>	

20

SN	Issues	Resolution
12.	Inability to provide documents relating to change of ID of other party	The system will identify relevant supporting documents to be uploaded. However, the system will also allow the deletion of such documents from the Supporting Documents Table.
13.	Cannot skip ahead to later part of form	As subsequent pages' data collection is dynamically affected by earlier page(s)' data entry, the user has to go through all subsequent pages to ensure the correct data is provided.
14.	Error message appears without mentioning what the issues are	For identified common errors reported by the users, a specialized error message will be implemented and displayed. For other error messages, it may require additional troubleshooting. To aid the troubleshooting process, a clear screenshot of the error message with the error ID is required.
15.	User has to go through many sections to amend portions of the form	For most of the tracks, there may be questions in the next section that is dependent on the user input in the previous section (i.e., most notably, the OA for Extension of time where the questions that are displayed in the Affidavit section depends on the user's input in the Application section). As such, the user is required to go through all the sections after the section they have amended.



SN	Issues	Resolution
16.	Blank bulleting/numbering under Orders section	Blank bulleting/numbering under Orders section appears if the input into the rich text field starts directly with a numbered list. For numbered lists, there is a default padding at the top and sides of the list, resulting in a seemingly "empty" line.         Image: the section of the section of the proceeds shall be devided in the following manner: 20% to the Applacet (Manna 20% to the Responder (Marry)         Image: the non 2         Image: the non 2

SN	Issues	Resol	ution				
17.	A recurring system error message pops This is mainly due to char			character limit on fields.			
	further with the application. There is no prompt or indication on what the issue with.	For fre ), there a	or free text fields (i.e., fields that looks like:			Enter marriage certificate number	
		The "s the ch	ystem error" r aracter limit fo	messages are typically c or the field. Refer to the	due to errors in save table below on t	ving when the input ex he common fields whe	ceede
		faced	an issue due to	o the limit:			re use
		faced a	an issue due to Step	o the limit: Filed Name	Error Message Displ	ayed	re use
		faced a	an issue due to	o the limit: Filed Name Separation Detail	<b>Error Message Displ</b> The Applicant and th since should not be l	ayed e Respondent have separated onger than 100 characters.	re use
		faced a	an issue due to	o the limit: Filed Name Separation Detail Separation Intention Detail	Error Message Displ The Applicant and th since should not be l The Applicant forme the Respondent from	ayed e Respondent have separated onger than 100 characters. d the intention to separate from n should not be longer than 100	re use
		faced a	an issue due to Step Divorce Step	o the limit: Filed Name Separation Detail Separation Intention Detail Desertion Date Detail	Error Message Displ The Applicant and th since should not be l The Applicant forme the Respondent from Respondent has des	ayed e Respondent have separated onger than 100 characters. d the intention to separate from n should not be longer than 100 erted Applicant since should not	re use
		faced a	an issue due to Step Divorce Step	o the limit: Filed Name Separation Detail Separation Intention Detail Desertion Date Detail Reconciliation Period	Error Message Displ The Applicant and th since should not be l The Applicant forme the Respondent from Respondent has des The total period of tir together is should no	ayed e Respondent have separated onger than 100 characters. d the intention to separate from n should not be longer than 100 erted Applicant since should not me parties resumed living ot be longer than 100 characters.	re use
		faced a	an issue due to Step Divorce Step	o the limit: Filed Name Separation Detail Separation Intention Detail Desertion Date Detail Reconciliation Period ResumedLiving Desertion Reconciliation Period	Error Message Displ The Applicant and th since should not be l The Applicant forme the Respondent from Respondent has des The total period of tir together is should no The total period of tir together is during the	ayed e Respondent have separated onger than 100 characters. d the intention to separate from n should not be longer than 100 erted Applicant since should not me parties resumed living ot be longer than 100 characters. me parties resumed living e desertion should not be longer	re use

SN	Issues	Resolution
18.	The filed document appears in the "Outbox" tray several hours later	When there is an error during submission which caused the submissions to be stuck, there is a standard operating procedure in place where the support team will monitor the status of stuck submissions and recover them. Thus, the filed document may appear in the "Outbox" only after some time.
19.	E-Litigation logs users out after 30 minutes, even when user is typing in a textbox and the draft which may not have been saved will disappear.	If no active activity (i.e., clicking/refreshing etc.) performed on the website for 30 minutes, the session is automatically terminated per security policies. In addition, a change will be implemented for having a warning or alert message that will notify users before their session expires. This alert will include an option to extend the session by an additional 30 minutes.



- 1. Users are requested to report issues to Helpdesk along with relevant details including screenshots of issues faced, to assist with faster resolution.
- 2. Reported incidents will be addressed based on the severity.
- 3. Helpdesk may reach out to the users to seek additional information/details.
- 4. Once the incident is addressed, helpdesk will update the user.
- 5. For enquiries or incidents pending user's feedback for more information, the ticket will be closed if the user did not respond within <u>7 working days</u>.





