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His Majestry Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

# **EXCERPTS FROM**HIS MAJESTY'S TITAH

"Sesungguhnya adalah harapan Beta supaya pada suatu ketika nanti semua pegawai-pegawai dan kakitangan kehakiman kita akan kesemuanya terdiri dari rakyat Beta iaitu sepertimana juga kedudukan Jabatan Undang-Undang sekarang. Tetapi yang penting sekali ialah memelihara kedudukan Kehakiman yang adil dan saksama. Kearah itu Beta menggesa rakyat Beta khususnya mereka yang masih berada di bangku sekolah dan institusi-institusi pengajian tinggi untuk juga memilih mata pelajaran-mata pelajaran undang-undang supaya pada satu ketika nanti mereka dapat memainkan peranan yang penting di dalam pentadbiran kehakiman dan kepeguaman baik di sektor Kerajaan mahu pun di sektor swasta."

Petikan Titah Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddulah, Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam sempena Istiadat Pembukaan Rasmi Bangunan Baru Mahkamah Besar Negara Brunei Darussalam pada 15hb Mac 1984.

"Although it is my hope that one day all our judicial officers and staff would be from my subjects as can be found in the Legal Department now, but the most important factor is the maintenance of the status of a just and impartial judiciary. Towards this end I call upon my subjects especially those who are still in schools and institutes of higher learning to choose law as a subject which they should pursue so that in future they would be able to play an important role in the administration of justice and laws either in the public sector or the private sector."

Titah of His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Official Opening of the New Supreme Court Building of Brunei Darussalam on 15th March, 1984.

## CHIEF JUSTICE SUPREME COURT

The Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon



# FOREWORD CHIEF REGISTRAR SUPREME COURT

The Honourable Haji Abdullah Soefri Bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin



#### بسم االله الرحمن الرحيم السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركلة

2019 was a busy and constructive year for the Judiciary. We continued our drive towards delivering court excellence and enhancing public trust and confidence in the legal system and strived to remain efficient and effective in administering justice amidst an environment with many changes.

Much has been accomplished in 2019 but much more work remains to be done. Turning to the year ahead, the Judiciary aims to improve our services by ensuring that Judges and Judicial officers will lessen the number of multi-task in carrying out their duties. This is designed to help the courts optimize their performance and it is expected that it will help us better focus our efforts in serving the people to the best of our abilities. In 2020, the Judiciary also intends to implement some key initiatives in expediting cases and further reducing the backlog through the improvement of our court processes.

The Judiciary has also taken steps to work with stakeholders to improve our services to all users and dialogues are planned with all relevant stakeholders on a quarterly basis in order to facilitate productive discussions on court initiatives and receive their feedback on them accordingly. We will continue to work together and strengthen our partnerships with all stakeholders involved to improve our justice system and we thank them for their continued support.

I would like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to outgoing officers and staff of the Judiciary. We would like to congratulate them on their achievements and extend our appreciation to them for their contribution to our organization and wish them well in their future endeavours. I would like to thank all the members of the organising committees for their hardwork and commitment.

Thank you for your presence today and I wish you all a happy and prosperous year ahead.

Haji Abdullah Soefri bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court (Chairperson of the Organising Committee)

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

#### Mission

"Administration of Justice"

#### Objective

"Upholding the Rule of Law"

#### Goals

"Securing Justice"

"Enchancing Access to Justice"

"Preserving Public Trust and Confidence"

#### **Values**

"Taqwa"
"Independence"
"Accountability"
"Timelines"
"Accessibility"
"Equality and Fairness"
"Integrity"

#### Principle

"To faithfully discharge judicial duties"

"To do right to all manner of people after the Laws and Usage of Brunei Darussalam without fear or favour, affection or ill will to the best of their ability"

"To be faithful and bear true allegiance to Brunei Darussalam"

# SPEECHES OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR 2019



### SPEECH BY : THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE

Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa, Special Adviser to His Majesty and Minister at the Prime Minister's office

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Abdul Mokti Bin Haji Mohd Daud, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office

Honourable Attorney General Yang Amat Arif Chief Syarie Judge Honourable Judges President of the Law Society Members of the Bar Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning. On behalf of the Judiciary it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the Opening of the Legal Year 2019.

#### **Judicial Reform**

In 2007 the World Bank sponsored the publication of a book entitled "Judiciary-Led Reforms in Singapore: Framework, Strategies and Lessons". This is an extract from the foreword:

"It has become increasingly evident that an efficient and effective judicial system is necessary to promote a sustainable environment of economic and social stability and the rule of law, in which other development initiatives (including poverty reduction, education, and gender equality) can flourish. As a result, judicial reform has come to occupy a prominent place in the priorities of many developing countries as well as in the programs of multilateral lending institutions and other organisations worldwide."

This passage in the Executive Summary is worth noting:

"Singapore is widely recognized as having one of the most efficient, effective judicial systems in Asia, perhaps in the world. Yet at the outset of the 1990s, its judiciary was inefficient and inaccessible to many. It was marked by the common problems of delays, high costs, and antiquated methods. So how did a judiciary that was inward looking, cloistered, and satisfied

with itself come to change so successfully and so quickly? Could any lessons derived from the experience help policy makers elsewhere to design and implement judicial modernization?"

The duty of the Judiciary is to deliver justice to all who seek justice. We acknowledge the many challenges facing the Judiciary. Incremental reforms will be undertaken to improve the quality of our justice delivery system. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. We can learn from the experiences of the more developed jurisdictions. The journey will be long and arduous but we are committed to stay the course. Standing still is not an option.

Timeliness will be our top priority and efficiency must become the norm in the administration of the courts. There must be a change in the work culture and a new mind-set. Steps that have been undertaken to ensure that hearings start on time, the number of adjournments in the course of a trial are reduced, active case management is practised, and timelines for the delivery of judgments are met, will improve performance in case disposal.

In July 2018 we set a target for the delivery of judgments by Judges, Magistrates and Registrars of one month in general and not exceeding 3 months in complex cases after the close of submissions.

In the pursuit of efficiency, however, the Judiciary must find the right balance to maintain public trust and confidence in the administration of justice. As the old adage goes: justice delayed and justice hurried can cause injustice. On the one hand cases should be disposed of in a timely manner and Judges should not delay justice as the cost to defendants or litigants may be loss of liberty or property. On the other hand no one should leave the court with the grievance of having been deprived of a full and fair hearing because the Judge was impatient. It is axiomatic that justice must not only be done but seen to be done.

#### Mediation

Mediation offers a non-confrontational and more harmonious way of resolving disputes. We have 7 Judicial Officers who are qualified mediators having received training and accreditation from the Singapore Mediation Centre. I encourage the Bar and litigants in person to embrace mediation as a means to settle their disputes.

The benefits of mediation are considerable. First, it is much more cost-effective than most other modes of dispute resolution. Mediation is not burdened with the procedural formalities and technicalities in litigation and quicker closure can be achieved with a reduction in professional charges and opportunity costs for the parties in dispute.

Secondly, mediation allows the parties to directly participate in the resolution of their dispute and to determine the outcome.

Finally, mediation is an effective method of dispute resolution. Statistics of the Singapore Mediation Centre show that out of more than 2,300 cases that have been mediated the overall success rate is 75%. In the Supreme Court the rate of settlement for cases which proceed to mediation in recent years has ranged between 66% and 81%.

As of August 2018 we have offered all litigants the opportunity of mediation before our accredited mediators. To date, in the High Court 11 cases have been identified for mediation and one out of 3 cases mediated has been successful. In the Intermediate Court 7 cases have been identified for mediation and 2 out of 4 cases have been successfully mediated.

#### "Bench Book"

The strict enforcement of criminal law has made Brunei Darussalam one of the safest countries in the world. But we are also mindful of the need for fairness in the administration of criminal justice.

On that note in order to maintain consistency and predictability in sentences passed by the courts the Judiciary has embarked on a project to produce a "Bench Book" containing guideline cases on a range of offences to provide assistance to Judges and Magistrates in discharging their sentencing function. I am pleased that despite their heavy workload the Magistrates and Registrars have to date completed a "Bench Book" on offences under the Penal Code, Misuse of Drugs Act, Road Traffic Act, Immigration Act, Income Tax Act and Excise Order.

I am confident that in the years to come there will be a greater level of consistency and predictability in sentences that will be of benefit to Judges, Magistrates, Prosecutors and Defence Counsel

#### **Judiciary Website**

The Judiciary Website has recently been enhanced and offers e-Practice Directions, e-Judgments from 1987 to 2018 and e-Publications. The Website will be reviewed regularly so as to provide a useful platform for information on court matters and for research.

#### **Professional Development**

Judicial Officers will be better able to maintain the high standards expected of them when they are provided with the opportunity to participate in professional development programmes.

With the support of the Prime Minister's Office the Judiciary invited the Singapore Judicial College to deliver a Judgment Writing Programme in October 2018 in the Magistrate's Court. Over three days our Judicial Officers, Syariah Law Judicial Officers and Officers of the Attorney General's Chambers participated in the programme to improve judgment writing in criminal cases.

We are grateful to Dean Foo Chee Hock and his officers from the Singapore Judicial College for the excellent programme customized for our Judiciary.

#### **Felicitations**

On behalf of all my colleagues I thank Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Hj Kifli for his service to the Judiciary as Chief Justice and wish him many happy years of retirement. We are also grateful to Dato Seri Paduka John Barry Mortimer for his leadership of the Court of Appeal and extend our best wishes to him on his retirement.

I congratulate Dato Ser Paduka Hj Hairol Arni bin Hj Abdul Majid on his appointment as Attorney General and thank him for his service and contribution to the Judiciary as High Court Judge. While we feel the void left by Dato Seri Paduka Hj Hairol's new appointment I am heartened in the knowledge that he will bring his dedication to upholding the rule of law, sense of what is just and fair and wealth of experience to the Attorney General's Chambers in the discharge of his duties.

In the Supreme Court the Bench has been strengthened by the appointments to the Court of Appeal of Justice Michael Burrell as President; Justice Michael Lunn, who was Vice President of the Hong Kong Court of Appeal, as Judge of Appeal; and Justice Pg Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina bte Pg Haji Duraman as High Court Judge. I thank Justice Pg Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina for her dedicated service as Chief Registrar.

We are pleased to welcome the return of Haji Abdullah Soefri Bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin to the Judiciary as Chief Registrar after his service as Assistant Solicitor General. Haji Abdullah Soefri's experience in the administration of the Magistrate's Court when he was Chief Magistrate will be a valuable asset in his new office as the Judiciary seeks to meet the needs of court users with an emphasis on quality and timely delivery of services.

I am delighted with the appointment of Judge Mohammed Faisal bin Pehin Datu Juragan Laila DiRaja Dato Seri Pahlawan Hj Kefli as full time Intermediate Court Judge. This is a timely appointment with the increase in the number of serious criminal offences tried in the Intermediate Court in recent years.

With the appointment of Pg Masni binti Pg Haji Bahar as Chief Magistrate, the return of Acting Senior Magistrate Pg Shahyzul Bin Pg Abd Rahman after successful completion of a LLM in International Commercial Law in University College London on a Chevening Scholarship, the appointments of Magistrate Pg Hazirah Binti Pg Md Yusof and Magistrate Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Hj Ibrahim, who were both Deputy Public Prosecutors, the Magistrate's Court is stronger.

The Bankruptcy Unit has also been strengthened with the appointments of five Deputy Official Receivers.

The Judiciary will ensure that those who are appointed to judicial office at all levels are of the highest calibre: competent, committed and of integrity.

#### **Pro Bono Services**

I commend the Law Society for its effort in expanding pro bono services to enhance access to justice. Last year there were 11 clinics with 26 law firms volunteering their services. Advice was given on criminal, commercial, personal injury and family law matters.

A legal aid fund was launched to provide legal representation to accused persons who are juvenile offenders or who suffer from mental disabilities.

I encourage all members of the Bar to volunteer their services. In the legal profession it is of course important to have a successful practice. However, it is equally important for lawyers, as members of a noble profession, to use their training to serve the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our community in the public interest.

#### Conclusion

I thank the Chief Registrar, officers and staff of the Judiciary for the preparations they have made for this Ceremony.

The support of the Prime Minister's Office, State Judiciary Department and Adat Istiadat Negara Office is also appreciated.

I am grateful to the Commissioner of Police for the Guard of Honour Parade which is not only ceremonial but reminds us of the role of the police in maintaining law and order.

Finally, on behalf of the Judiciary, I express my gratitude to you all for taking time to attend this occasion. Your presence reflects your interest in our judicial system which has contributed to the peace and prosperity enjoyed by the people under the leadership of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam.

I wish you all the best for the year ahead.



### SPEECH BY : THE HONOURABLE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni bin Haji Abdul Majid

Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa, Special Adviser to His Majesty and Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Amat Arif Chief Syariah Judge, Distinguished Guests Honourable Judges, Excellencies,

President of the Law Society, Members of the Bar, Ladies and Gentlemen

My Lord Chief Justice,

Assalamualaikum Warahatullahi Wabarakatuh and Good Morning, On behalf of the Attorney General's Chamber, firstly I extend my warmest congratulations to your Lordship on your elevation to the apex of the seat in the Supreme Court as Chief Justice.

Also, my warmest congratulations to Justice Pg Hajah Datin Paduka Hjh Rostainah binti Pg Haji Duraman on her appointment as Justice of the Supreme Court and Haji Abdullah Soefri bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Muluk Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin on his appointment to the office of the Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court.

These are well deserved appointments. Having worked with and alongside your lordship for some 25 years, I am in no doubt with your lordship visionary and resolute leadership, the Judiciary is in a good hand.

It is always a great honour and a privilege to be in attendance in this important occasion marking the opening of the legal year, a gathering to bring together the legal fraternity and everyone concerned with the law to reaffirm our commitment to uphold the principle of the rule of law, to honour and celebrate the liberty, justice and the independence of the Judiciary.

