

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

PRACTICE DIRECTION NO. 6 OF 2000

**APPEALS ON ANCILLARY MATTERS OR CUSTODY MATTERS
FROM THE FAMILY COURT TO THE HIGH COURT**

Appeals against final orders made by a District Judge in chambers on ancillary matters in divorce proceedings under the Women's Charter or custody proceedings under the Guardianship of Infants' Act are governed by Order 55C of the Rules of Court. In practice, District Judges furnish grounds of decision within 8 weeks of the filing of the notice of appeal although the furnishing of grounds of decision is not a requirement under the Rules.

2 To facilitate the conduct of appeal hearings before the Judge of the High Court in Chambers, this Practice Direction requires parties to file the following documents prior to the appeal hearing:

- (1) the appellant shall, within one week from the date of the release of the grounds of decision, file his Submission and the Record of Appeal and serve a copy thereof on every respondent to the appeal or his solicitor;
- (2) the respondent shall, within one week from the date of the service of the appellant's Submission, file his Submission and serve a copy thereof on the appellant or his solicitor.

3 The Submissions to be filed by parties shall set out as concisely as possible:

- (i) the circumstances out of which the appeal arises;

- (ii) the issues arising in the appeal;
- (iii) the contentions to be urged by the party filing it and the authorities in support thereof; and
- (iv) the reasons for or against the appeal, as the case may be.

4 The parties shall file together with their Submissions a bundle of authorities relied on by the court below as well as other authorities to be relied on at the hearing of the appeal and serve such bundle of authorities on the other party.

5 The Record of Appeal shall consist of:

- (a) the notice of appeal;
- (b) the certified copy of the grounds of decision;
- (c) the certified copy of the notes of evidence;
- (d) the originating process and all subsequent pleadings;
- (e) the affidavits filed or referred to by parties for the hearing and any other documents, so far as relevant to the matter decided and the nature of the appeal; and
- (f) the judgment or order appealed from.

6 The Submissions and the Record of Appeal shall be filed at the Registry of the Subordinate Courts at Havelock Square.

7 This Practice Direction will be effective 1 September 2000.

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

Dated this 17th day of August 2000.

**MR CHIAM BOON KENG
REGISTRAR
SUPREME COURT**