# Q&A

Page 51



# **KEY CHANGES IN THE NEW FJC PRACTICE DIRECTIONS**



# AGENDA

- General
- Matrimonial Applications
- Commencement of Proceedings
- Service of Documents
- Disclosure
- Court Hearings & Evidence
- Appeals under Part 19 of FJ(G)R

- PD 2015 will continue to apply to all proceedings governed by FJR 2014
- PD 2024 will apply to all proceedings governed by:
  - Family Justice (General) Rules 2024 ["FJ(G)R"]
  - Family Justice (Criminal Proceedings in Youth Courts) Rules 2024 ["FJ(CP)R"]
  - Family Justice (Protection from Harassment) Rules 2024 ["FJ(PH)R"]
  - All civil proceedings under the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act, Legitimacy Act, Probate and Administration Act and Wills Act
  - All civil proceedings for the distribution of an intestate estate in accordance with the Intestate Succession Act

Part 1: Introduction	Part 7I: Therapeutic Justice Model Part 15: Judgments and Orders		Part 23: Application and Citation of Case Numbers (Probate and Other Matters Proceedings)
Part 2: Proceedings under Part 10 of WC	Part 8: Disclosure	Part 16: Appeals	Part 24: Non-Contentious Probate Proceedings
Part 3: Quasi-Criminal Proceedings Part 9: Expert Evidence		Part 17: Appeals from Tribunals to Family Division and Case Stated	Part 25: Contentious Probate Proceedings
Part 3I: Enforcement of Child Access Orders Part 10: Relevant Professionals and Child Reports		Part 18: Costs	Part 26: Youth Courts
Part 4: Commencement of Proceedings Part 11: Parenting Coordination Programme		Part 19: Enforcement of Judgments and Orders	Part 27: Applicability of Court Forms
Part 5: Parties to Proceedings Part 12: Injunctions and Other Interim R before Hearing		Part 20: Court Fees	Appendixes A to F
Part 6: Service, Consent and Relevant Persons	t 6: Service, Consent and Relevant Part 13: Court Hearings and Evidence sons		
Part 7: Judge-Led Approach in Resolving Part 14: Payment Into and Out of Court Family Disputes		Part 22: Administrative Matters	

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Part 6: Service, Consent and Relevant Persons	Part 13: Court Hearings and Evidence	Part 21: Electronic Filing Services	proceedings	
Part 7: Judge-Led Approach in Resolving Family Disputes	Part 14: Payment Into and Out of Court	Part 22: Administrative Matters		

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Part 5: Parties to Proceedings	Part 12: Injunctions and Other Interim Relief	Part 20: Court Fees	Appendixes A to F	
			PD for	
Part 6: Service, Consent and Relevant Persons	Part 13: Court Hearings and Evidence	Part 21: Electronic Filing Services	FJ(CP)R	
Part 7: Judge-Led Approach in Resolving Family Disputes	Part 14: Payment Into and Out of Court	Part 22: Administrative Matters	proceedings	

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Part 5: Parties to Proceedings	Part 12: Injunctions and Other Interim Relief before Hearing	Part 20: Court Fees	Appendixes A to F	
Part 6: Service, Consent and Relevant Persons	Part 13: Court Hearings and Evidence	Part 21: Electronic Filing Services	FJ(P)R	
Part 7: Judge-Led Approach in Resolving Family Disputes	Part 14: Payment Into and Out of Court	Part 22: Administrative Matters	proceeding	

Part 1: Introduction	Part 7I: Therapeutic Justice Model       Part 15: Judgments and Orders (except para 145)		Part 23: Application and Citation of Case Numbers (Probate and Other Matters Proceedings)
Part 2: Proceedings under Part 10 of WC	Part 8: Disclosure	Part 16: Appeals	Part 24: Non-Contentious Probate Proceedings
Part 3: Quasi-Criminal Proceedings	Part 9: Expert Evidence	Part 17: Appeals from Tribunals to Family Division and Case Stated	Part 25: Contentious Probate Proceedings
Part 3I: Enforcement of Child Access Orders	Part 10: Relevant Professionals and Child Reports	Part 18: Costs	Part 26: Youth Courts
Part 4A: Commencement of Proceedings (except para 53)	Part 11: Parenting Coordination Programme	Part 19: Enforcement of Judgments and Orders	Part 27: Applicability of Court Forms
Part 5: Parties to Proceedings	Part 12: Injunctions and Other Interim Relief before Hearing	Part 20: Court Fees	Appendices A to F
Part 6A: Service of Documents	Part 13: Court Hearings and Evidence	Part 21: Electronic Filing Services	PD for FJ(PH)
Part 7: Judge-Led Approach in Resolving Family Disputes (except Part 7B)	Part 14: Payment Into and Out of Court	Part 22: Administrative Matters	proceedings

- Appendix A: Forms for use in FJ(G)R
- Appendix B: Common forms for use in FJ(G)R and FJ(P)R
  - Includes list of ROC 2021 forms which apply to FJC proceedings
- Appendix C: Forms for use in FJ(P)R
  - Includes list of ROC 2021 forms which apply to probate proceedings
- Appendix D: Forms for use in FJ(PH)R
- Appendix E: Sample bills of costs
- Appendix F: Forms for use in FJ(CP)R

- Requirements of court documents are found in the PD forms
  - Where there is a specific PD form available for a court document, provisions on what is required in the document are incorporated into the PD form instead of the PD text (e.g., the details required in an affidavit for substituted service / dispensation of service are incorporated into the PD form).

# Section 2C: Virtual service via virtual address, mobile numbers or social media

a. I believe that Enter name or party type here can be contacted at:

Enter virtual address / contact number / virtual account / social media account here.

