

IN THE FAMILY JUSTICE COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

FAMILY JUSTICE COURTS PRACTICE DIRECTIONS 2015

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OF 2026

1. It is notified for general information that amendments have been made to Parts VIIA and XIV and Appendix A of the Family Justice Courts Practice Directions 2015. The amendments are summarised below:
 - (a) Amendments to paragraph 26H on Limits on size and number of documents submitted using electronic filing service;
 - (b) Amendments to paragraph 162 on Absence from Court on medical grounds; and
 - (c) Deletion of Form 267 of Appendix A (Specimen Government Medical Certificate).
2. The amendments will take effect on 1 June 2026 and will be reflected at <https://epd2015-familyjusticecourts.judiciary.gov.sg> from 1 June 2026.
3. Please find attached a document reflecting the marked-up amendments to the Family Justice Courts Practice Directions 2015.

Dated this 18th day of May 2026



KENNETH YAP YEW CHOH
REGISTRAR
FAMILY JUSTICE COURTS

Part VIIA – Electronic Filing Service under Division 68A of Part 18 of the Family Justice Rules 2014

26H. Limits on size and number of documents submitted using electronic filing service

(1) The following limits shall apply to the filing of documents:

...

(b) the size of a single transmission must not exceed ~~4~~20 mega-bytes.

...

Part XIV – General Matters

162. Absence from Court on medical grounds

- (1) If —
- (a) any party to proceedings;
 - (b) any witness;
 - (c) any counsel; or
 - (d) ~~a Deputy Public Prosecutor or other~~ any officer or other person appointed by the ~~Attorney General to assist him or to act as his deputy in the performance of any of the functions of~~ Public Prosecutor to act as a Deputy Public Prosecutor or an Assistant Public Prosecutor in carrying out any of the duties of the Public Prosecutor under the Criminal Procedure Code ~~(Cap. 68) 2010~~ or under any other written law,

is required to attend Court (including any hearing conducted by way of live video or live television link, and whether in court or in chambers) and wishes to ~~excuse absent~~ himself or herself from Court on medical grounds, he or she must tender or cause to be tendered to the Court an original medical certificate. ~~The medical certificate must be in the form and contain the information and particulars required by sub-paragraphs (2) to (5). The medical certificate may be tendered in person or by any electronic means which the Court may permit.~~

- ~~(2) — A medical certificate issued by a Government hospital or clinic may be in the pre-printed form produced by the Ministry of Health, a sample of which appears at Form 267 of Appendix A. A medical certificate issued by a restructured hospital or specialist centre may also be in a pre-printed form similar to the sample which appears at Form 267 of Appendix A. The pre-printed medical certificate must:~~

- ~~(a) — be completely and properly filled in;~~
- ~~(b) — contain the name of the medical practitioner who issued the medical certificate;~~
- ~~(c) — state the name of the hospital or clinic in which the medical practitioner practices;~~
- ~~(d) — indicate that the person to whom the certificate is issued is unfit to attend Court, and specify the date(s) on which he is unfit to attend Court;~~
- ~~(e) — be signed in full by the medical practitioner and must not be merely initialled; and~~

~~(f) be authenticated by a rubber stamp showing the medical practitioner's full name and his designation in the hospital or clinic, as the case may be.~~

~~(2) Any medical certificate tendered to the Court under sub-paragraph (1) must:~~

~~(a) state the name and Medical Council or Dental Council Registration Number of the medical practitioner or dental practitioner who issued the certificate;~~

~~(b) state the name of the hospital or clinic at which the certificate was issued;~~

~~(c) state the contact details of the medical practitioner or dental practitioner and also of the hospital or clinic;~~

~~(d) be signed by the medical practitioner or dental practitioner or, if the medical certificate is electronically generated, state that no signature is required;~~

~~(e) contain a statement to the effect that the person in respect of whom the certificate is issued is medically unfit to attend Court, and specify the date(s) on which the person is medically unfit to attend Court;~~

~~(f) contain a diagnosis of the person in respect of whom the certificate is issued accompanied by a brief description of the symptom(s) and condition(s) forming the basis for the statement in sub-paragraph (2)(e) above (unless the diagnosis cannot or should not normally be disclosed); and~~

