IN THE SUBORDINATE COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2008

PILOT RUN FOR CONCURRENT MANAGEMENT OF PERSONAL INJURY MOTOR ACCIDENT CASES (CM PIMA)

- 1. This circular shall take effect today.
- 2. The Subordinate Courts, in conjunction with various justice stakeholders, has commenced a pilot project to facilitate the early resolution of civil claims by victims of road traffic-related offences that had resulted in personal injuries or death. This is to be achieved by the concurrent management of both the criminal and civil proceedings for Personal Injury Motor Accident (CM PIMA) cases.
- 3. During this pilot phase, the criminal court in selected cases will notify all involved parties (eg victim/victim's representatives, accused/tortfeasor, motor insurer) of this scheme to manage civil claims concurrently with existing criminal proceedings. The involved parties will receive a letter from the Subordinate Courts with information on this CM PIMA pilot run and how they can participate in it.
- 4. To expedite the early settlement of CM PIMA claims, Plaintiff solicitors appointed to issue a writ <u>may</u> opt to file and serve a generally indorsed writ (i.e. containing only the prayers for relief) instead of a specifically indorsed writ (i.e. with statement of claim). After the Defendant enters appearance, the parties will receive a Court notice to attend before the PDRC for mediation. Pending mediation of a CM PIMA case at PDRC, the Plaintiff need not file and serve any statement of claim unless so directed by the Settlement Judge. If, however, no appearance is entered by the Defendant, the Plaintiff may enter interlocutory judgment and proceed accordingly as per the Rules of Court.

5. The Registrar will issue another circular in due course to update the Bar as to whether the CM PIMA pilot will continue to run after the initial 6 month period.

Dated this 10th day of September 2008

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