- b. 🗆 I believe that this
  - $\Box$  virtual address and/or contact number
  - social media account

belongs to <u>Enter name or party type here</u> and remains active.

- A selected number of Forms are re-designed as E-Forms.
- E-Forms are implemented in eLitigation as dynamic structured questionnaire templates:
  - Applicable fields appear for completion based on prior user-selected options
  - Auto-generation of court document using the information provided

## Examples of E-Forms (non-exhaustive list):

- OA for Divorce / Judicial Separation / Presumption of Death and Divorce / Nullity
- Reply to OA for Dissolution of Marriage
- Draft Ancillary Reliefs Order
- Affidavit of Split Care and Control
- First Ancillary Affidavit
- OA / Summons for Children Orders (new orders only)
- Summons for Spouse / Children Maintenance (new orders only)
- Summons for Subservice / Dispensation of Service
- OA for Adoption of Child
- Summons for Disclosure
- Consent

#### Forms

2A,

P.2, r.2, 5, 7, 8 FJ(G)R 2024 Para 11, 12 PD 2024

#### Originating Application for Divorce / Judicial Separation / Presumption of Death and Divorce

The table in the next page sets out the sections of this Form which you must complete.

This Form contains Notes to help you in the completion of the form. Please note that the Notes are <u>NOT</u> to be construed or regarded as a substitute for legal advice or advice on Central Provident Fund Board ("CPFB") or Housing and Development Board ("HDB") policies. Please seek legal advice or consult CPFB / HDB if necessary.

This form, when submitted to the Court, will be generated in accordance with Form 3.

This Notice serves as a reminder to the Applicant and does not appear as part of the issued Originating Application ("OA").

#### IMPORTANT: Duty to consider amicable resolution

Pursuant to the Family Justice (General) Rules 2024 ("FJ(G)R 2024"), you are required to consider amicable resolution of the dispute before and after commencing Court proceedings. This means that you should either:

explore alternative ways of settling the dispute without resorting to legal action; or
 make an offer to the other party to settle the dispute.

For more information on your obligations, please refer to the Information Sheet on Amicable Dispute Resolution and Part 4 of the FJ(G)R 2024. P.2, r.18 FJ(G)R 2024, Para 29(2) PD 2024

E-FORM

PDF UPLOAD

#### Binding Summary of Positions ("SOPO")

17A

#### Why is this Form important?

This Form contains both parties' FINAL positions for the hearing of ancillary matters.

Both parties must confirm that your positions are accurately set out by signing the Form even if you are represented by lawyers.

#### How do you complete this Form?

This Form must be completed by BOTH parties. As guidance, you may wish to refer to the relevant sections in your respective affidavian filed for ancillary autress (eg. ancillary affidavits, disclosure affidavits) to complete this Form.

The Applicant (A) will start the process by completing his/her part of the Form indicated as "His/hond" or "Wife". A will provide the partially completed Form in soft copy to the Respondent (R).

R will complete his/her part of the Form and include his/her response to A's position (where applicable). R signs the Form and returns the Form in soft copy to A.

A will complete his/her response to R's position (where applicable) in the returned Form. A signs the Form and files the completed Form in Court.

A is to serve the completed Form on R.

During the hearing, the Court will use this Form with (a) parties' Written Submissions ("WS") and (b) Core Bundle of documents ("CB").

In this Form, you are required to cross-refer to the CB and the WS. Please ensure that the references are accurate.

This form contains Notes to help you in the completion of the Form. Please note that the Notes are <u>NOT</u> to be construed or negarded as a substitute for legal advice. Please seek legal advice if necessary.

	If you are asking for			
Complete:	Child(ren) orders	Division of assets	Maintenance of child(ren)	Maintenance of wife /

### Table of Forms in Part 27

Serves as a content page to give a quick overview of the PD forms. The table identifies the rule / PD references for each form and guides the users on when the court form is to be used.

Form No.	Form Title	Applicable Rule(s) / PD Paragraph(s)	When should the form be used?	Remarks
55A	Originating Application / Summons for Children Orders (New Orders only)	P.5, r.1 FJ(G)R P.5, r.15 FJ(G)R	<ul> <li>To apply for:</li> <li>(a) Custody, care and control, access orders for child(ren), with or without maintenance for child(ren);</li> <li>(b) Appointment of guardian of child(ren); with or without maintenance for child(ren);</li> <li>(c) Maintenance for child(ren) under the Guardianship of Infants Act 1934 ("GIA");</li> <li>(d) Orders under GIA; or</li> <li>(e) Orders under section 17(1)(d) of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act 1969.</li> <li>For details on whether the application is to be made by Originating Application or summons, please refer to the help notes in the Form.</li> <li>For more details on when the form cannot be used, please refer to the help notes in the Form.</li> </ul>	

# MATRIMONIAL APPLICATIONS

Part 2

# **SECTION 94A(4) WC APPLICATIONS**

- Seeking the Court's approval to proceed with OAD without Applicant satisfying the Mandatory Co-Parenting Programme ("CPP") requirement under section 94A(4) of the WC
  - Application can be made within OAD: para 11(1)
  - Applicant should not serve the OAD on Respondent until the Court has granted approval: para 11(2)