#### Cybercrime/Cybersecurity

Allow me to start this morning with this topic which appears to be of great concern to us and around the world relating to the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution.

The proliferation of the communication technology has already advanced at unprecedented speed and countries around the world have found themselves responding to wide ranges of issues from this so called  $4^{th}$  Industrial Revolution. With it, there is this new capacity for free

expression and free movement of information and with it a wide virtual landscape of audience. Due to this advancement of communication technology and connectivity, we found ourselves reacting to things that is happening much more quickly than before. Ministries and The Attorney General's Chamber without exception is confronted with newly rising and complex legal matters which compel us to be more innovative and dynamic in our legal advice and conduct of litigation.

Conscious of the fact that technology is driving the changes in almost all aspect of our lives, we must remain steadfast to keep abreast in drafting new laws in order to regulate them.

In August last year, we were honored to host the 11<sup>th</sup> China - Asean Prosecutor General Conference under the theme "Enhancing Capabilities and Cooperation in Addressing Cybercrime", which was attended by Prosecutors Generals from Asean Member states, China as well as the special Administrative Region of Hong Kong and Special Administrative Region of Macau. The take away from the conference is the strong commitment by ASEAN and China to work closely together to address cybercrime and transnational organized crimes at both national and regional level. Besides sharing best practices and way forwards, there is obvious realization by our ASEAN partners that we need China, as perhaps being the most technologically advanced nation in this region to underpin this process of cooperation if we are to be efficient and successful in combating this problem. At the end of the conference a joint declaration was signed by the parties to cement this commitment.

There is so much to be said about cybercrimes and cybersecurity threats that has been going on around the world and I am not going to bore your lordship with the specifics but suffice to say conscious of this fact, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Dipertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam has consented for the Attorney General's Chamber working closely with the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Communication to draft a new legislation to create a regulatory framework for monitoring and more efficient reporting of cybersecurity threats. At the same time, it also creates a licensing regime which also serve to regulate how data security be handled by mobile networks and data security provider. It is hope that this new law will add further dimension to data privacy, cybercrime legal frame work and cybersecurity as a whole.

#### **Legislation Amendments**

On the subject of legislation, last year we have made amendments to the provisions relating to criminal breach of trust (CBT) under the Penal Code by increasing the punishment of imprisonment for these offences. The custodial sentence for criminal breach of trust under section 406 has been increased from 5 to 10 years. CBT committed by carrier entrusted with property under section 407, the custodial sentence has been increased from 10 to 15 years. For CBT committed by clerks or servants, the custodial sentence may now extend to 15 years, which was previously 10 years. While, criminal breach of trust committed by civil servant, banker and merchant or agent, the custodial sentence is now 20 years' maximum which was previously 10 years.

Other amendments also incorporate 2 new sections where the new section 409A provides that it is not a defence to show that the property was openly appropriated or that the appropriation was duly recorded and entered in the book and account of any company or association or body of person whether incorporated or not.

Whilst, section 409B now provides a presumption in relation to offences involving criminal breaches of trust in that any person entrusted with property or with dominion over property is presumed to have acted dishonestly where it is proved that he had misappropriated the

property, used or disposed of that property in violation of any direction of law or suffered any person to do any of the acts.

#### Suicides / Mental health

Another matter of a significant concern which the Attorney General Chamber join with the Brunei Community, which I wish to share briefly this morning is over the rising rate of suicide and mental health issues. According to police statistics, from 2014 to 2017, the Royal Brunei Police Force has recorded 35 suicide cases, 6 cases in 2014, 8 each in 2015 and 2016 and 13 in 2017 and 9 attempted suicides. From January to August 2018 last year, there had been 11 suicides and 7 attempted suicides, an alarming number for a small country.

While society's perception and stigmatism discourage talking or for that matter admitting to having this issue, I believe more awareness programs (roadshows, public education) can help and with other relevant government agencies and nongovernment agencies (NGOs) providing social support and counselling in order to provide a mindset change on mental disorders. More training programs on the Mental Health Order for social workers, health professionals, family members concerned and teachers.

#### **Law Society**

Finally, I want to say a few words concerning the Law Society. The Law Society being the professional association for barristers and solicitors in the country acts not only as a disciplinary and regulatory body but as well represents the interest of its members. Born as a self-disciplinary body, in itself bring such an honored tradition being the so called "the champion of the people". The law Society obviously plays a positive and vital role in society, providing effective access to justice and professional advice on all legal matters, at the same time acts as one of the important machinery in maintaining checks and balances in the proper function of due process of the law.

Inevitably, however there will be occasion when lawyers fail to exercise selfdiscipline and fail to fulfill their commitment. On such occasion, they found themselves under disciplinary consideration. Currently, with our two-tier inquiry panel and disciplinary committee process under the Legal profession (Law Society of Brunei Darussalam) Order, delay in disposing the disciplinary process too often left complainants in a much discontentment and their obvious reaction is simply that the Law Society has failed them and accusation being made that the Law Society existence is solely to protect its members.

I personally know that there has been difficulty in getting members of the public to sit in the inquiry panel and disciplinary committee, given that most appear to know everyone else, thus raise this issue of conflict. Moving forward, perhaps it is timely that we should revisit this provision with a view of having only one tier inquiry panel or committee and the disciplinary evaluation process to be determined and dealt with by the court.

My chamber will work closely with the Law Society on this and hope to find a right balance of mercy and justice as such the rules should strive to give lawyers consistence and equitable responses to misconduct in a manner which is fair and judicious at all time and at the same time, expeditious in responding to these complaints. My concern is born solely with the impetus of maintaining standard and integrity of the Law Society.

On this important occasion, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the personnel of the Royal Brunei Police Force, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Narcotic Control Bureau, Royal Custom and Excise, the Prison Department, Immigration and National Registration Department and Labour

Department for their hard work, cooperation and dedication in maintaining peace and stability in the country which we at times taken for granted.

To conclude, I extend my sincere gratitude to the Chief Registrar and the organizing committee for their hard work and their excellent arrangement in this morning event. I wish your Lordship, members of the Judiciary, member of the legal fraternity and all present this morning a happy and successful new year 2019.

Thank you

#### SPEECH BY : THE PRESIDENT OF LAW SOCIETY On Hung Zheng



#### 1. Introduction

To the Honourable Chief Justice, esteemed members of the Judiciary, Chief Judge of the Syar'ie Court, Mr Attorney General, distinguished guests, fellow colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, I wish you all a very good morning.

I wish also to extend a warm welcome in particular to our overseas guests:

- 1) Mr Gregory Vijayendran, S.C., President of the Law Society of Singapore;
- 2) Mr Dato' Abdul Fareed, Vice President of the Malaysian Bar; and
- 3) Mr Ryan Soo, Treasurer of the Sabah Law Society;

Thank you for joining us today.

#### 2. A Look Back at 2018

As much as we look forward to the new year, it is important for us to pause and take a look back at what has come before and 2018 has certainly brought with it a lot of changes. We note firstly:

- 1. The retirement of Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli;
- 2. The retirement of Datin Seri Paduka Hajah Hayati binti Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Salleh as Attorney General;
- 3. The retirement of the President of the Court of Appeal, Dato Seri Paduka John Barry Mortimer.

On behalf of the Law Society, I offer our sincerest thanks and appreciation to their years or service and their contributions to the Judiciary and the legal community. We would like to congratulate them on their successful retirement and wish them joy in their further pursuits.

I would also take this opportunity to offer the Law Society's congratulations to:

- a. Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon as the Chief Justice;
- b. Dato Seri Paduka Hj Hairol Arni bin Hj Abdul Majid as the Attorney General;
- c. Mr Michael Peter Burrell, President of the Court of Appeal;
- d. Justice Pg Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina bte Pg Haji Duraman as High Court Judge;
- e. Haji Abdullah Soefri bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin as Chief Registrar;

- f. Judge Mohammed Faisal bin Pehin Datu Juragan Laila Diraja Dato Seri Pahlawan Hj Kefli as full time Intermediate Court Judge;
- g. Pg Masni bin Pg Haji Bahar, the Chief Magistrate;
- h. Magistrate Pengiran Hazirah binti Pengiran Yusof and Magistrate Kamaliah Fadhilah binti Haji Ibrahim; and
- i. Appointment of 5 new Deputy Official Receivers to the Bankruptcy Unit.

We wish you the very best in your recent appointments are confident that you will discharge your duties with distinction and to the utmost of your abilities.

#### 3. Legal Aid Clinic

A core element of the administration of justice is the assurance that each and every member of the public shares an equal access to competent legal advice. We are all aware that these are economically-trying times for Brunei and a natural consequence of which is that more and more people are unable to afford the costs of getting the legal advice they need to protect their rights. In 2018 the Law Society took a small but significant step to address this problem by reinstating the Legal Aid Clinic program.

In our efforts to expand the reach of the Legal Aid Clinic to benefit as many members of the public as possible, the Law Society has, for the first time, allowed applications for legal advice through our website and hosting legal aid clinic sessions at Belait Court.

In its current form, the Legal Aid Clinic only provides free legal advice to qualifying members of the public. However, the Law Society has recognised that pro bono advice can only go so far to assist those with more pressing legal dilemmas. Thus, we have now introduced a pilot scheme to provide funding to the Legal Aid Clinic so that our volunteer legal professionals may offer not just advice but also representation to individuals who are unable to afford their own counsel.

Currently, the funding scheme is limited in scope and is available only for cases involving mitigation and/or plea bargaining for certain crimnal offences and certain types of civil cases.

We would like to thank the Judiciary for their continued support in allowing us to use the Court's facilities to host the clinics. I would like to especially commend Ms. Veronica, the head of our legal aid committee and the lawyers from the 26 law firms who have taken time out of their busy schedules to particiapate in the clinics and to assist the less fortunate members of the public. It is a noble sacrifice which has been more eloquently described by American Justice Sandra Day O'Connor who said:

"Certainly, life as a lawyer is a bit more complex today than it was a century ago. The ever increasing pressures of the legal marketplace, the need to bill hours, to market to clients, and to attend to the bottom line, have made fulfilling the responsibilities of community service quite difficult. But public service marks the difference between a business and a profession. While a business can afford to focus solely on profits, a profession cannot. It must devote itself first to the community it is responsible to serve. I can imagine no greater duty than fulfilling this obligation. And I can imagine no greater pleasure." - 78 Or. L. Rev. 385, 391 (1999)

The Law Society re-iterates its hope that the authorities will consider the establishment of a legal aid fund to directly help the less fortunate members of the public who are unable to afford their own legal representation and better improve the public's access to justice.

#### 4. Law and its effect on society

In our work on the Legal Aid Clinic, the Law Society is reminded of the insparable bond between the legal profession and the community which we serve. We play an important role in the administration of justice and upholding the rule of law. The rule of law underpins the way which our society is governed and everyone from the private and public sector is bound by an entitled to benefit of laws.

Our ties to the community invariably means that the legal profession flourishes only when the community also flourishes. This includes the profession's ability to provide employment to an ever increasing number of law graduates. For the first time, the legal profession is finding it harder to resolve the oversupply of law graduates. It cannot be stressed enough that the growth of the profession is linked with the strength of our country's economy.

The Law Society notes that these are trying times and commends the authorities' ongoing efforts to embolden the nation's economy through diversification and by attracting foreign investment. An important aspect of working with other nations is the observance of the rule of law. A strong rule of law affects investor confidence in that their legal rights will be upheld and there is certainty in transactions entered into. This is precisely why laws have been enacted or amended and policies put in place these recent years that has resulted in Brunei leaping to 55th place globally (a jump of 50 places) for Ease of Doing Business according to the World Bank's Doing Business Report 2019.

#### 5. Ombudsman

The observance of the rule of law is not only the duty of the members of the public but also officials who serve public bodies. In order to further the Country's efforts to strengthen its economy and to promote the rule of law, it is our view that authorities ought to consider establishing the office of an ombudsman whose role would be to investigate and address complaints of mal-administration in the public sector. The Ombudsman may report his or her findings and make recommendations to the organization as to how the complaint may be redressed or imporved. The aim is to resolve complaints through recommendations or mediation which may help to identify issues such as poor service or a failure to comply with the relevant laws and regulations. We are hopeful that such an office will only work for the benefit of the country by increasing the effectiveness, transparency and efficiency of public administration. As a result, both local and foreign confidence to make long term investments will increase.

#### 6. Land Code

Public confidence in our legal system is also by clarity and certainty in the application of our laws. This undeniably includes the certainty of protections to individual property rights. The stability offered by those protections would incentivise local and foreign investment as well as creating a favourable environment to generate economic growth. One area of the law which my predecessors and I have addressed numerous times in the past is that of the Land Code.

The Law Society has given its views on the uncertainties in the land code amendments to the Ministry of Development and hopes that these issues may be resolved as soon as possible. I feel it is my duty to remind the authorities that we, not only lawyers, but members of the public require clarity and certainty on such a fundamental issue.

The continued uncertainty surronding the fundamental right to buy, sell and own property for a period of almost 7 years is having adverse effects not only on the legal profession but on the economy as a whole.

#### 7. Challenges/globalization of the profession

a. Increasing use of technology and automation
In the face of economic challenges, it is easy to see why markets for legal work may turn towards streamlining and cost-cutting the services which have traditionally been provided by people/human beings. The legal profession must become aware of an adapt to the increasing use of technology in our field. In China for example, artificial intelligence-assisted transcription and virtual courts are in place in some Chinese jurisdictions. Such technologies allow for the automated determination of certain disputes between parties who simply enter a set of facts into a computer system. It is no wonder there are now discussions on whether Al could indeed replace judges or lawyers in the future.

#### b. Globalisation

A natural result of increasing globalisation is that the national boundaries to engaging law firms have become more porous over the years and some jurisdictions have opened up their respective markets for legal services. While the access to a larger market of clients is in principle a positive thing, I would re-iterate that it is vital to regulate foreign law firms intending to establish their presence in the country. There must be a balance between opening up and the need to develop Bruneian law firms especially in light of our increasing number of local graduates and to allow these firms to compete with foreign law firms on a level playing field.