~~(g) bear the date on which the certificate was issued and, where this date differs from the date of consultation, clearly disclose the difference.~~

~~(3) If a medical certificate is not in Form 267 of Appendix A, then the medical certificate should:~~

~~(a) be addressed to the Court for which the certificate was intended. It must not merely be addressed to "whomsoever it may concern". Where the patient is unable to furnish the name of the judicial officer concerned, the relevant medical certificate may be addressed to "The District Judge/Magistrate, Family Courts" or "The Registrar, Family Justice Courts", as the case may be;~~

~~(b) identify clearly the name of the medical practitioner who issued the certificate;~~

~~(c) state the name of the hospital or clinic from which it had been issued;~~

~~(d) be signed in full by the medical practitioner and not merely initialled;~~

- ~~(e) be authenticated by a rubber stamp showing the medical practitioner's full name, designation and any other relevant particulars;~~
- ~~(f) contain the diagnosis of the patient concerned, if any (unless the diagnosis cannot or should not normally be disclosed);~~
- ~~(g) contain a statement to the effect that the person to whom the certificate had been issued is medically unfit to attend Court, and specify the date(s) on which the person is unfit to attend Court; and~~
- ~~(h) bear the date on which it was written, and where this differs from the date of consultation this must be clearly disclosed.~~

~~(4)(3)~~ If any ~~portion of the~~ information ~~set out specified~~ in sub-paragraph ~~(3)(2)~~ is not ~~found stated~~ in the medical certificate ~~proper itself~~, such information ~~should must~~ be included in a memorandum attached to the medical certificate. This memorandum must ~~similarly~~:

- ~~(a) identify clearly state~~ the name ~~and Medical Council or Dental Council Registration number~~ of the medical practitioner ~~or dental practitioner~~ who issued the ~~memorandum certificate~~;
- ~~(b) contain state~~ the name of the hospital or clinic ~~from at~~ which ~~it the certificate~~ was issued; ~~and~~
- ~~(c) be signed in full~~ by the medical practitioner ~~and not merely initialled; and or dental practitioner or, if the memorandum is electronically generated, state that no signature is required.~~
- ~~(d) be authenticated by a rubber stamp showing the medical practitioner's full name and designation.~~

~~(5)(4)~~ All information and details in any medical certificate or any memorandum must be clearly and legibly printed.

~~(6)(5)~~ If ~~the Directions any requirement~~ set out in sub-paragraphs (2) to ~~(5)(4)~~ ~~are is~~ not complied with, the Court may reject the medical certificate and decline to excuse the ~~absence from Court attendance~~ of the person ~~to in respect of~~ whom the medical certificate was issued. The Court may then take any action it deems appropriate.

~~(6)~~ The Court may, if it deems fit, take steps to contact the medical practitioner or dental practitioner who appears to have issued a medical certificate for the purpose of authenticating the medical certificate and, where necessary, the person in respect of whom the medical certificate is issued must provide such assistance to the Court as may be necessary to facilitate such authentication.

- (7) This Paragraph shall apply to all proceedings in the Family Justice Courts, ~~whether in open Court or in private.~~

Appendix A

Form 267

Para-162

~~SPECIMEN GOVERNMENT MEDICAL CERTIFICATE~~

ORIGINAL		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE		Serial No.
Name		NRIC No.		
*This is to certify that the abovenamed is unfit for duty for a period of days from to inclusive.				
Type of medical leave granted —				
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalisation Leave		<input type="checkbox"/> Outpatient Sick Leave.		
— Admitted on		<input type="checkbox"/> Maternity Leave.	Delivered on	
— Discharged on		<input type="checkbox"/> Sterilization Leave.	Operated on	
This Certificate is *valid/not valid for absence from court attendance:				
Diagnosis		Surgical Operation (if applicable)		
*Fit for normal/light duty from to				
*The abovenamed patient attended my clinic at am/pm and left at am/pm. No medical leave is necessary				
Hospital/Clinic		Ward No.	Signature, Name (In BLOCK LETTERS) and Designation	
		Date		
MD-965		<i>*Delete as necessary</i>		

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