# SIMPLIFIED HEARING TRACK

- Simplified hearing track is available where the parties have reached an agreement on:
  - a) the divorce / judicial separation only; or
  - b) the divorce / judicial separation + at least one AM relief; or
  - c) the divorce / judicial separation + all AM reliefs;

before the filing of the OA. [para 15]

## SIMPLIFIED HEARING TRACK

- If the agreement is to proceed on both originating application ("1st OA") and crossapplication ("Cross OA") in the simplified hearing track:
  - Applicant of the 1st OA should inform Respondent once the 1st OA is filed in order that Respondent may proceed to file the Cross OA within 3 working days: para 15(8)
  - A party cannot file a Cross OA which seeks different reliefs from the 1st OA: para 15(9)

#### Example:

- A party cannot file a cross application for judicial separation in response to an originating application for divorce. Instead, that party must file an originating application for judicial separation as the 1st OA is for divorce.
- In the event that a second originating application is filed seeking different reliefs ("2nd OA"), the party filing the 2nd OA should immediately inform the Family Court via email that there are 2 originating applications in relation to the same marriage, stating both case numbers and the scheduled hearing date(s): para 15(10)

## **SIMPLIFIED HEARING TRACK**

If the parties reached an agreement on the divorce / judicial separation + all AM reliefs before the filing of the OA, the agreed AM orders sought should be stated in the OA (E-Form).



## **AGREEMENT ON AM RELIEFS**

- In other scenarios, whether on simplified hearing track or not, the agreement on AM reliefs will be filed as a Draft Ancillary Reliefs Order ("DARO") (E-Form).
  - Filing party completes a "questionnaire" to generate the DARO



#### Part B: Asset Pool

- 2a. The agreement concerns property in which CPF monies is used and will require any of the following action to be taken:
  - (a) Sell in the open market
  - (b) Surrender to HDB
  - (c) Transfer to another party with full refund of outgoing owner's CPF monies
  - (d) Sale of part-share to another party with full refund of outgoing owner's CPF monies.
- 2b. The total <u>gross</u> value of matrimonial assets which the Court is required to determine is between S\$2 million and S\$4.99 million.

#### **Generated DARO**
## **AGREEMENT ON AM RELIEFS**

Access

other parent

General arrangements for the child to spend time with the

	You may wish to refer to the Family Orders Guide for other types of orders. The parties are seeking these orders:			
Joint		$(\mathbf{x})$		
Custody Order The partie	s shall have joint custody of the child/ren of the marriage, namely		Sec The 1.	tion 2: Orders Sought e Applicant is seeking these orders: The parties shall have joint custody of the child/ren of the marriage, namely shall have care and control of the child/ren of the marriage, namely Generated DARO
	Close	9 C		

User Interface

### **FIRST ANCILLARY AFFIDAVIT**

#### **Exhibits**

Standard list of documents set out in Table 16-1 of First Ancillary Affidavit Form in PD 2024.

Fable 16-1						
Exhibit number	Reference in Affidavit to the exhibit (e.g. Paragraph 1 of Section 5)	Page numbers				
Supportin	ng Documents (Standard documents)					
Section 1						
E1	Completed Notice of Syariah Court Proceedings Form (Form 58)	Enter page no. here				
E2	Syariah Court commencement certificate (referred to in paragraph 3a of the Notice of Syariah Court Proceedings Form)	Enter page no. here				
E3	Syariah Court continuation certificate (referred to in paragraph 3b of the Notice of Syariah Court Proceedings Form)	Enter page no. here				
E4	Consent and Syariah Court certificate of attendance (referred to in paragraph 3c of the Notice of Syariah Court Proceedings Form)	Enter page no. here				
Section 3						
E5	Statement of Affairs for Bankruptcy for self and/or ex-spouse (if "Yes" is answered for Section 3 questions 2a and/or 2c)	Enter page no. here				
E6	Income and Expenditure Statement for self and/or ex-spouse (if "Yes" is answered for Section 3 questions 2a and/or 2c)	Enter page no. here				

E7	Court order relating to a minor child (excluding orders made in the current proceedings)	Enter page no here
E8	Medical report of a child. Note: If the medical report relates to custody or welfare of the child and you do not have the Court's permission, do not exhibit the report in this affidavit.	Enter page no here
ection 6		
E9	Payslips or similar documents to show evidence of income for the past 6 months	Enter page no here
E10	Current employment contract OR similar evidence showing the current terms of my employment	Enter page no here
E11	Tax assessment notices or similar documents for the past 3 years	Enter page no here
E12	Updated ACRA search results or similar documents to show ownership of my businesses	Enter page no here
E13	Current tenancy agreement or similar evidence showing the rental I receive	Enter page no here
E14	Updated search results on my bankruptcy status from the Ministry of Law's Insolvency Office	Enter page no

## **BINDING SUMMARIES**

### 2 types of binding summary: para 20

Bi	nding Summary of Position - Form 17A	Binding Summary of Position (Simplified) - Form 17B		
•	<b>Default:</b> Form 17A is to be used unless the Court directs otherwise.	<ul> <li>Exception: As a guide, the Court may allow the us of Form 17B if the disputed financial matters invo only:         <ul> <li>1 immovable asset in Singapore; and</li> <li>assets which do not require valuation.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	se Ive	
•	Must be accompanied with a Core Document Bundle	<ul> <li>As a guide, where the Court allows the use of Form 17B, the Court may dispense with the Core Document Bundle.</li> </ul>	m	

Para 20(5) to (7) sets out the process and pointers on how parties are to complete the binding summary.

# COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

Part 4

## **NOTICE OF PROCEEDINGS**

OA is to be served with the applicable Notice of Proceedings: para 53

Exception: OA for orders under the Protection from Harassment Act 2014; OA for an appeal against the decision of a tribunal, an application for case to be stated or an application by way of case stated

# **SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS**

Part 6A

- Requirements in para 79 of PD 2015 are incorporated within the "Summons for Substituted Service / Dispensation of Service" form in PD 2024 (E-Form).
- Applicable fields appear for completion based on mode of service selected.

Application	> Application		
Supporting Docume	nts		
Affidavit Deponent	State the document(s) to be served: $\star$		
Introduction	Originating Application for Divorce		
Substituted Service	State who is the person to be served: *		
Other ways to effect service	The Applicant is applying for: 0		
O Summary of Claim	Dispensation of Service		
<ul> <li>Affirmation</li> </ul>	Others ①		
O Exhibits	Costs of this summons		
	O Costs in the cause.	_	
	No orders as to costs.	Exa	mple 1: Dispensation of Service
	Each party to bear own costs.		

contact with the person to be served <b>(</b>	
The Applicant has never contacted	
The last time the Applicant had contact with	was:
Enter month /year here.	
The details are as follows: *	
Enter details here.	
In the past they would communicate with each other	
Enter details here	n uns manner
Liner details here.	
	1.
The Applicant is not able to contact	Ising the same way. The reasons why the Applicant is unable to contact

nysical Address 🕚	
The Applicant has ast known address.	
The Applicant does not have ast known	address:
The reasons why the Applicant does not have	last known address are: *
Enter details here.	
	1.
cating the person to be served through his/her social con	tacts 🚯
The Applicant knows	
Family	
Friends	
Employer	
State who the social contacts are, how the Applicant k	nows them and why the person to be served cannot be located through them:
Enter details here.	
	1.
The Applicant does not know	
Family	
Friends	
Employer	
These are the reasons why the Applicant does not know	/ family / friends / employer: *
Enter details here.	

#### **Example 1: Dispensation of Service**

Virtual address, Mobile number or Social media 🚯							
1 If you have applied for substituted service using 1 method of virtual service (e.g. Virtual address or mobile number), complete this section for the other method of virtual service (e.g. Social media)							
Option 1: Virtual address or mobile number							
	The Applicant is aware that has the following virtual address or mobile number (e.g., email, WhatsApp, SMS): *						
Ò	The Applicant does not have any of virtual address or mobile number.						
State the reasons for your statement: *							
	Enter details here.						
	1.						
Option 2: Social Media							
	The Applicant is aware that owns the following social media account(s)(e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Wechat): *						
0	The Applicant is not aware any of social media account. The Applicant has conducted a search on the following social media using name:						
	The Applicant is unable to search for social media account:						
	opt						

#### Example 1: Dispensation of Service

Advertisement 🚯						
Nationality						
Select V.						
The Applicant is not aware of a nationality.						
Literacy						
is literate in the Select V language.						
The Applicant is not aware of literacy.						
Residency						
The Applicant believes that currently resides in the following state/province, country: *						
The Applicant does not know whereabouts.						
Habit of reading newspapers						
has a habit of reading newspaper, namely:						
does not have a habit of reading newspapers.						
The Applicant is not aware if reads newspapers.						
Other Information						
If the Applicant would like to provide other information to support his/her application, please do so here.						
Enter details here.						
Example 1: Dispensation of Service						

Part 8

- No requirement to issue request before filing a summons for disclosure.
- Summons to be filed within 14 days after affidavit served: P. 9, r. 5(3) FJ(G)R



### Voluntary request and disclosure process: para 92

- Requesting Party ("RP") writes to Disclosing Party ("DP") to specify (a) the documents / information sought, and (b) the date by which DP must respond whether such disclosure will be provided ("the specified date").
- If DP agrees to provide full or partial disclosure:
  - DP must respond by the specified date stating the extent of disclosure not necessary to provide the actual document / information at this stage.
  - RP must file and serve Form 85A within 7 days from the specified date, to inform the Court of the agreed scope of disclosure.

#### Voluntary request and disclosure process: para 92

- RP may request the Court records a consent order for disclosure as per the agreement in Form 85A.
- If RP wishes to file a summons, s/he must adhere to the 14 days timeline, regardless of whether s/he has issued a voluntary request.

### Mandatory for Applying Party to annex Disclosure Table (Form 85, PDF) to the Summons for Disclosure.

P.2, r.17, P.9, r.5, r.10 FJ(G)R 2024

85.

Disclosure Table: The Applying Party's Table

Case No.: Enter case no. here

Date: Enter date here

PDF UPLOAD

Each row should contain only 1 subject matter or item (E.g. xx bank account number: xxxx). Please number each row consecutively.