#### 8. Lawyers standards

a. Ethics and unauthorized persons

As members of the bar, we should uphold and maintain the highest possible standard of professional ethics and conduct. The legal profession has a duty not only to our clients but also to the Court to see that justics is adminstered fairly and to ensure that there is no miscarriage of justice. The standards of conduct required of members of the bar expressed in our Professional Etiquette rules. We also owe a standard of care to our clients, a breach of which, will expose us to a negligence suit.

Being a lawyer is not easy as we have to maintain a difficult balance between staying profitable and remaining true to the value of honesty, integrity, impartiality, and respect for person, the Court and the law. These values also mean that we are not to take advantage of our own clients or other members of the public. A breach of these Etiquette Rules will subject a lawyer to a disciplinary procedure which may result in suspension or fine.

Bearing in mind this backdrop, it is easy to see why our Legal Profession Act makes it an offence for individuals to practice the law in Brunei without being authorised to do so. These unauthorised persons are disruptive and injurious to the administration of justice in our country. They have no obligation to the Court or to the public and their sole objective is personal gain. They operate outside the code of professional ethics that a lawyer must adhere to and so and there is no deterrence against dishonest, negligent and nefarious conduct. The Law Society has received a number of complaints against a number of unauthorised persons and has filed police reports against these persons.

To cut a long story short, the Law Society will not hesitate to take the necessary actions in order to protect our profession.

#### b. Negative impression

It is fair comment for me to say that there are some negative impressions of lawyers and a quick look on the internet will come up with an uncountable number jokes about our profession. For example:

Q.: What's the difference between a good lawyer and a bad lawyer?

A.: A bad lawyer can let a case drag out for several years. A good lawyer can make it last even longer.

Rowing: Sometime this year during one of the practice session for our rowing team, the boat capsized at buaya infested waters. All 8 of the lawyers were in the water and all of them were not harmed. When asked by a witness who saw the whole thing, why they were not harmed. Ahmad Basuni replied "Professional Courtesy".

On a more serious note, members of the bar must reflect on their own practice and ask themselves if they are worthy to be a member of this noble and honourable profession. The public must have confidence in the legal profession and administration of the law. This means that the values which I have mentioned must be adhered to otherwise the profession will slowly lose its credibility and stature of being a respected profession.

#### 9. OR accounts

Sometime last year, the relevant authorities discovered missing funds from the Official Receiver's Accounts at the bankruptcy registry. The Court would note that various stakeholders have been affected by the missing funds not least of all, the public but also the creditors. Debtors who have fully paid their debts should be discharged from bankruptcy but equally creditors should be entitled to receive all of the payment due on those long outstanding debts. The Law Society looks forward to the just and quick resolution of the issues arising from these missing funds so that creditors can receive their dividends and debtors are released from the stigma of bankruptcy orders made against them.

#### 10. Initiatives by Judiciary

I am pleased to announce that for the very first time, Brunei will have a compendium for awards in personal injury cases. It was a collaborative effort between members of the legal profession and the judiciary who worked hard throughout the whole of last year to come up with this compendium. It is hoped that this table will be a useful guide to practitioners, judges and laymen of what can be expected in an assessment of damages for personal injury cases. The compendium is just a start but a big step forward in our continuing efforts improve the public's access to the law and perhaps one day, a more comprehensive could be compiled.

#### 11. Looking forward to 2019 and beyond

a) CPD Scheme Not only do we need to maintain a high standard of conduct and discipline, but we also must also continue to improve our professional skills. To this end, the Law Society is planning to organise an Advocacy training course sometime this year together with the International Advocacy Training Council. The Law Society have had preliminary talks with the Judiciary and Attorney General's Chambers on the establishment of a Continuing Professional Development scheme. The CPD scheme would be intended to improve the profession as a whole by requiring continuous legal education and updating of skills over time. It is my hope that this scheme will one day be realised and my successor will continue to push this initiative.

#### b) Amendments

The Law Society has submitted their proposed amendments to the Probate Act to have rules of distribution and hopes that it will be seriously considered to help bring certainty into this area of the law, an issue which I brought up last year.

We are also looking to amend the disciplinary procedures in order to have a fair and speedy resolution of complaints against lawyers.

#### c) Asean Bar Council

Sometime in July 2018, the Asean Bar Council was established. The Council's main focus is be to strengthen co-operation between lawyers in ASEAN and to support the rule of law. I am pleased to witness the birth of this historic body and am excited to see what the future holds for the Council.

#### d) Sports

Later this year, we will be holding a tri parties sports games between the private practitioners, the Attorney General's Chambers and Judiciary. Last year's games were a smashing success when as usual Law Society did not win the football, badminton, bowling, netball and rowing. But we did win a few gold medals in the running events. I have asked Mr Mansur why are we organising games (year after year) that we keep losing to other people. I rather be giving free legal advice than free gold medals! So perhaps this year we should just cancel all the sports events and only have running events!

#### 12. Conclusion

Before I conclude, it may be my last year serving as President, I would like to say that it has been a memorable experience and it has been an honour. I hope that the initiatives that my council has taken during my term will be carried forward.

My learned brothers and sisters, it is also my earnest hope that our profession can continue to be a light to society and protect and uphold our reputation and command the respect that comes with being in an "Honourable Profession".

I assure the Bar's full support for the Judiciary in all Courts. I reaffirm our commitment to cooperate with the Attorney-General's Chambers in the administration of justice and to seek to do justly and act efficiently in all cases before the Courts. I also extend to Your Honour, the Chief Justice, all your colleagues on the Bench, as well as the Honourable Attorney-General, the Bar's best wishes for your good health, fulfilment in all of your purposes and every other success.

## THE SUPREME COURT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### THE SUPREME COURT

#### **COURT OF APPEAL**



The Court of Appeal welcomed back Mr. Justice Burrell, Mr. Justice Seagroatt and Mr. Justice Lunn in 2019. The Registry has also maintained its team of Registrars, Legal Assistants, interpreters, Court Recorders and clerks in order to provide assistance to the Court during the Court of Appeal sessions.

For the first Court of Appeal session, a total of 17 criminal matters and 5 civil matters

were listed. The second session saw 20 criminal matters and 2 civil matters listed. Most criminal appeals filed were appeals against sentencing. With respect to civil cases, decided by the Court of Appeal, the appeal court Judges touched upon the importance of crystallising issues and to pay attention to the key issues so as not to delve into too many arguments that are irrelevant. On a similar issue in a further case, the Court of appeal stated once again affirmed their position by stating that parties should not 'become embroiled in disputes of facts which are largely irrelevant to the important, determinative issues' in the case.

With respect to Criminal cases, the Court of Appeal has noted that a substantial number of appeals are filed after the limitation period to file an appeal has passed. This has meant that there have been a number of applications for leave to appeal. Various dialogues have held with the Prison Records Unit so as to educate both Prison Officers and would-be appellants as to stipulated timelines when filing an appeal. There has been a slight improvement in the number of late appeals, in the May 2019 session the Court of Appeal received 8 applications for leave to appeal, and by November the Court of Appeal received 7 applications for leave to appeal.

As ever, regular discussions between the Judiciary and judges of the Court of Appeal take place before, during and after each session. When fixing a session, the Court of Appeal together with the Registry take into account various considerations including suitable period to hold the sessions, number of cases to be listed and the length of the session. This constant dialogue results in an adaptive and responsive system that deals with issues almost immediately and will continue on in 2020.



#### HIGH COURT REGISTRY

The High Court has emphasized the need to be efficient whilst providing quality services.

In the first quarter of 2019, the Registry participated in a re-shuffling programme that involved the movement of staff from various units within the Judicairy. A total of 3 staff were moved from the High Court Registry, including Legal Assistant Dayang Hasiah binti Abdullah who had been stationed in the Registry for over 20 years. Dayang Hasiah is now is an Assistant Official Receiver and it is without doubt that her years of experience in being involved with registry work will be invaluable to the Official Receiver's Chambers. Other staff that were moved were Haji Shamsul and Dayang Aziemah who have now been posted to the Official Receiver's Chamber and Probate Unit respectively. We wish them well in their new assignments and thank them for their services over the years.

The last quarter saw the appointment of two new judicial appointments for two Judicial Commissioners in the High Court. The appointments were well received by the Judiciary. The appointment of the Judicial appointments seek to ensuring the High Court is able to provide trial dates in a timely manner.

Mr. Justice Timothy Starbuck Woolley was sworn in before His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on 8 September 2019. Mr. Justice Woolley returns to Brunei Darussalam after being seconded from the Hong Kong Judiciary between 1987 to 1989. Whilst in Hong Kong Mr. Justice Woolley was Registrar of the Court of Final Appeal until 1999 and became a Deputy Judge until 2002. Mr. Justice Woolley is an Alternative Dispute Resolution Specialist and regularly conducts mediation and arbitration in all areas of civil disputes.

Mr. Justice Ramesh was appointed as Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam with effect from 7 October 2019 for a period of 2 years. Mr. Justice Ramesh was appointed Judicial Commissioner of the Singapore Supreme Court in May 2015 and was elevated as a Judge of the High Court in April 2017 where he still presides to date. Mr. Justice Ramesh is currently also a judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court hearing international commercial disputes.

The vast experience of both Judges is a welcome contribution to the jurisprudence of Brunei Darussalam.

As stated in the previous year, the High Court acknowledges that there is still much has to be done. The Registry is currently involved in a project aimed at reviewing current court processes to identify issues that may cause delays or areas where practices may be streamlined. The project will continue on through to 2020 where suggestions as to how to improve the processes and procedures will be looked into together with engagement with various stakeholders.



The Duty Registrar should still be the first port of call for any urgent issues. An open door policy has been maintained whereby no prior appointment needs to be fixed before seeing the Duty Registrar subject to his/her availability. This practice will continue and parties are encouraged to feel free to approach the Duty Registrar when there is a necessity to do so.

The Registry welcomes 2020 and looks forward to the many more advancements in delivering quality and efficient access to justice.

#### BANKRUPTCY OFFICE

#### Function

The Official Receiver's Chamber (more commonly known as the Bankruptcy Office) functions as the administrator for judgment debtors' estates, trustees for bankrupts' estates as well as the financial affairs of wound up companies. The office is headed by the Official Receiver and is assisted by Deputy Official Receivers and Assistant Official Receivers in its day to day work. Under the guidance and authority of the Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court, the

Bankruptcy Office is overseen by Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti binti Pg Hj Ismail and Hajah Hazarena binti Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Jaya Haji Hurairah in their capacity as Senior Registrars of the Supreme Court.

#### Deputy Official Receivers (DORs)

The main duties of the DORs are to hold creditors' meetings, manage Official Receiver's accounts and to declare dividends on a regular basis.

The Bankruptcy Office welcomes the addition of a new Deputy Official Receiver who effectively came under the list of active DORs in November 2019.



This addition increases the number of practicing DORs to nine (9) officers with five (5) officers sitting as DORs on a full-time basis. The list of practicing DORs are as follows:

- .Harnita Zelda Skinner
- ·Hajah Noor Amalina binti DP Haji Alaihuddin
- ·Hajah Ervy Sufitriana binti Hj Abdul Rahman
- ·Dk Siti Nursu'aidah binti Pg Jufrizar @ Pg Tajuddin (full-time)
- ·Hajah Normazdina binti Haji Md. Maskub (full-time)
- ·Muhd Muzakkir bin Haji Zakaria (full-time)
- ·Nurul Hidayah binti Hamdan (full-time)
- ·Nuuror-Raheebah binti Haji Abd Wahab (full-time)
- ·Nur Eleana binti Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni

#### Support Staff

The Registry is currently manned by the following support staff:

- Hasiah Bte Abdullah Assistant Official Receiver
- Abd Sa'adatul Firdaus Bin Matali Office Supervisor
- Rohayate Binti Haji Salleh Registration Clerk
- Haji Hanafi bin Ibrahim Clerk
- Hajah Fatimah Binti Hj Tahir Clerk
- Haji Md Shamsul Bin Haji Ismail Clerk
- Ahmad Haziq Bin Othman I-Ready Accounts Officer
- Yusrina Binti Rosli I-Ready Accounts Officer

#### Public Services:

- 1. Name searches: The Registry processes name search applications from both the government and private sector on both individuals and companies listed under bankruptcy proceedings.
- 2. Deed of Assignments: The Registry also registers Deeds of Assignments.

#### Enhanced Accessibility

To provide a better and faster means of communication with the Bankruptcy Office in respect of bankruptcy cases, the following email addresses has been set up: · bankruptcy. unit@judicial.gov.bn

This email account is created to receive direct correspondences from banking and financial institutions relating to bankruptcy and company winding up cases only. The Bankruptcy Office encourages the use of email correspondences as a faster means of communication with DORs on record. · kebankrapan@judicial.gov.bn

Judgment debtors can submit their applications or queries directly to the above-mentioned email without having to physically submit their correspondences at the Bankruptcy Registry. This email account is set up to provide convenience for judgment debtors without having to come to the Bankruptcy Registry on a regular basis.

#### Urgent applications

For urgent applications, the applicants (judgment debtors or legal representatives) can appear before a DOR on duty every Monday to Thursday only. The schedule of DORs on duty is available at the Bankruptcy Registry for ease of reference.

#### Flectronic bank statements

With the use of the Judicial Case Management System (JCMS), the Bankruptcy Office encourages banking institutions to issue out monthly bank statement in the form of electronic bank statements. These statements are to be emailed to official.receiver@judicial. gov.bn. This not only contributes to the nation's efforts to go green but also provides easy and faster access to bank statements via online searches for registered users on JCMS.

#### Note:

A weekly cause list of cases fixed before each Deputy Official Receiver is now made available under the Bankruptcy Office in the Cause list feature of the website. An alternative search on individual cases can also be made via the E-Filing website at https://efiling.judiciary.gov. bn/eFiling/index.jsp.

