

IN THE SUBORDINATE COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2010

**SCHEME 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, commenced a pilot project on 10 September 2008 to facilitate the early resolution of civil claims by victims of road traffic-related offences that had resulted in personal injuries or death. This was to be achieved by the concurrent management of both the criminal and civil proceedings for Personal Injury Motor Accident (CM PIMA) cases. The CM PIMA pilot was run for an initial period of 6 months. The pilot scheme was subsequently streamlined, refined and extended for a further 6 months.

- 3 Having completed both phases of the pilot, the scheme for the concurrent management of CM PIMA cases is to continue, unless otherwise notified by the Subordinate Courts. Apart from the management of civil claims concurrently with existing criminal proceedings, parties will continue to be assisted through a case conference to expedite the conclusion of both the criminal and civil proceedings.

- 4 In essence, the criminal court in selected cases will notify all involved parties (eg victim/victim's representatives, accused/tortfeasor, motor insurer) of the scheme to facilitate and expedite the conclusion of existing criminal proceedings as well as potential civil claims. The involved parties will receive a letter from the Subordinate Courts containing information on this CM PIMA scheme and an invitation to attend a CM PIMA conference session before a Settlement Judge at PDRC to explore concurrent management.

5 Unless the potential civil claim is settled at the CM PIMA conference session, Plaintiff solicitors appointed to issue a writ may 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) to expedite early settlement. 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.

Dated this 21st day of May, 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hoo Sheau Peng', written in a cursive style.

HOO SHEAU PENG
REGISTRAR
SUBORDINATE COURTS