I am asking for information / documents		Reference Enter reference here. Enter reference here.		Party who filed the affidavit: Enter name or party type here.		Filing date of affidavit:	
pertaining to the Affidavit(s): (If there is more than 1 affidavit, assign a reference to each affidavit, e.g. PA1, PA2)						Enter date here.	
				Enter name o	r party type here.	Enter date here.	
No.	Information or document required*	Is the original document required? (Please select: Yes or No, Not applicable)	Requested timeframe Requested frequency	Refer Affid If the refere affida claim	ence in the avit re is no ence in the avit, state the asserted.	<ul> <li>Reasons for the request</li> <li>State: <ul> <li>a) How is the disclosure necessary for the dispute?</li> <li>b) Does the Responding Party have the requested documen or information?</li> <li>c) Can the Responding Party obtain the requested documen</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
S/No	Enter details here.	Select an option.	Enter details here.	Enter details here.		Enter details here.	
S/No	Enter details here.	Select an option.	Enter details here.	Enter	details here.	Enter details here.	

### Mandatory for Responding Party to file Reply to Disclosure Table (Form 87, PDF).



#### How to provide disclosure: para 93

- Where the Court allows or the parties mutually agree, the disclosing party may elect to provide the documents / information by (a) filing and serving a separate affidavit containing the same or (b) correspondence in any agreed manner of communication such as letter or email.
- When providing disclosure in any manner, the disclosing party must ensure that the provided documents / information are tagged to the specific item of request. For this purpose, the disclosing party may prepare a List of Disclosure with the following information:

Item no.	Brief description of	<b>Documents</b> / information
(in Court order or	information / document	found in pages:
disclosure table)	required	
E.g. S/N 1 in	E.g. Bank account statements	E.g. Pages 56-85
Disclosure Table	for POSB account ending	
	with 1111	

### <u>Relying on documents / information disclosed through correspondence: para 94</u>

- \*Applicable where a party, in his or her subsequent affidavits, refers to documents / information which were disclosed only through correspondence.
- The party should identify the document / information by specific reference to the relevant correspondence in which the disclosure was made (e.g. S/N 1 in List of Disclosure dated 31 May 2024); and if appropriate, exhibit the disclosed document / information.

### **Relying on documents / information disclosed through correspondence: para 94**

- A party must file a Third Ancillary Affidavit to exhibit documents / information disclosed by him or her which are not included in his or her First or Second Ancillary Affidavit but are referred to in the other party's Second Ancillary Affidavit: P. 2, r. 16(5) FJ(G)R
- To avoid the need to file a Third Ancillary Affidavit, the parties should liaise with each other to ensure that all relevant evidence is included in the Second Ancillary Affidavit as far as possible.
  - Party A who intends to rely on the disclosed documents / information given by Party B should give reasonable notice to Party B ahead of the deadline for the Second Ancillary Affidavit. This will allow Party B to include those documents / information in his or her own Second Ancillary Affidavit.

Part 13

- Formatting requirements for written submissions: para 126(3)
- Page limits (prescribed in PD) for written submissions applies to: P. 15, r. 21(1) FJ(G)R
  - any originating application;
  - any summons to vary or rescind a judgment or an order made after a hearing on the merits of any originating application; and
  - any application made in the same manner as an application for a summons under the Criminal Procedure Code 2010.

#### Formatting & Page Limits

### ▶ Para 126(4):

S/N	Application	Prescribed page limit	
(a)	Application for a claim for ancillary relief under Part 2 of the Family Justice (General) Rules 2024		
(b)	Variation of an order made pursuant to an application in S/N (a)		
(c)	Application for a final order under section 17(1)(d) of the Supreme Court of Judicature Act 1969	50 pages	
(d)	Application for a final order under sections 8 and 14 of the International Child Abduction Act 2010		
(e)	Application for a final order under the Guardianship of Infants Act 1934		
(f)	All other applications	35 pages	

Page limits include the cover page, table of contents, footnotes and all annexes and appendixes: para 126(5)

Consent

- When an agreement has been reached between the parties and the terms of the agreement are different from the orders sought in the originating application or summons, the parties shall state the terms of the agreement and provide their consent in the relevant form: para 129(2)
  - Form 108A Consent (General) (E-Form)

#### IN THE FAMILY JUSTICE COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

Case No.: FC/OAG 99/2024	Between
	Jerry (Singapore Birth Certificate No. 12345)
	Applicant(s)
	And
	Balla
	(NRIC No. S7685447E)
	Respondent(s)
	Consent (General)
You can use this Form for more that apply to all persons. Otherwise, ples selected.	an 1 person to indicate their consent if the same options are use a separate Form for persons with different options
<b>IMPORTANT</b> : Before signing this are consenting to carefully. You m other party's lawyer) to understand to	consent, you <b>MUST</b> read the entire document which you ay also wish to consult an <u>independent</u> lawyer (not the the legal effect of the document. Your signed consent will

#### Agreed Terms

The terms of the agreement between the parties which are to be recorded as a Court order are set out below:

be submitted to the Court and may affect your legal rights and obligations.

- The parties shall have joint custody of the child, with care and control to the Respondent.
- 2. No order as to costs.