#### **PROBATE**

The probate registry is headed by the Probate Officer, Hj Abdullah Soefri bim POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Hj Abidin which is being overseen by Deputy Probate Officer, Harnita Zelda Skinner and assisted by Assistant Probate Officer and staff.

Full-time Deputy Probate Officers are as follows:

- 1. Radin Safiee bin Radin Mas Basiuni
- 2. Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pg Haji Ismail
- 3. Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ DP Haji Hurairah
- 4. Harnita Zelda Skinner
- 5. Hajah Noor Amalina Binti DP Haji Alaihuddin
- 6. Nur Eleana binti Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni

Currently there are 3 staffs manning the probate registry, Noraadiyaati @ Raadhiyah Binti Taha (Acting Assistant Probate Officer), Mahmud Zuhdi Bin Karim (clerk) and Aziemah Binti Zakaria (clerk)

Two new staff have joined the registry. Mahmud Zuhdi Bin Karim who is designated as clerk while maintaining his full –time work as a bailiff. Aziemah Binti Zakaria who has been in the High Court registry since 2011 is re-assigned to the registry also a clerk.

The function of the registry is to issue grant of probate (where there is valid will), letter of administration or (where there is no valid will), summary administration of intestate estate not exceeding \$25,000.00 and re-sealing grant for letter of administration.



In order to be recognized legally to deal with the deceased's estate in the case of where there is no will, an administrator must be appointed. In the event there is a will an executor would be appointed as named in the will. The letter of administration will be issued authorizing the person(s) to be appointed as the administrator to administer the estate and distribute the assets in accordance to Probate and Administration Act, Cap 11.

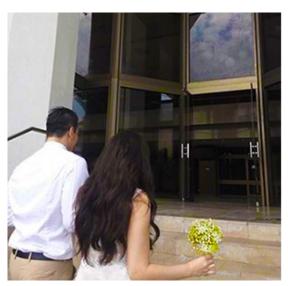
Whereby if there is a will, the deceased must specify a person to be appointed as the executor to carry out the instructions. The grant of probate is a court order authorising an executor to administer the deceased's estate in accordance to the instructions in the will.

Since 2015, the registry continues to deal with all probate matters electronically. All applications are operated using the electronic system making it more efficient to retrieve files and more accessible to obtain electronic datebase. However applications made for letter of administration and grant of probate are done by paper form since in almost all cases the applicants are layman in person.

The registry maintains its rapport and cooperation among the stakeholders such as Syariah Court, Information Department, Land Transport Department, Land Department and banks in ensuring that the assets are being distributed in an orderly manner. In order to provide a faster means of communication with stakeholders, an email address is created. With this email, the registry will be able to send and retrieve correspondences instantaneously without delaying any applications. Email address: probate.registry@judicial.gov.bn.

The registry will strive to further improve the system so as to expedite the process more efficiently and effectively in accordance to the current law which will be reviewed accordingly.

#### **MARRIAGE REGISTRY**



The Civil Marriages Registry continues provide services with respect to the registration of their civil marriages and name searches. Registering a marriage symbolises a significant ceremony and as such the Registry is committed to provide a fairly simple process when making an application to register civil marriages.

Currently there is a pool of six Marriage Registrars and a pool of 3 shared clerks on hand to ensure that applications are received and processed and that civil marriages are registered. By law, notice of the intended marriage for a period of 2 weeks must be given before a marriage is registered. There are exceptions to this rule where applicants may forgo the 2-week waiting period subject to the discretion and availability of the Marriage Registrar. Special dates may be requested by intended couples subject to the availability of the marriage registrar.

The use of technology through JCMS has continued to play a part in improving registry services. In the past, couples would have to wait 7 days to collect their marriage certificate, however, now with the use of technology couples will usually receive their marriage certificate on the day after the exchange of vows. There is also an electronic database of marriages making searches very much more efficient.

The Registry is also able to cater for larger wedding parties and will hold marriages in the Court room for larger groups, subject to availability of the court rooms.

The Registry looks forward to continuing to welcoming and congratulating married couples in 2020.

#### TRANSLATION UNIT

As at May 2018, The Translation Unit comprised of new breed of dynamic and experienced individuals, continue to provide eminent service to the court and the public in general.

A team of dedicated translators in this unit features Chief Translator Dayang Dewi Susianty Haji Md Daud, Senior Translator Dayang Nurfazidah Taib, Translator/Interpreter Dayang Nooreizah Haji Md Jaya, and Senior Interpreter Awang Sun Tze Yun (for Chinese translation only).

Apart from doing translations for inter-departmental purposes, this unit serves to accept various types of documents for translation and for certification pertaining to court cases such as documents from other government departments. Although generally the unit does not accept documents to be translated from private individuals for private purposes, it accepts certain official pieces which need to be certified by the Court and embossed with the Court seal to be recognized and submitted in foreign jurisdictions. These documents are Birth Certificates, Identification Cards, Adoption Certificates, Marriage Certificates, Divorce Certificates, Personal Academic Certificates and official documents from other government departments.

For the year 2019, from January until October 2019, this office received 175 translation applications and attained 100% target success starting from receiving process until completion of each applications.

The translation service and certification this unit provides are chargeable for \$20 per page for translation and \$20 per page for certification.

#### **COURT INTERPRTERS AND RECORDERS**

Steady growth of number of interpreters in 2019 allows the ideal allocations and distributions in ensuring such service is at its optimal.

Vacant Clerk/Interpreter posts are now filled and some are still undergoing on the job recruitment to the pool of permanent Interpreter making it a total of 11.

Currently, there are 3 On-Call Interpreters who are on full time service whilst the Unit is still in the process of selecting 2 more.

There are 3 Seniors and 1 Chief Interpreter.

The Unit is now at its highest number of 18 interpreters altogether giving full time service excluding those who are listed in its non-full time "on-call pool".

"On-call pool" consists of representatives from the Embassies, freelancers whom the Unit already identified and individuals who had helped the court before. These are interpreters who do not serve the court on full-time basis and will only assist as and when required such as from the Royal Thai Embassy for Thai speaking defendants or witnesses, Indian Embassy who assisted for Tamil, Urdu and Hindi speakers.

Freelancers in this field are those who used to be teachers and/or still teaching as well as language interests who had helped the court for languages such as Korean, some Chinese dialects, Arabic and other languages as well. For example, the Unit has a freelancer, a Chinese lady who is a part-time language teacher, assisting the court for Korean and Mandarin.

As for Recorders, the Unit has 6 altogether for High Court, Intermediate Court and Magistrate's Court. The introduction of the Court Recorder post was quite recent i.e. in late 2017. Hence the assignment and supervision as well as distributions of task is handled by

the Chief Interpreter. As far as assignment of task, priority will be given to any Visiting Judges due to their short period of stay in Brunei and for other Judges and Magistrates, it will be assigned based on case by case basis. The Unit is hopeful that the quotas for court recorders posts will be increased in coming years in order to have an efficient and smoother running of a court hearing.

#### **LIBRARY**

The Library of the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam is open to all members of the legal fraternity and is one of the principal legal libraries in the country in providing a legal reference service. The Library's collection consists predominantly of legal works and material and contains approximately 21,000 volumes of textbooks, law reports and research journals covering a range of legal resources from Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, India,



Pakistan, Hong Kong, Australia and Britain. The Library Unit is tasked with keeping, maintaining and updating the Laws of Brunei, providing an efficient and effective legal source of information and coordinating the facilitating the purchase and preservation of library materials.

As part of their continuous professional development, librarians from the Supreme Court and District Courts successfully

underwent an attachment at the Attorney General's Chambers library in June 2019 where they were briefed on legal cataloging and classification practices, library management systems and the updating of legislation. The Judiciary would like to express its gratitude to the Attorney General's Chambers for the well organized and informative attachment which all librarians have greatly benefited from.

The Supreme Court would also like to bid farewell to Assistant Librarian, Rabiqah binti Ahmad, who ended her tenure with the Supreme Court library at the end of October 2019. We wish her well in her new position and thank her for her hard work, dedication and valuable contribution to the Judiciary.

# THE SUPREME COURT JUDGES



Chief Justice
The Hon. Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon



Justice The Hon. Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina Binti Pengiran Haji Duraman

#### PANEL OF INTERNATIONAL

#### **JUDGES**



President of the Court of Appeal
The Hon. Justice Michael Peter Burrell



Judicial Commissioner of Court of Appeal The Hon. Justice Conrad Seagroatt



Judicial Commissioner of Court of Appeal
The Hon. Justice Michael Victor Lunn



Judicial Commissioner of Supreme Court
The Hon. Justice Gareth John Lugar-Mawson



Judicial Commisioner of Supreme Court The Hon. Justice Edward Timothy Starbuck Woolley



Judicial Commissioner of Supreme Court
The Hon. Justice Kannan Ramesh

### THE SUPREME COURT REGISTRARS



Haji Abdullah Soefri bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin Chief Registrar



Radin Safiee bin Radin Mas Basiuni Deputy Chief Registrar



Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail Senior Registrar



Hajah Hazarena binti POKSJ Dato Paduka Haji Hurairah Senior Registrar



Harnita Zelda Skinner Senior Registrar



Hajah Noor Amalina Binti Dato Paduka Haji Alaihuddin Acting Senior Registrar

#### THE SUPREME COURT

#### **REGISTRARS**



Muhammad Muzakkir Bin Awang Haji Zakaria Registrar



Pengiran Siti Nursu'aidah Binti Pengiran Judfrizar @ Pengiran Tajudin Registrar



Nurul Hidayah Binti Hamdan Registrar



Hajah Normazdina Binti Haji Md Maskub Registrar



Nuuror-Raheebah Binti Haji Abdul Wahab Registrar



Nur Eleana Binti Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni Registrar

## THE SUPREME COURT STAFF

**CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARIES** 



#### **ADMINISTRATION SECTION**





#### **BANKRUPTCY REGISTRY**



#### PROBATE REGISTRY



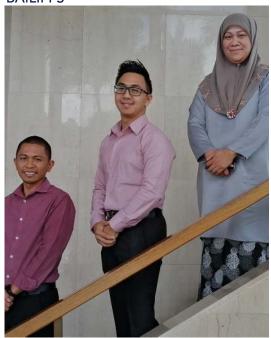
#### **TRANSLATORS**



#### **LIBRARIANS**



**BAILIFFS** 



PROCESS SERVERS



#### **COURT FINANCE**







#### **COURT INTERPRETERS**



#### **COURT RECORDERS**



# CONFERMENT STATE DECORATIONS



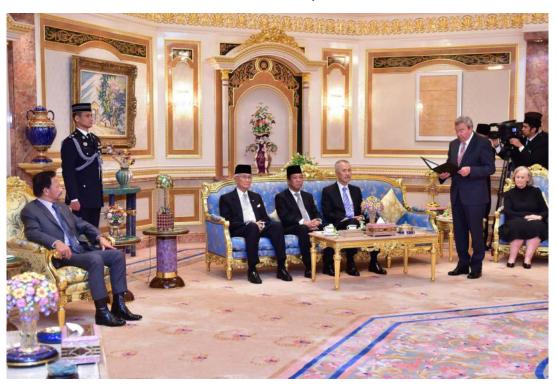
Conferment of the Most Honourable Order of Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei, First Class (SPMB) to Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Istana Nurul Iman, 15th July, 2019

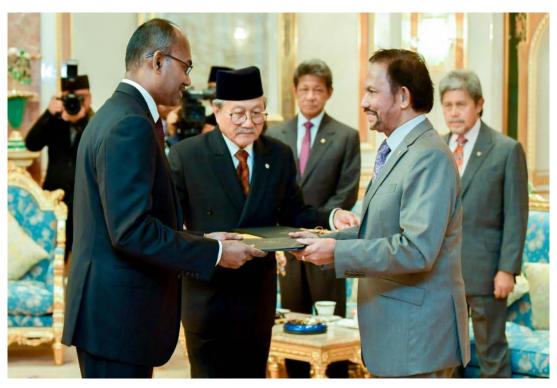


# SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

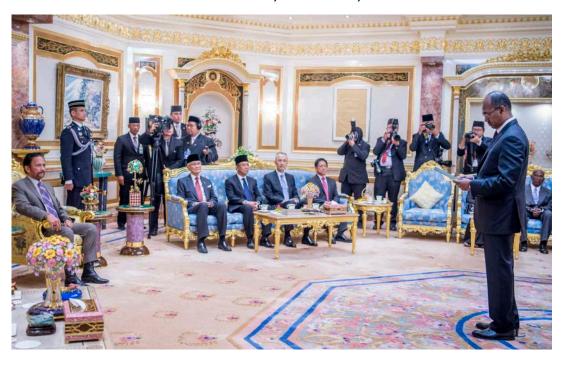


Swearing-In Ceremony of
The Hon. Justice Edward Timothy Starbuck Woolley
Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court
Istana Nurul Iman, 07th September, 2019



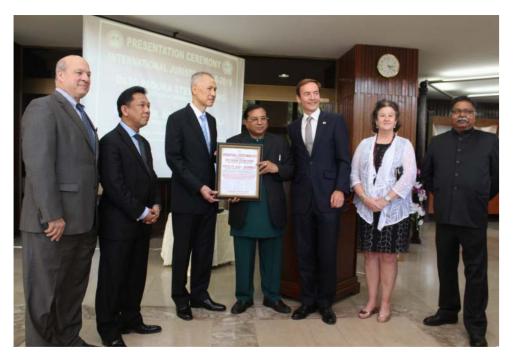


Swearing-In Ceremony of
The Hon. Justice Kannan Ramesh
Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court
Istana Nurul Iman, 07th October, 2019



### INTERNATIONAL JURIST AWARD 2019

# INTERNATIONAL JURIST AWARD 2019



The Honourable Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong has been awarded the prestigious International Jurists Award 2019 for his life-long unique contribution in the field of administration of justice.

