

WORKING TOWARDS SENTENCING FRAMEWORKS THAT ARE INSTRUCTIVE, COMMUNICATIVE AND WITH CONSISTENT OUTCOMES

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the objective of the Sentencing Conference?

The Sentencing Conference was first mooted in 2011 when greater potential was seen for a discussion that started out amongst various domestic stakeholders. The primary objective of the Conference series is to raise general awareness among judges, prosecutors, lawyers, law enforcement officers, academics and other stakeholders in the criminal justice system of sentencing issues and perspectives, which will provide the catalyst for further debate and study to enhance the fairness and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

The first Sentencing Conference, themed “Trends, Tools and Technology”, was held in 2014 and saw more than 300 participants from across six countries.

The Sentencing Conference 2017, themed “Review, Rehabilitation and Reintegration”, is the second in the series.

The Sentencing Conference 2022, themed “Sentencing Frameworks – Instructive, Communicative and Consistent Outcomes”, is the third in the series.

2. What will the Conference cover?

The Conference will feature distinguished local and international speakers who will explore the following topics over six sessions:

- a. The evolution of sentencing in Singapore, with a focus on sentencing trends, principles and frameworks as discerned from Supreme Court jurisprudence between 2017 to 2022.
- b. An overview of how the Probation and Community Rehabilitation Service and Ministry of Social and Family Development facilitate pathways to desistance through effective community rehabilitation.
- c. The principles of mental health interventions that an offender with mental illness would receive and undergo in Singapore, including forensic psychiatric evaluation and risk assessment in the pre-sentencing phase.
- d. Sentencing options for special classes of offenders, such as youth offenders or offenders with mental conditions who commit minor offences, as well as the rehabilitative processes that apply post-sentence.

- e. An overview of the Singapore Prison Service's rehabilitation approach and the evidence-based models that inform its rehabilitation work.
- f. Current technological tools in sentencing and the tension between the publication of data to educate the public.

Refer to Sentencing Conference 2022 Programme Booklet for more information on the sessions.

3. Who are the speakers in the Conference?

The list of speakers and panellists are listed below, in order of their appearance on the programme.

S/N	Name of Speaker
DAY 1 KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
1	The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon Supreme Court of Singapore
DAY 1 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	
2	The Honourable Justice Vincent Hoong Presiding Judge, State Courts, Singapore
DAY 1 SPECIAL GUEST LECTURE	
3	The Honourable Justice Steven Chong Justice of the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Singapore
DAY 1 DISCUSSION WITH MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY, PROSECUTION AND CRIMINAL BAR	
4	The Honourable Justice See Kee Oon Supreme Court of Singapore
5	Mr Hri Kumar Nair SC Deputy Attorney-General, Attorney-General's Chambers
6	Mr Toh Han Li Principal District Judge (Criminal Courts), State Courts, Singapore
7	Mr Tan Chee Meng SC Deputy Chairman, WongPartnership LLP
DAY 1 PLENARY SESSION 1: THE EVOLUTION OF SENTENCING IN SINGAPORE	
8	Mr Victor Yeo Principal District Judge (Criminal Courts), State Courts, Singapore
9	Mr Mohamed Faizal Mohamed Abdul Kadir SC Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Attorney-General's Chambers
10	Assistant Professor Benny Tan Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore
11	Mr Kow Keng Siong District Judge, State Courts, Singapore
12	Mr Chenthil Kumarasingam Partner, WithersKhattarWong LLP
DAY 1 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING 1: PROBATION AND COMMUNITY REHABILITATION SERVICE	
13	Ms Kurseth Begum Manager, Probation and Community Rehabilitation Service, Ministry of Social and Family Development
14	Ms Selina Lim Mei Shan Senior Probation Officer, Probation and Community Rehabilitation Service, Ministry of Social and Family Development
DAY 2 KEYNOTE ADDRESS	

15	Mr Tai Wei Shyong SC Deputy Attorney-General, Attorney-General's Chambers
DAY 2 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING 2: INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH	
16	Dr Lee Kim Huat Jason Consultant & Deputy Chief, Department of Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Mental Health
DAY 2 PLENARY SESSION 2: SENTENCING OF SPECIAL CLASSES OF OFFENDERS	
17	Mr Kessler Soh District Judge, State Courts, Singapore
18	Mr Senthilkumaran Sabapathy, Deputy Director (Criminal Policy), Criminal Policy Division, Ministry of Law
19	Ms Diana Ngiam Associate Director, Quahe Woo & Palmer LLC
20	Dr Christopher Cheok Cheng Soon Senior Consultant & Chief, Department of Forensic Psychiatry, Institute of Mental Health
21	Ms Carmelia Nathen Chief Probation Officer and Director, Probation and Community Rehabilitation Service, Ministry of Social and Family Development
22	Ms Karen Lee Director, Community Corrections Command, Singapore Prison Service, Ministry of Home Affairs
DAY 2 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING 3: SINGAPORE PRISON SERVICE	
23	Ms Caroline Lim, Director Rehabilitation & Reintegration Division, Singapore Prison Service, Ministry of Home Affairs
DAY 2 PLENARY SESSION 3: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
24	Mr Toh Yung Cheong Principal District Judge (Strategic Planning and Technology), State Courts, Singapore
25	Professor Julian V. Roberts Faculty of Law, University of Oxford
26	Professor Jesper Ryberg Department of Communication and Arts, Roskilde University
27	Assistant Professor Chen Minhao Benjamin Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong
28	Mr Christopher Ong Siu Jin Deputy Public Prosecutor, Senior Director, Commercial and Technology Crimes, Crime Division, Attorney-General's Chambers

Refer to Sentencing Conference 2022 website (<https://www.sal.org.sg/events/Sentencing-Conference-2022>) for more information on the speakers and panellists.

4. What is the Sentencing Advisory Panel?

Following the announcement by Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam in his Ministerial Statement on the Review of Sentencing Framework for Sexual and Hurt Offences on 5 March 2021 in Parliament, a Sentencing Advisory Panel has been established.

The key function of the Panel is to formulate and publish guidelines on matters relating to sentencing, to promote greater consistency, transparency and public awareness.

The Panel comprises members from the Judiciary, the Ministry of Law, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Singapore Police Force, the Attorney-General's Chambers, and the Bar.

For more information on the Panel, visit www.sentencingpanel.gov.sg.