Section 1: Consent

State the main case number: FC/OAG 99/2024

#### State the parties in the intended proceedings:

Applicant : Jerry

Respondent : Belle

- I understand the nature and effect of the orders sought in

   (a) the agreed terms
- I have read and understood the contents of

   (a) the agreed terms
- I consent to the making of the orders sought in

   (a) the agreed terms

#### 4. Person(s) signing this consent:

Name	NRIC/FIN/ Passport number	Singapore address or email address	Party type in proceedings (e.g. Respondent / Co-Respondent / Named Person	
Belle	\$7685447E	58 CIRCULAR ROAD Singapore 049413	Respondent	

Signed by Tan Mei Ling

Counsel for the Respondent Belle Training Lawfirm 1 Date:

17/09/2024

#### Consent

# APPEALS UNDER PART 19 OF FJ(G)R

Part 16

# APPEALS UNDER PART 19 OF FJ(G)R

Formatting & Page Limits

- Formatting requirements for written submissions, appellant's Case, respondent's Case: para 146(2)
- Page limits: para 146(3)

Type of appeal	Rule	Appeal document	Prescribed page limits
Division 2 — Appeals from Registrar to District Judge in proceedings in Family Court and to Judge in proceedings in Family Division	Part 19, Rule 18(6)	Written submissions	35 pages
Division 3 — Appeal from judge of Family Court to Family Division	Part 19, Rule 23(6)	Written submissions	35 pages
Division 4 — Appeals from judgments and orders made after hearing on merits	Part 19, Rule 32(1)	Appellant's Case Appellant's core bundle of documents (excluding the written judgment or grounds of decision of the lower Court and the extracted order of the lower Court)	35 pages 55 pages
		Respondent's Case Respondent's core bundle of documents	35 pages 35 pages

Page limits include the cover page and table of contents: para 146(4)



# NEW PRACTICE DIRECTIONS FORMS (FJRG)



# GENERAL GUIDELINES ON FORMS

#### **GENERAL GUIDELINES** Table of Forms (TOF) Alerts users to the changes Use <u>specific forms</u> which apply to the application. from the old regime Refer to Table of Forms (Part 27 FJC PD) for information on the use of each form. Applicable Rule(s) / PD When should the form be used? Form Form Title Remarks No. Paragraph(s) Includes: To file as: P.2, r.2 FJ(G)R (a) Party's consent to simplified proceedings for P.2, r.5 FJ(G)R (a) Originating application (Simplified); divorce and judicial separation; (b) Cross-application (Simplified); Originating Application for P.2, r.7 FJ(G)R Divorce / Judicial Separation 2A P.2, r.8 FJ(G)R (c) Originating application; or (b) Summons without notice for approval under / Presumption of Death and section 94A(4) of Women's Charter 1961: Divorce Para 11 PD (d) Cross-application. Para 12 PD (c) Request for hearing date for simplified proceedings. To file one

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

#### Table of Forms (TOF)

- Use <u>general forms</u> if there are no specific forms.
  - Generic Originating Application ((53A)
  - Generic summons (67A)
  - Generic affidavit (54)
- > Arrangement of Forms follow the arrangement in Rules. Rules follow life cycle of a case.

Forms	Part in FJRG	Subject matter
Forms 53-72	Part 5	Commencement of proceedings
Forms 73 – 76	Part 6	Parties and representation
Forms 77 – 81	Part 7	Service-related

> Arrangement of Forms follow the arrangement in Rules. Rules follow life cycle of a case.

Forms	Part in FJRG	Subject matter
Forms 53-72	Part 5	Commencement of proceedings
Forms 73 – 76	Part 6	Parties and representation
Forms 77 – 81	Part 7	Service-related

#### > Exceptions are (i) Part 10 WC proceedings & (ii) Quasi-criminal proceedings (standalone)

Forms	Part in FJRG	Subject matter
Forms 2A - 22	Part 2	Part 10 WC proceedings
Forms 23A – 49	Part 3	Quasi-criminal

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

### Forms are labelled <u>e-form</u> OR <u>PDF</u>

2A. E-FORM	2C. PDF UPLOAD
P.2, r.2, 5, 7, 8 FJ(G)R 2024	
Para 11, 12 PD 2024	Agreement That Marriage Has Irretrievably Broken
Originating Application for Divorce / Judicial Separation / Presumption of Death and Divorce	Down

e-form = digitized forms are composed in Elit

> PDF = forms are drafted offline and uploaded in Elit

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Cover page contains information on:
  - how to complete the form (images 1 and 2)
  - Related documents commonly filed together (image 1)
  - essential documents to prepare (image 3)

#### Image 1

#### Image 2

#### Request for 🗆 Trial 🗆 Hearing Date

This Form is to be used if you would like the Court to fix a Court hearing for your Originating Application for dissolution.

This table sets out the following information: (a) the sections within this Form to be completed (b) other Forms which are commonly filed together; and (c) the party who must complete the Forms.

	Party who must complete the Section(s)/Form(s)			
	If the matter is <b>uncontested</b> and the dissolution is granted on:			If the matter is contested
	Originating Application <u>ONLY</u>	Originating Application <u>AND</u> Cross-Application	Cross-Application <u>ONLY</u>	-
Section 1	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Cross- Application	Applicant
Section 2A	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Cross- Application	Not applicable
Section 2B	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Cross- Application	Not applicable
Section 3	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Applicant
Other Forms which are commonly filed together				
Affidavit for Uncontested Dissolution Hearing (Form 7)	Applicant in Originating Application	Applicant in Originating Application <u>AND</u> Applicant in Cross- Application	Applicant in Cross- Application	Not applicable

#### Binding Summary of Positions ("SOPO") (Simplified)

#### Why is this Form important?

This Form contains both parties' FINAL positions for the hearing of ancillary matters.