The award was presented by the International Council of Jurists, an organization comprising of jurists who work towards the promotion of the administration of justice and the vigorous advancement and expansion of the law, expedient to the social and economic needs of the people. The Council is actively involved in organizing campaigns for legal awareness and information to be used as a tool for the advancement and amelioration of public good. It also intends to promote the rule of law and social justice through the provision of free legal aid and by maintaining an efficient system of legal advice.

The award ceremony was held on Thursday 11 July 2019 at the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam. The accolade was presented by Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala, President of the International Council of Jurists who stated in his speech that the Chief Justice's award is "for his life-long unique contribution in the field of administration of justice" and "in recognition of his exemplary and far-reaching contribution to the theory and practice of law for the advancement of justice." Dr. Aggarwala further described the Chief Justice as "extremely hardworking, insightful and upright" and commended the significant role he has played in "the efforts to improve the justice delivery system in the region" and in making "all possible efforts to make the judiciary of Brunei strong and independent." Judiciary.



The Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong is the first Bruneian jurist to be given the International Jurist Award. Previous recipients of the award include the Honourable Sundaresh Menon, Chief Justice of Singapore who received the award in 2013 and the Honourable Chan Sek Keong, the then Chief Justice of Singapore, who received the award in 2009, amongst other prominent international jurists.

# THE INTERMEDIATE COURT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### THE INTERMEDIATE COURT

The Intermediate Court was established in 1991 by the Intermediate Courts Act, Chapter 162.

It is a Court of first instance and hears both criminal and civil matters. The Intermediate Court civil jurisdiction are for matters where the amount claimed is over BND50,000 but does not exceed BND300,000.



In the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction it has all the jurisdiction, powers, duties and authority as are vested, conferred and imposed on the High Court. It does not have jurisdiction in respect of any offence punishable with death or imprisonment for life; or to impose a period of imprisonment longer than 20 years in respect of any offence of the Brunei Laws.

Currently there is only one full time Intermediate Court Judge. However, several Judicial Officers have been appointed as Intermediate Court Judges, on top of their posts as the Deputy Chief Registrar and Senior Registrars of the Supreme Court and Senior Magistrates of the Subordinate Court.

These appointments, made in 2015 and in 2017, were in order to further improve the administration of the Intermediate Court and to be as a part of its initiative to expedite cases heard in the Intermediate Court, in particular which are commercial in nature.

This year, in the Judiciary's continuing commitment to improving services to its various stake holders, 3 Intermediate Court Judges attended a 3 weeks Attachment Programme to the Singapore Judiciary.

The purpose of the programme was to provide an opportunity to provide an overview of Singapore Judiciary system; to learn "Judge craft" from High Court Judges in Singapore; and to promote closer interaction and build networks among the judges of the two Judiciaries. During their attachment, they Judges were attached to the Supreme Courts and to the Family Justice Courts.

With the attachment programme, there were an accruing of information, knowledge and skills by the Judges which would not be otherwise available. The attachment programme ads to the increase of human capacity, and will translate into better quality of work turned out by the Intermediate Court as whole.

There is also expectation of continuing this arrange with the Singapore Judiciary in the future.

#### **COMMERCIAL COURT REGISTRY**

It is important that Commercial Court hears its cases efficiently as the impact is felt in the business community. Resolving commercial disputes efficiently and affordably to meet business needs and expectations is advantageous to the community as a whole.

2017 and 2018 has contributed immensely to the development of the Intermediate and Commercial Court Registry. This has been largely due to the influx of the number of cases filed with the registry that has almost compelled the registry to progress in its services. Although the Intermediate Court Registry still occupies the same space as the Supreme Court Registry work has been assigned to identify staff devoted to work for the Intermediate and Commercial Court Registry.

Apart from processing court documents the Registry is also responsible for ensuring the preparation of case files for five Intermediate Court Judges who hear criminal, civil and commercial matters. The Registry is therefore highly involved in the lifecycle of the file from its inception to its end.

The use of mediation has also played a role and is highly encouraged and is improving to be a positive tool in order to resolve disputes outside of court. It is hoped that mediation will be a norm to ensure that commercial cases are resolved efficiently. The Registry encourages parties to take advantage of this service that is currently being offered for free.

The use of Case Managements Conferences (CMCs) was fully implemented in 2017. Training was provided to Counsel in the first half of 2018 and learning resources have been made available online. CMCs are meant to be used as a guide for parties to be aware that a case ought to run and be completed within a stipulated timeline set during the CMC hearing. The impact of CMCs has yet to be seen and will be monitored throughout 2020.

The use of technology cannot be ignored. Currently the Intermediate Court Registry is the only registry that has its entire case load digitized on the Court's electronic case management system (JCMS). For Commercial Court cases all files must be instituted electronically paving the way to easier access to files. As it continues to develop the Intermediate Court and Commercial Court Registry will take heed of the needs of its users to ensure that services continue to improve in 2020.

# THE INTERMEDIATE COURT JUDGES



Muhammed Faisal Bin PDJD Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kefli Judge



Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni Judge



Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar Judge



Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail Judge



Lailatul Zubaidah Binti Haji Mohd Hussain Judge

# THE SUBORDINATE COURT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### THE SUBORDINATE COURT



DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SUBORDINATE COURTS SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR 2019

#### COMPOSITION AND NEW APPOINTMENTS

For a second consecutive year, the Subordinate Courts benefited from the recruitment of an additional magistrate. We wish to welcome the Honourable Mohammad Marzuqi Bin Sabtu who joined the Subordinate Courts in April 2019. Including the Honourable Chief Magistrate Pg Masni Binti Pg Haji Bahar, there are now eight full-time magistrates who are tasked with the administration of criminal and civil cases. We continue to be assisted by two Senior Registrars of the Supreme Court and one Acting Senior Registrar on a part-time or ad-hoc basis.

There is a District Magistrate assigned to the Tutong Court and the Belait Court whilst magistrates continue to serve Temburong Court on a rotational basis.

There are also nine Registrars of the Subordinate Court, seven of whom are based in Bandar Seri Begawan, one in Tutong Court and one in Belait Court who assist in the administration of the registries and public services at the court houses.

#### COURT SERVICES IN ALL DISTRICTS

Apart from conducting criminal and civil cases, the Subordinate Courts also provide key services to the public including:

- · Attestation of documents;
- · Witnessing the signing of statutory declarations;
- · Witnessing the affirmation of affidavits and any other declaration;
- · Certifying true copies of documents;
- · Attesting Powers of Attorney;
- · Notary Public; and
- · Process servers for litigants-in-person.

In Tutong and Belait, the District Magistrates also provide services of the Supreme Court such as apostilles and the administration of estates under the jurisdiction of the Probate Registry. In Belait, registration of marriages is also performed by the District Magistrate.

### CASE MANAGEMENT

The Subordinate Court continues its efforts to reduce delay in trials through a refined Case Management System in which magistrates actively assess criminal cases in Pre Trial Conferences or refer civil cases to mediation.

### **USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

The technology court in Bandar Seri Begawan has seen increasing demand over the year due to the increasing usage of technology in the conduct of trials. The Subordinate Court is currently reviewing the system and the necessary upgrades to maximize efficiency and minimize disruptions.



**Law and Courts Building** 

### **REVIEW OF PROCESSSES**

In October 2019, the Subordinate Courts completed a full process-mapping exercise for procedures in the Courts of Magistrates, Juvenile Courts and the Small Claims Tribunals. This was followed by a SWOT analysis which was targeted at identifying areas of improvement. Several changes will be made with the view to enhance the efficiency and the experience of litigants when conducting cases in the Subordinate Courts.

This is in tandem with Subordinate Courts Vision "To Provide a Fair and Efficient Justice for the People."

#### JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND COURT STAFF TRAINING

Training continues to be of vital importance to the continued development of the Subordinate Courts. In 2019, some of the training includes, Case Management training course in Singapore and a 3-week attachment programme in the Singapore Supreme Court.

The Subordinate Court has also begun conducting in-house training for new Judicial Officers in the Magistrates' Court, which aims to equip new them with the necessary skills and knowledge for the conduct of trials and judgment writing.

In tandem, court staff have been sent for various training to equip them with the necessary and relevant skills and expertise in order to achieve court excellence and improving the quality of services offered to the public.

#### ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Juvenile Court, which remains under the purview of the Subordinate Court, continues to hear cases involving juvenile arrests and applications under the Children and Young Persons Act, Chapter 219. The Juvenile Court operates differently from other criminal courts by focusing on the best interests of the juvenile as opposed to the paradigm deterrence, incapacitation and even sentencing parity.

In May 2019, the Subordinate Courts organised a visit to the Community Welfare Complex (Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan) in an effort to strengthen our working relationship with the Community Development Department (JAPEM), which is one of the main stakeholders concerning juvenile matters. In conjunction with the holy month of Ramadhan, the

Subordinate Courts also organised a collection of food, clothing and other necessities for the residents of the complex.

We wish to reiterate our gratitude to the Public Prosecutor, JAPEM, the Panel of Advisors and all other stakeholders in the Juvenile justice system, without whom the guiding philosophy of the Juvenile Courts for restorative justice to reintegrate young offenders into their families and the community could not be achieved.

### KNOWLEDGE SHARING WITH UNISSA

In April 2019, the Magistrates' Court was invited by the Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) to participate in a Legal Symposium entitled 'Looking through the Lens of Justice: A Magistrates Perspective'. Three magistrates attended and shared their experiences with approximately 60 participants from UNISSA.

### ATTACHMENT WITH THE SUBORDINATE COURTS

The Subordinate Courts saw a number of attachment students from varying levels of study from different institutions based in Brunei and in the United Kingdom over the past year. The attachment programme is designed to prepare students for their studies and their future career in the legal field. The aspiring legal practitioners were given the opportunity to enhance their legal knowledge and skills by observing firsthand application of the law in court cases and through mooting and judgment writing exercises.

### CONCLUSION

The Subordinate Courts reaffirms its commitment to achieving its vision of court excellence by evolving the court processes and facilities to adapt to the continuously increasing number and complexity of cases.

With the current composition of Magistrates, the Subordinate Courts have been infused with new energy and a renewed vigour in our efforts to improve the quality of administration of justice. To address the ever-increasing workload and to improve the timeliness of disposing of cases, the Subordinate Courts look forward to welcoming more Magistrates.

To this end, the Subordinate Courts reiterates its pledge to increasing productivity and quality by providing training and improving the welfare of officers and staff and adopting best practices in the administration of justice.

### THE SUBORDINATE COURT

### **MAGISTRATES**



Lailatul Zubaidah Binti Haji Mohd Hussain Senior Magistrate



Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar Chief Magistrate



Hajah Azrimah Binti Haji Abdul Rahman Senior Magistrate



Pengiran Shahyzul Khairuddien Bin Pengiran Abdul Rahman Acting Senior Magistrate



Pengiran Hazirah Binti Pengiran Mohd Yusof Magistrate



Hajah Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Haji Ibrahim Magistrate



Hajah Ervy Sufitriana Binti Haji Abdul Rahman Magistrate



Dewi Norlelawati Binti Haji Abdul Hamid Magistrate



Mohammad Marzuqi Bin Sabtu Magistrate

### JUVENILE COURT PANEL OF ADVISERS



From left: Haji Awang Abd Alim Bin Haji Awang Othman, Hajah Mordiah Binti Haji Jackia, Alinah Binti Haji Tamin, Ustaz Haji Md Lazim Bin Haji Matali

### **SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNAL**

### **REGISTRARS/ADJUDICATORS**



### Registrar:

Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar

### **Deputy Registrar:**

Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ Dato Paduka Haji Hurairah

### **Assistant Registrars:**

Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni
Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail
Lailatul Zubaidah Binti Haji Mohd Hussain
Harnita Zelda Skinner
Hajah Azrimah Binti Haji Abdul Rahman
Pengiran Shahyzul Khairuddien Bin Pengiran Abdul Rahman
Pengiran Hazirah Binti Pengiran Yusof
Hajah Noor Amalina Binti Dato Paduka Haji Alaihuddin
Hajah Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Haji Ibrahim
Hajah Ervy Sufitriana Binti Haji Abdul Rahman
Dewi Norlelawati Binti Haji Abdul Hamid

### **Deputy Adjudicators:**

Radin Safiee bin Radin Mas Basiuni
Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail
Lailatul Zubaidah Binti Haji Mohd Hussain
Harnita Zelda Skinner
Hajah Azrimah Binti Haji Abdul Rahman
Pengiran Shahyzul Khairuddien Bin Pengiran Abdul Rahman
Pengiran Hazirah Binti Pengiran Yusof
Hajah Noor Amalina binti Dato Paduka Haji Alaihuddin
Hajah Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Haji Ibrahim
Hajah Ervy Sufitriana Binti Haji Abdul Rahman
Dewi Norlelawati Binti Haji Abdul Hamid

[As of 1st November 2018]

### THE SUBORDINATE COURT

### **OFFICERS**

### REGISTRARS OF SUBORDINATE COURT



### Senior Registrar:

Haji Badaruddin Bin Haji Abdul Karim

### Registrars:

Hajah Fauzihana Binti Haji Mohamad Muhammad Hardy Iman Bin Haji Muhammad Ukit Mohamad Jazmi Bin Haji Mohamad Kamel

### Deputy Registrars:

Noorhayati Binti Haji Ismail Hashimah Binti Haji Abu Bakar Dayangku Norafidah Binti Pg Haji Bungsu Hajah Asmawati Binti Haji Ismail/Haji Jaafar Khoo Sau Yew

### THE SUBORDINATE COURT

### **BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN**

STAFF



**FINANCE** 



### **CIVIL CLERKS**



### PROCESS SERVERS



## COURT-MARTIAL JUDGE ADVOCATES

In 2006, a number of Judicial officers were appointed as Judge Advocates by the Judge Advocate General on the Royal Brunei Armed Forces Court-Martial by virtue of section 124(3) (b) of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Chapter 149, which provides for the appointment of persons having judicial or legal experience as may from time to time, be required to act as Judge Advocates at Court-Martial.

The appointed Judge Advocates are as follows:-

The Hon. Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong Wan Oon
The Hon. Justice Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina Binti Pengiran Haji Duraman
Judge Muhammed Faisal Bin PDJLD Dato Seri Pahlawan (B) Haji Kefli
Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni
Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar
Lailatul Zubaidah Binti Haji Mohd Hussain



# DISTRICT COURTS BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



### **TUTONG DISTRICT COURT**

Tutong District Courts' building is located in Kampung Bukit Bendera, Mukim Pekan Tutong. The new Tutong District Courts' building has been fully operational since 3rd November 2016.

As of March 2019, Senior Magistrate Hajah Azrimah Binti Haji Abdul Rahman has been appointed to lead Tutong District Court where she sits every Saturday and whenever necessary.





Tutong Court comprises of four courtrooms which includes the High Court, the Intermediate Court and the Subordinate Court. Besides the Magistrates, the courtrooms have been utilised by the High Court and the Intermediate Court Judges since its move in 2016, making Tutong District as an alternative venue for the hearing of cases to meet caseload requirements.

With the usage of the Judicial Case Management System, Judges, Magistrates and staff are able to access files electronically, eradicating the need for the transfer of physical files before a case can be heard. There has been an increased in the usage of the counter services as the counter is now conveniently located to allow easy access for the public, legal professions and enforcement officers. All these advancements have contributed towards achieving the vision of an efficienct and effective Juduciary.

The Judiciary will continue to strengthen the organisation, building up the capabilities and competencies that our officers and staff will need to be equipped to meet the challenges in the future.

### **BELAIT DISTRICT COURT**



Belait District Courts' Building is located at Jalan Maulana, Kuala Belait. It has been in operation since 1994 and is equipped with three court rooms, two office areas and counters designated for the Civil and Syariah Courts.

In 2019, Acting Senior Magistrate Pengiran Shahyzul Khairuddien Bin Pengiran Abdul Rahman is assigned to lead the Belait Court. He is currently stationed in Belait Court every Monday to Thursday. With the availability of Magistrate in Belait district, the public in that area can now conveniently have access to Notary Public services without having to travel to Bandar Seri Begawan. In addition, fresh cases brought by the Royal Brunei Police Force; Royal Customs and Excise department; Narcotic Control Bureau; as well as Immigration and National Registration department in Belait district can be heard expeditiously.

Belait Court also provides a space for Law Society to offer their Legal Clinic services. The Legal Clinic initiative in Belait district has started on the 25th August 2018. The facility is held at the Court Library on Saturday at the end of every month.



Civil Court in Belait district is headed by an Acting Senior Magistrate, assisted by a Deputy Registrar of the Subordinate Court with 16 support staff which comprised of fundamental sections such as Administration, Finance, Library, Probate, Civil Marriage as well as Public, Criminal and Civil Registries.

### **TEMBURONG DISTRICT COURT**



The Temburong Court continues to operate and provide services similar to the other District Courts such as witnessing the signing of Statutory Declarations and the affirmation of affidavits. It currently has three fixed members of staff.

Magistrates conduct road traffic cases in Temburong Court on a rotational basis once a month and a Registrar is available once a week on Wednesdays.



# THE STATE JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

### THE STATE JUDICIARY



Awang Haji Muhammad Bahrin bin Haji Alias Acting Director of the State Judiciary Department

The State Judiciary Department was established in May 2002 and is solely responsible for the administration and management of support services, provision and financial affairs of the Civil and Sya'riah Courts. These responsibilities supported through five strategic pillars,

namely to provide efficient and quality administrative services and human resource management to the courts; improving financial management, accountability and collection of revenue systematically and efficiently; providing a complete, conducive, safe and secure court building infrastructure; providing adequate training programs and capacity building strategies and to enhance the use of information technology, application systems and Information Communication Technology Infrastructure in the court's management and process.

We welcome, Haji Muhammad Ibrahim bin Haji Juma'at, our new Senior Administrative Officer who join us on 26 January 2019. In the same year, saw the hiring of two new Magistrate/Registrar in the Civil Court as well several posts that have been filled respectively in both the Civil Court and Syariah Court.

A total of 45 officers from the Civil Court attended the conferences, seminars and training in various disciplines both locally and overseas, in 2019/2020.



Officers and Staff of the State Judiciary Department

### JUDICIARY CONFERENCES, TRAININGS & VISITS

### SINGAPORE CHIEF JUSTICE COURTESY CALL

20th February 2019 Supreme Court Building



The Chief Justice of Singapore, the Honourable Sundaresh Menon, led a delegation for a one day visit to Brunei Darussalam and paid a courtesy call to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong on Wednesday 20th February 2019 at the Supreme Court.

During the courtesy call, Chief Justice the Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong and Chief Justice Menon had a fruitful

discussion on matters relating to the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices (CACJ) and on opportunities for further strengthening the relations and cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore judiciaries. The courtesy call concluded with an exchange of gifts.



Also present at the courtesy call were Justice Pengiran Datin Hajah Rostaina Binti Pengiran Haji Duraman, Chief Registrar Haji Abdullah Soefri bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin and senior judicial officers of the Supreme Court. The Chief Justice of Singapore, the Honourable Sundaresh Menon and the delegation also met with judges, judicial officers and staff of the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam.

### JUDGES VISIT TO BELAIT COURT

25th April 2019 Kuala Belait

The Chief Justice, Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong visited Belait District Courts' Building at Jalan Maulana, Kuala Belait on the 25th April 2019.



Also present were the Honourable President of the Court of Appeal, Michael Peter Burrell, and Judicial Commissioners of the Court of Appeal, Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court, Intermediate Court Judges, Judicial Officers and staff of the Supreme Court as well as Officers from State Judiciary Department.

During the visit, the Honourable Chief Justice was given a tour of the building by Acting Senior Magistrate Pengiran Shahyzul Khairuddien Bin Pengiran Abdul Rahman along with Belait District Court staff. The objective of the visit is mainly to know the welfare of Belait District staff and the wellbeing of the Court building. It is also part of court's activity to expose the Judicial Commissioners to Belait Court's surrounding and set-up.





### **VISIT TO WELFARE HOME COMPLEX (JAPEM)**

18th May 2019 Kg Belimbing Subok



Officers and staff of the Magistrates Court made a social visit to the Welfare Home Complex or Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan (KRK) in Kg Belimbing Subok.

The visit aims to enable the Magistrates Court to familiarise with the programmes provided to the residents of KRK and to enhance the Magistrates Courts' working relationship with the Community Development Centre (JAPEM).

### ASEAN-USPTO WORKSHOP ON UTILIZING ADR IN IP DISPUTES

07th August 2019 - 09th August 2019 Manilla, Philippines

Attended by : Senior Registrar Harnita Zelda Skinner



### YOUNG EXECUTIVE PROGRAM (YEP) 4TH COHORT 2019, CIVIL SERVICE LEADERSHIP PIPELINE (CSLP)

29th March 2019 - 19th October 2019 Prime Minister's Office

Attended by: Registrar Nur Eleana Binti Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni



### 28TH EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR MIDDLE MANAGEMENT OFFICERS (EDPMMO) 2019

03rd September 2019 - 23rd November 2019 Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA)

Attended by: Senior Registrar Haji Badaruddin Bin Haji Abdul Karim



### **5TH JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**

12th September 2019 - 14th September 2019 Singapore

Attended by : The Hon. Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong

Senior Registrar Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ DP Haji Hurairah

Magistrate Hajah Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Haji Ibrahim

The Honourable Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong together with a delegation of judicial officers from the Brunei Supreme Court attended the 5th Joint Judicial Conference (JJC) on 13 September 2019 hosted by the Supreme Court of Singapore.

Since its inception in 2011, the judiciaries of Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and Singapore meet at the biennial conference to discuss judicial and legal matters of common interest.



The JJC serves as a platform to strengthen and deepen ties by exchanging ideas and strengthening the already resilient and long standing relationships that exist between Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and Singapore as the law in all three jurisdictions take their roots from the common law. It also provides a valuable forum for the exchange of views on developments in specific areas of law and for the judiciaries to learn from each other's experiences in the administration of justice.

At the 5th JJC, the three judiciaries engaged in panel discussions in the areas of Tort, Contract and Intellectual Property Law, looking particularly at how our regional jurisdictions have departed from the English Common Law in these areas. They also shared their experiences in strengthening judicial administration through innovation and other initiatives. A total of 65 Judges and judicial officers from Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and Singapore attended the Conference.



### WORK VISIT BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JUSTICE GROSS FOR FORUM ON MODERNISATION OF CASE MANAGEMENT

17th September 2019 Jubli Emas Hall, Law & Courts Building











The Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam in collaboration with the British High Commission in Brunei Darussalam have organized a forum on the 'Modernisation of Case Management' held on Tuesday 17 September 2019.

The Right Honourable Lord Justice Gross, Lead Judge for International Relations from the Judiciary of England and Wales was the keynote speaker and panelist for the forum.

### **IN-HOUSE INDUCTION COURSE**

17th September 2019 Supreme Court and Syariah Courts Building





A total of 36 officers and staffs of State Judiciary Department of Brunei Darussalam completed the nine days in-house Public Service Induction Program at the Brunei Supreme Court the Syariah Courts Building from 1 October to 9 October. The course was attended by officials and staffs from Division II, III, IV and V of Syariah Court, Civil Court and administration of State Judiciary Department.

The induction program seeks to improve the understanding, awareness, and knowledge of the role of civil service through infrastructure modules and governance relations, legislation, and government laws modules such as the Malay Islamic Monarchy, the Brunei Darussalam Constitution, the state method of administration by HRH, the Public Service Commission Act includes general and disciplinary regulations, financial regulations (TAP / SCP / Financial Planning) as well as the "Rukun Akhlak dan Etika Kerja" which provided by government and private agency members.

### BRUNEI JUDGES ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME TO SINGAPORE JUDICIARY

21st October 2019 - 8th November 2019 Singapore

Attended by: Intermediate Court Judge Muhammed Faisal Bin PDJD Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kefli,

Intermediate Court Judge Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Bahar

Intermediate Court Judge Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail



### THE 41ST ASEAN LAW ASSOCIATION GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

21st November 2019

Phuket, Thailand

Attended by: Senior Registrar Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ DP Haji Hurairah



### 7TH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF ASEAN CHIEF JUSTICES

23rd November 2019 Bangkok, Thailand

Attended by : Justice Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina Binti Pengiran Haji Duraman

Senior Registrar Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail





### JUDICIARY TRAINING ON MODERN SECURED TRANSACTIONS LEGAL PRINCIPLES 2ND-3RD DECEMBER 2019

02nd December 2019 - 3rd December 2019 Bandar Seri Begawan

Attended by : All Judicial Officers





### STUDY VISIT FROM THE ROYAL BRUNEI POLICE FORCE RECRUITS

4th December 2019 Bandar Seri Begawan



### **RUKUN AKHLAK & ETIKA KERJA PERKHIDMATAN AWAM**

2nd December 2019 - 4th December 2019 Civil Service Institute

Attended by : Norhamizah Binti Mohamad (Clerk/Interpreter) Siti Norfadillah Binti Untong (Office Assistant)



# HIGHLIGHTS 2019



# LEGAL YEAR 2019



The Opening of Legal Year is an annual gathering held at the Supreme Court that brings together all members of Brunei Darussalam's legal community. The event is traditionally started off with the Guard of Honour by the Royal Brunei Police Force and inspected by the Honourable Chief Justice.























































## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES 2019**

Brunei Darussalam's 35th National Day Celebration 23rd February 2019



Judiciary officers and staff joined Brunei Darussalam's 35th National Day celebration at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien where they were amongst the 24,000 participants who marched in the parade overseen by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The Judiciary is also proud to



acknowledge that 2 personnel from the High Court Registry and Translation Unit; Mohamad Afandi Bin Hj Ebil (Legal Assistant) and Nurfazidah Binti Taib (Senior Translator) respectively were chosen as part of the 35th National Day oath reading (Ikrar) team.

## Chief Justice's Futsal Cup Tournament 23rd February 2019

The Civil Court won in the Chief Justice's Futsal Cup 2019 organized by State Judiciary Department. The CJ Cup was first organized in 2017 where the competition is only for within departments under the State Judiciary such as Civil Court, Syariah Court and State Judiciary.



## Regatta PERKIBAR Race

24th March 2019



The Judiciary Regatta team completed the Mix 15-Crew Open Category in the 25th National Boat Race Tournament. The 800 meters race category was participated by a total of seven teams namely the Judiciary Regatta team, two teams from the Royal Brunei Police Sports Council, Pasukan Lela Cheteria, Waktu 'A', the Law Society and the Attorney General's Chambers.

## Tadarus and Khatam Al-Quran Ceremony 16th May 2019



The annual ceremony of Tadarus & Khatam al-Quran is part of the Courts' efforts in encouraging its officers and staff to partake in the reading of the Al-Quran during the holy month of Ramadhan.



## Judiciary Hari Raya Celebration

23rd June 2019











On the 22nd June 2019H / 18 Syawal 1440M, it was the first time ever the districts, sections, offices and units under the Civil Court celebrated this festive event together. The celebration was held at the Jubli Emas hall in the Law and Courts building.







## Korban Ceremony 14th August 2019



The Supreme Court held a Korban ceremony in commemoration of Hari Raya Aidiladha for the year 1440 Hijrah at the Supreme Court-High Court Building in the capital on 14th August 2019. Through donations from the officers and staff of the Judiciary, the Judiciary was able to distribute portions of Korban meat to 21 selected families. The ceremony, which was organised by the Religious and Social Affairs Committee, aimed to strengthen the ties between the officers and staff of the Judiciary.







## Maulidur Rasul Celebration 1441H

## 09th November 2019

State Judiciary department under the Prime Minister's Office joined the procession of 13,000 people at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien on Saturday morning, 9th November 2019 Masihi corresponding to 12th Rabiulawal 1441 Hijrah.