Both parties must confirm that your positions are accurately set out by signing the Form even if you are represented by lawyers.

#### How do you complete this Form?

This Form must be completed by BOTH parties. As guidance, you may wish to refer to the relevant sections in your respective affidavits filed for ancillary matters (eg. ancillary affidavits, disclosure affidavits) to complete this Form.

The Applicant (A) will start the process by completing his/her part of the Form indicated as "Husband" or "Wife". A will provide the partially completed Form in soft copy to the Respondent (R).

#### Image 3

#### Originating Application for Nullity

This Form contains Notes to help you in the completion of the form. Please note that the Notes are <u>NOT</u> to be construed or regarded as a substitute for legal advice or advice on Central Provident Fund Board ("CPFB") or Housing and Development Board ("'HDB") policies. Please seek legal advice or consult CPFB / HDB if necessary.

This form, when submitted to the Court, will be generated in accordance with Form 3.

#### Required Supporting Documents

To complete the form, you will require the following documents:

For <u>all</u> Nullity (excluding Cross-Application)	Copy of Marriage Certificate	
	Translation of Marriage Certificate (if not in English)	
	If applicable, deed poll to show change in the name in the Marriage Certificate	
	If applicable, document to show change in identification number in the Marriage Certificate	
	Child(ren)'s Birth Certificates	
	Translation of Birth Certificates (if not in English)	
If there are ancillary matters		



## QR CODE FOR QUICK GUIDE ON COMMONLY USED FORMS



https://go.gov.sg/quickguidefjgr



# DIVORCE BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT (DMA)

14 March 2025


### Women's Charter 1961

. . .

#### What constitutes the irretrievable breakdown of a marriage

**95A.**—(1) For the purposes of this Act, a marriage between X and Y is taken to have irretrievably broken down if and only if —

(*f*) subject to subsection (6)(c), *X* and *Y* agree that the marriage has irretrievably broken down.



# Women's Charter 1961

(6) For the purposes of subsection (1)(f) —

(a) an agreement must be in writing and must state the following matters:

(i) the reasons leading X and Y to conclude that their marriage has irretrievably broken down;

(ii) the efforts X and Y have made to reconcile;

(iii) the consideration *X* and *Y* have given to the arrangements to be made in relation to their financial affairs and any child of the marriage;

(*b*) the court must consider the stated matters in deciding whether to exercise its powers under Divisions 3 and 4 of Part 10A (amicable settlement of disputes); and

(c) the court must not accept the agreement if it considers, in all the circumstances of the case, that there remains a reasonable possibility that X and Y might reconcile.



# Form 2C (Previously Form 271)

3. We conclude that our marriage has irretrievably broken down for the following reasons:

(Please note that you must set out in detail the reasons leading the both of you to conclude that your marriage has broken down irretrievably. A bare agreement without explanation is not enough. You must provide sufficient particulars that would allow the court to assess whether there is any basis for your conclusion that your marriage has broken down irretrievably.)

4. We have made the following efforts to reconcile:

(Please provide details of efforts made, such as the number or frequency of such attempts, the nature of such efforts, and whether and what external help (professional or otherwise) was sought.)

## Form 2C (Previously Form 271)

5. We conclude that further efforts will not lead to a reasonable possibility that we may reconcile for the following reasons:

(Please state whether there are other options for reconciliation (such as seeking external help) that remain unexplored and explain why, considering the efforts you have made to reconcile, you believe that further attempts are not likely to succeed.)

The Minister of State for Social and Family Development (Ms Sun Xueling) at the Second Reading:

"... the Court will reject the agreement if there remains a reasonable possibility that parties might reconcile. This is a parties-centric test, assessed based on the circumstances of each individual case. The reasons given by parties will inform the assessment. For instance, in cases where previous efforts at reconciliation were few and insufficient, where reasons provided on the breakdown of the marriage appear vague and arbitrary and where parties do not seem entirely certain of their decision, the Court may choose not to accept the agreement.

The sufficiency or otherwise of the parties' reasons will inform the Court's assessment as to whether there remains a reasonable possibility of reconciliation. Whether there is such a possibility is a factual question in each case. As a parties-centric test, the possibility of reconciliation does not require the Court to impose an external, objective test for whether the marriage has broken down. At the same time, it permits the Court to weed out sham or frivolous agreements or cases where the parties are seeking a divorce for collateral reasons. We leave it to the Court to apply the test in actual cases and to develop the case law in this area.

I would like to emphasise that DMA will not lead to a quick and easy divorce. The sole ground of divorce remains, which is, the irretrievable breakdown of marriage. All safeguards of the divorce framework today will continue to apply, including the three-year time bar on filing for divorce and the three-month period before the divorce is finalised. The Court also retains the power to refuse to grant a divorce if it would not be just and reasonable.

Second, within the DMA framework itself, there are safeguards. Parties must explain the basis for their mutual agreement on the irretrievable breakdown of their marriage, what attempts they have made at reconciliation and what considerations they have in regard to their financial affairs and children.

The Court has the power to order parties to attend mediation, counselling and family support programmes. This will help filter out cases where reconciliation is still reasonably possible. The Court has the power to reject an agreement to divorce if there remains a reasonable possibility of reconciliation.

#### **TRAINING MATERIALS**



https://go.gov.sg/family-justice-rules





# THANK YOU