## **OUTREACH PROGRAMMES 2019**

Cleaning Campaign at Kg Limbungan Cemetery 04th May 2019



In conjunction with the Ramadhan month, the Judiciary organized a cleaning campaign at Kg Limbungan cemetery on the 4th May 2019 corresponding to 28th Syaaban 1440 Hijrah. The annual activity is to foster the spirit of shared responsibility and solidarity through welfare work. The campaign was attended by Judicial Officers, Civil Courts' staff and Officers from State Judiciary Department.





On the 3rd June 2019 corresponding to 29 Ramadhan 1440 Hijrah, the Judiciary donated amount of money to Sufri Bolkiah Mosque in Kg Burung Pingai Berakas. The handover of the donation were attended by Acting Head of Village of Kg Burung Pingai Berakas and Religious Officers from Department of Mosque Affairs.

## PRESENTING TOKEN OF APPRECIATION TO RETIRED STAFF (Hajah Mariam Binti Yusof) 30th May 2019





## FAREWELLS 2019

## **FAREWELL**

## The Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni Bin Haji Abdul Majid





The Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni bin Haji Abdul Majid began his career as a Counsel at the Attorney General's Chambers, then was appointed as Deputy Public Prosecutor in 1989. He was appointed as Magistrate of the Subordinate Court in 1994, rising the ranks as Chief Magistrate in 1999 and then as Chief Registrar of the Supreme Court in 2002. He was eventually elevated to the High Court bench in 2008.

By command of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, on Thursday, 27th of Zulkaedah 1439 corresponding to 9th of August 2018, the Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni Bin Haji Abdul Majid has been consented to become the Attorney General of Negara Brunei Darussalam.

The Judiciary would like to convey its warmest congratulations to Attorney General the Honourable Dato Seri Paduka Haji Hairol Arni Bin Haji Abdul Majid on his appointment and wish him every success in his new post.

## **FAREWELLS**

## **Judiciary Staff**



· Pg Hairulardi Bin Pg Ahmad (Process Server)



· Rabiqah Binti Ahmad (Assistant Librarian Officer)



· Mohammad Hafizuddin Bin Haji Muhammad (Statistician i-Ready)



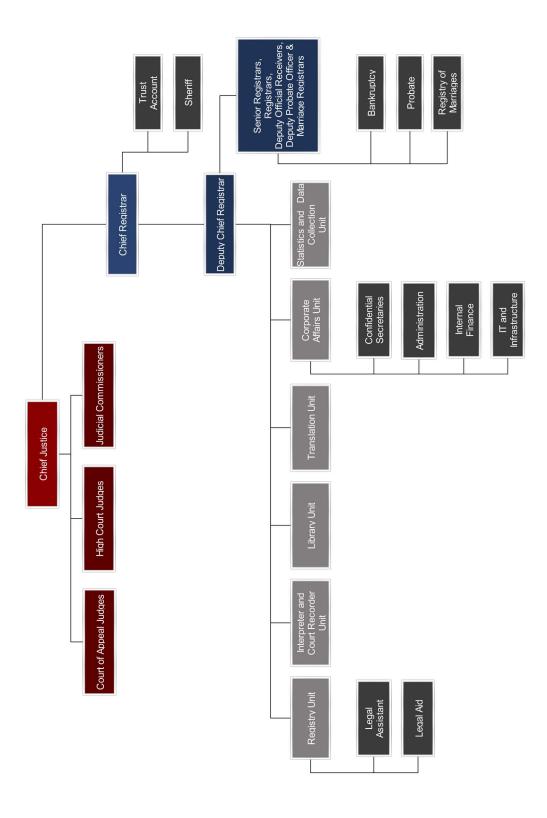
· Fairuz Madinah Binti Haji Alias (Statistician i-Ready)

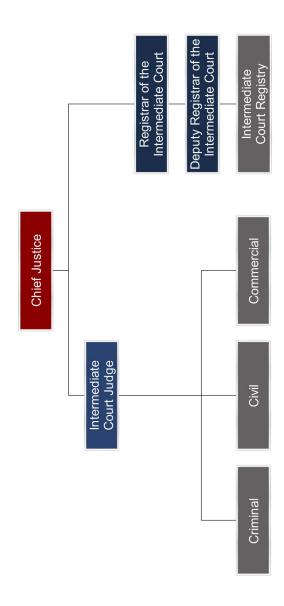


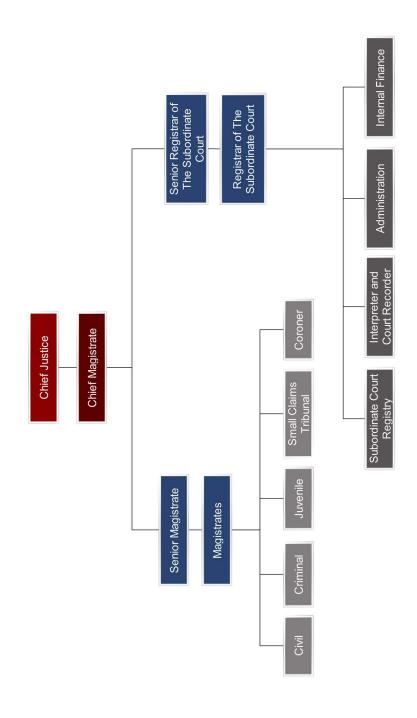
In 2019, one staff retired and several have moved to other Government departments and the private sector. The Court would like to thank them for their outstanding services and wishes them the best for their future endeavours.

- . Hajah Sa'niah binti Haji Muhammad Husain (Confidential Secretary)
- · Suhana binti Hj Md Jaini (Legal Assistant)
- · Afzan binti Kassim (Clerk)
- · Muhd Amin bin Abdullah Lim (Assistant Probate Officer)
- · Rosalawati binti Haji Salleh (Chief Clerk)
- · Hajah Hardayana binti Haji Metassim (Clerk)
- · Shahrun bin Haji Ibrahim / Sharbini (Assistant Finance Officer Grade II)
- · Siti Nornadzirah @ Nurul Najibah bte Awg Hj Sulaiman (Assistant Confidential Clerk)
- · Md Syazwan Azizan bin Pg Haji Abdullah (i-Ready : Judicial Law Officer)
- · Muhammad Arif bin Haji Sabtu (i-Ready : Judicial Law Officer)
- · Dayangku Faiziah binti Pg Sabtu (i-Ready : Accounts Officer)
- · Nurrul Hafizah binti Awang Arrifin (i-Ready : System Analyst)

# JUDICIARY ORGANISATIONAL CHARTS





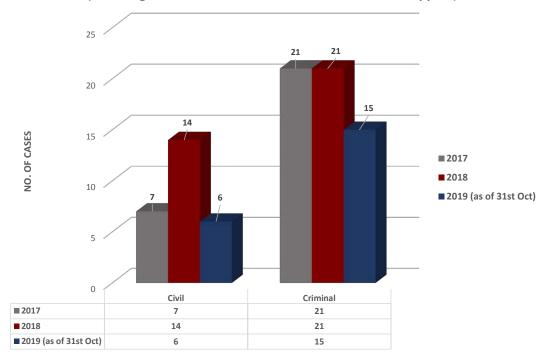


## STATISTICS 2019

## **SUPREME COURT**

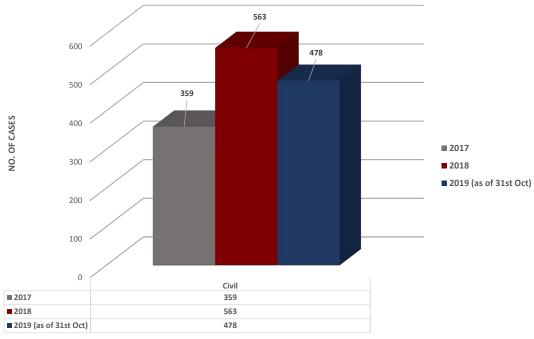
## **COURT OF APPEAL**

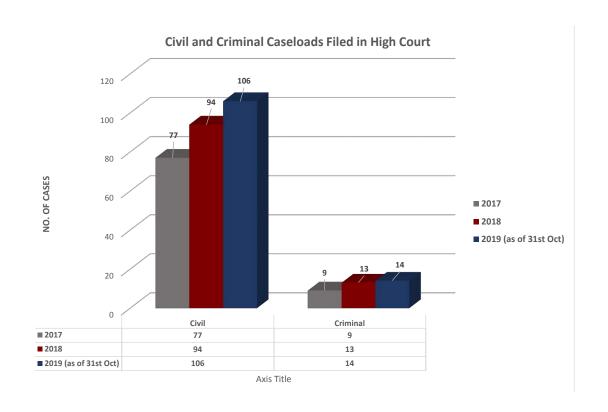
Civil and Criminal Appeal Caseloads
(From High Court and Intermediate Court to Court of Appeal)



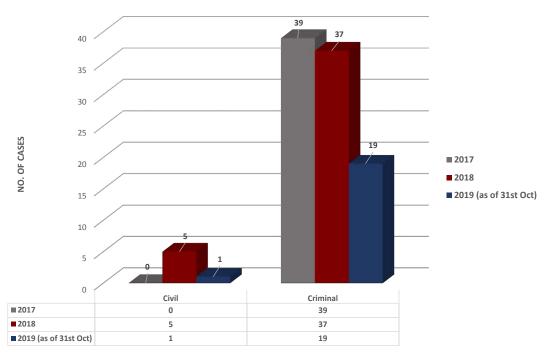
## **HIGH COURT**

## **Chamber Hearings in the High Court and Intermediate Court before Registrars**

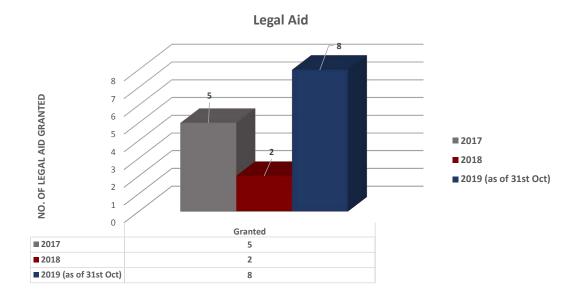




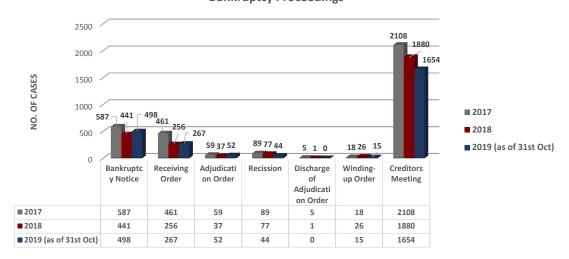
## Appeal Caseloads Filed from Magistrate's Court to High Court



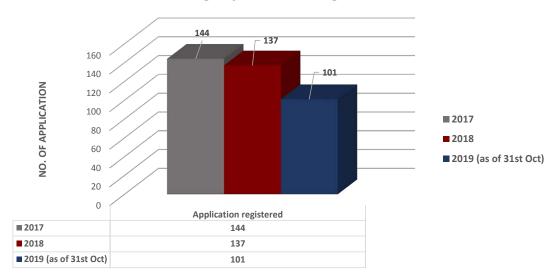
## **OTHER MATTERS**



## **Bankruptcy Proceedings**

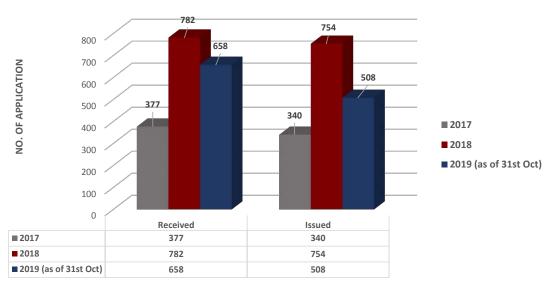


## **Registry of Civil Marriages**

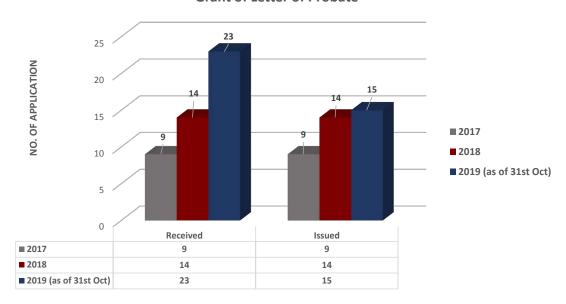


### **Divorce Petitions** NO. OF PETITION ■ 2019 (as of 31st Oct) Petition received ■ 2017 ■ 2019 (as of 31st Oct)

## **Grant of Letter of Administration**

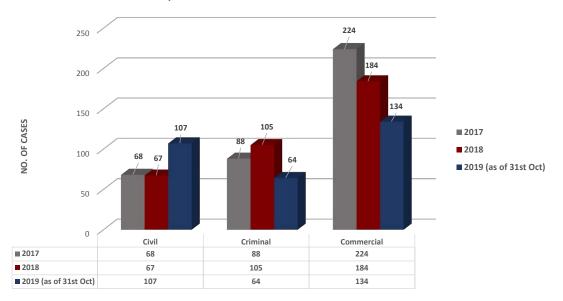


## **Grant of Letter of Probate**



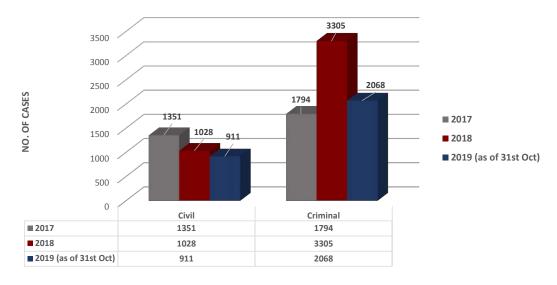
# **INTERMEDIATE COURT**

Civil, Criminal and Commercial Caseloads filed

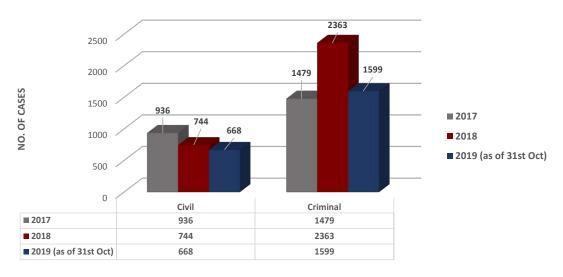


# **MAGISTRATES' COURTS**

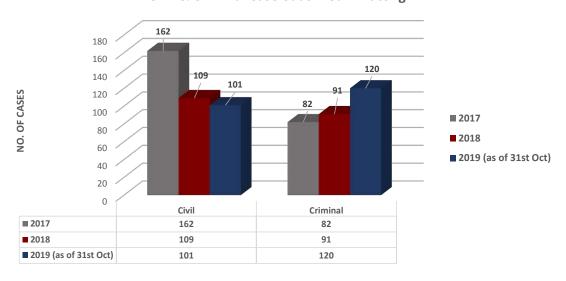
**Civil & Criminal Caseloads filed in ALL Districts** 



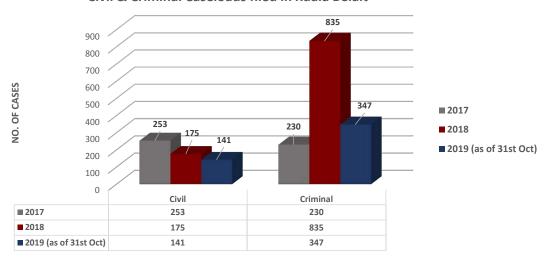
Civil & Criminal Caseloads filed in Brunei-Muara

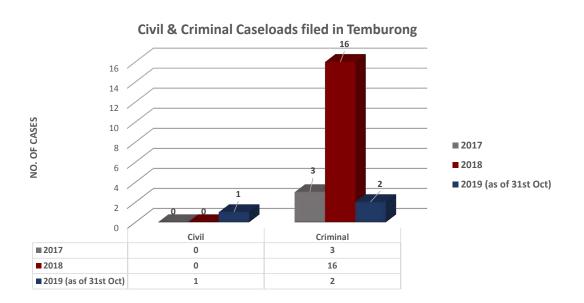


**Civil & Criminal Caseloads filed in Tutong** 



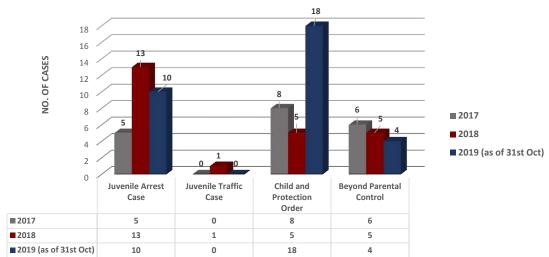
Civil & Criminal Caseloads filed in Kuala Belait



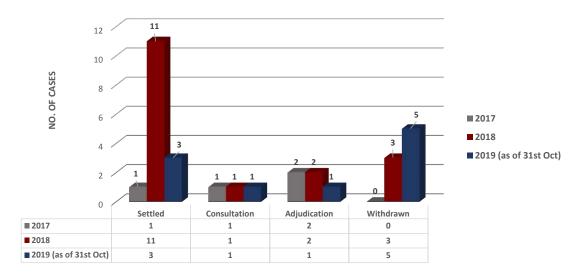


# **SUBORDINATE COURTS**

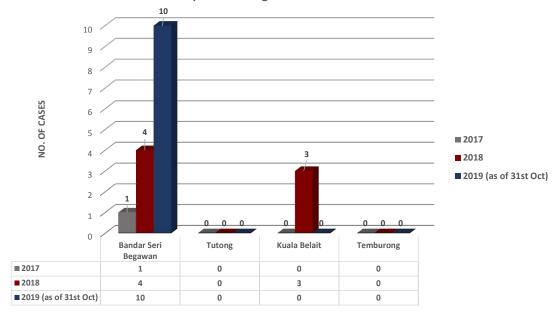




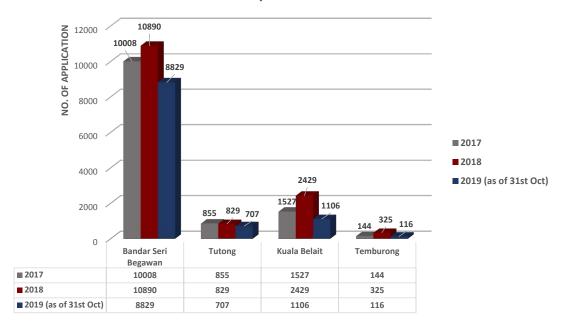
#### Caseloads filed in the Small Claims Tribunal



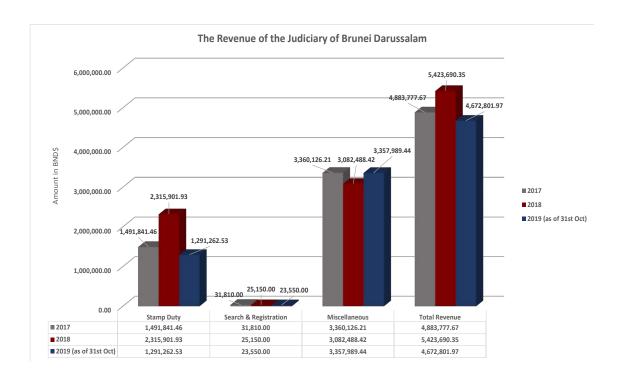




## **Statutory Declarations**



# **COURT REVENUES**



#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE OPENING OF THE LEGAL YEAR 2020

#### 1. ADVISORS

The Hon. Justice Dato Seri Paduka Steven Chong, Chief Justice The Hon. Justice Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Rostaina Binti Pengiran Haji Duraman

#### 2. CHAIRMAN

Haji Abdullah Soefri Bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin

### 3. DEPUTY CHAIRPERSONS

Director of State Judiciary Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar

#### 4. FINANCE

Shahrezawati Binti Ahmad Shahrun Bin Haji Ibrahim/Sharbini

#### 5. REFRESHMENTS

Pengiran Masni Binti Pengiran Haji Bahar

Kamaliah Fadhilah Binti Hj Ibrahim

Dewi Norlelawati Binti Haji Abdul Hamid

Nuuror Raheebah Binti Haji Abdul Wahab

Hjh Fauzihana Binti Hj Mohamad

Ak Ibrahim Bin Pg Badar

Norhamizah Binti Mohamad

Siti Rafeah Binti Hj Mohd Yusof

Hjh Norazizah Binti Awg Hj Ering

Selamah Binti Hj Bujang @ Zahrina

Nurfattyma Binti Mohamad

Siti Nor Khairunnisa Binti Hj Hassan

Nadia Safwana Binti Omarali

Suhaila Binti Ali

Arinah Zafirah Binti Hi Azahari

Siti Norfadillah Binti Untong

Ahmad Haziq Bin Hj Othman

Nadhatul Qartika Sari Binti Abdul Gafar

Nurul Zahra Aqilah Binti Azmi

Diyana Rashidah @ Ruz'zainah Binti Seruji

#### 6. FLOOR MANAGER

Pengiran Hazirah Binti Pengiran Mohd Yusof

Muhammad Hardy Iman Bin Haji Muhammad Ukit

Muhammad Afandi Bin Haji Ebil

Mohamad Jazmi Bin Haji Mohamad Kamel

Pengiran Norfarzat Irwani Binti Pengiran Haji Mohd Jaafar

Mohamad Norhamizan Bin Mohd Nurazman

Mohd Fadzillah Bin Haji Abu Bakar

Hajah Noorinah Binti Haji Noorkaseh

Siti Hadizah Binti Yahya

Mahmud Zuhdi Bin Abd Karim

### 7. RBPF/SECURITY

Muhammed Faisal Bin PDJLD DSP Haji Kefli

Muhammad Muzakkir Bin Awang Haji Zakaria

Mohammad Marzuqi Bin Sabtu

Muhammad Hardy Iman Bin Haji Muhammad Ukit

### 8. PROTOCOL

Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni

Pg Norfarzat Irwani Binti Pg Haji Mohd Jaafar

Adi Zuhailah Binti Jumat

Noorhayati Binti Haji Ismail

Haji Sahari Bin Haji Abd Rahman

Norhayati Binti Haji Idris

Mastika Binti Mohd Kamal

Mariam Binti Haji Abu Bakar

Hajah Asmawati Binti Haji Ismail @ Haji Jaafar

Hashimah Binti Haji Abu Bakar

Hajah Nurul Hazimah Binti Haji Tengah

Hajah Norsiah Binti Haji Jamil

Setiawati Binti Haji Tamit

Nor'izzati Binti Haji Mohd Ali

Siti Khadijah binti Haji Abd Kadir

Nurul 'Ain Binti Muhammad Hussini

Nur Kamilah Binti Haji Metusin

Siti Nur Mumtazah Binti Sulaiman

Pg Siti Saerah Binti Pg Haji Abd Rahman

Mariatna Binti Haji Abu Bakar

Rohani Binti Haji Zakaria

Sumarni Binti Haji Sairan

Nurnajiah Binti Haji Yussop

Nurbazilah Binti Haji Md Yakub

Siti Yusrina Binti Rosli

Nur Afifah Basyirah Binti Ibrahim

Siti Nurafiqah Binti Haji Sufri

Puasa Bin Haji Tuah

Asrina Binti Haji Jukin

Mohammad Khairuddin Bin Zakaria

Nani Hamizah Binti Haji Omar Ali

Rohani Binti Haji Awg Japar

### 9. INVITATION

Haji Abdullah Soefri Bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin

Shahrezawati Binti Ahmad

Hajah Mariah Binti Awang Ali

Suzana Binti Basman

Pengiran Hajah Rahaiyah Binti Pengiran Haji Mohd Yassin

Ak Adirani Sufian Bin Pg Haji Yussop

Norhayati Binti Haji Idris

Norhayati Binti Haji Masri

Hajah Nurul Hazimah Binti Haji Tengah

Yamni Nur Amanina @ Yenny Binti Awg Walli

Siti Nooraqilah Binti Haji Sirat

Khairul Khairiah Wahidah Binti Ahmad

Norzalinawati binti Hi Razali

Noraidah Binti Haji Mohd Yussof

Nani Hamizah Binti Haji Omar Ali

Rohani Binti Haji Jaafar

#### 10. LOGISTICS

Pg Hj Mohd Khairuddin Bin Pg Hj Hashim

Haji Omar Bin Haji Mohd Daud

Muhammad Kamaluddin Bin Haji Bakar

Mahmud Zuhdi Bin Karim

Haji Sahari Bin Hj Abd Rahman

Mohd Afandi Bin Haji Ebil

Hanafi Bin Ibrahim

Hi Md Shamsul Bin Hi Ismail

Mohd Yussof Bin Haji Ahmad

Ali Rahman Bin Haji Simba

Yussof Bin Hj Mustapha

Mohd Ghazali bin Hj Tassim

Pg Suhaili Bin Pg Ahmad

Puasa Bin Tuah

Rodglan Bin Abdul Rahman

Mohd Shamri Bin Alias

Pg Abu Nur Hairah Bin Pg Hashim

Mohd Daud Bin Hj Metussin

Mohd Izzam Bin Mahmood/Mahmud

Pg Metali Bin Pg Metamin

#### 11. PUBLICATION/MEDIA

Hjh Noor Amalina Binti DP Hj Alaihuddin

Pg Hazirah Binti Pg Mohd Yusof

Hjh Suzanah Binti Hj Sulaiman

Hj Badaruddin Bin Hj Abd Karim

Mohamad Jazmi Bin Hj Mohamad Kamel

Dewi Susianty Binti Hj Md Daud

#### 12. PHOTOGRAPHY

Radin Safiee Bin Radin Mas Basiuni

Shahrezawati Binti Ahmad

Muhammad Nur Azirul Bin Muslim

Nurfazidah Binti Taib

### 13. WEBSITE WORKING COMMITTEE

Haji Abdullah Soefri Bin POKSM Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin (Lead)

Pengiran Masni Bin Pengiran Haji Bahar (Deputy Lead)

Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail (Deputy Lead)

Shahrezawati Binti Ahmad (Deputy Lead)

Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ DP Haji Hurairah

Hajah Azrimah Binti Haji Abdul Rahman

Haji Badaruddin Bin Haji Abdul Karim

Mohamad Jazmi Bin Haji Mohamad Kamel

Hajah Norzalinawati Binti Haji Razali

Ak Adirani Sufian Bin Pengiran Haji Yussop

Nur'Afifah Basyirah Binti Ibrahim

#### 14. SECRETARIAT

Dayangku Hajah Norismayanti Binti Pengiran Haji Ismail

Hajah Hazarena Binti POKSJ DP Haji Hurairah

Hajah Ervy Sufitriana Binti Haji Abdul Rahman

Haji Badaruddin Bin Haji Abdul Karim

Mohamad Jazmi Bin Haji Mohamad Kamel

Norhayati Binti Haji Idris

#### 15. BOOK COMMITTEE

Harnita Zelda Skinner

Haji Badaruddin Bin Haji Abdul Karim

Mohamad Jazmi Bin Haji Mohamad Kamel

Norhamizah Binti Mohamad

Ak Adirani Sufian Bin Pg Hj Yussop

Abd Sa'adatul Firdaus Bin Matali

Nurfazidah Binti Taib

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

ADAT ISTIADAT NEGARA DEPARTMENT

ROYAL BRUNEI POLICE FORCE

RADIO TELEVISION BRUNEI

THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING DEPARTMENT

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

ELECTRICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS AND STAFFS OF THE STATE JUDICIARY