

**Sophia Ng**

*Associate*

LL.B. 2nd Class Honours (Upper Division)

National University of Singapore (2020)

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## ABOUT SOPHIA

A dedicated litigator, Sophia read law at the National University of Singapore and graduated in 2020 with Second Class (Upper) Honours. Sophia was called to the Bar in 2021. Sophia was also former Head of Legal Research of the NUS Pro Bono group, and then joined Eugene Thuraisingam LLP, being attracted to the firm's wide-ranging criminal and civil practice.

Sophia has worked on a wide array of civil matters, including shareholder disputes, enforcement actions and contractual disputes. In 2022, Sophia was part of the team that successfully contested the winding up of an iconic Indian vegetarian business on account of the winding up application being an abuse of process. Sophia has also worked various criminal matters ranging from white-collar crimes to serious crimes such as murder. Several of Sophia's cases have involved novel points of law. Sophia is also an adept planner. This, coupled with direct communication, allows Sophia to be an effective disputes lawyer. Sophia is always keen to expand practice in matters involving complex criminal and civil procedure.

Outside of the law, Sophia enjoys watching sports and reading.

## Significant Arbitration and Litigation Matters:

- **SIAC expedited international arbitration:** Successfully securing an award in 2023 in the amount of USD 2.5 million on behalf of a renewable energies company after a hotly contested expedited arbitration involving the breach of share purchase and loan agreements.
- **[Adcrop Pte Ltd. v Gokul Vegetarian Restaurant and Cafe Pte Ltd \[2023\] SGHC 152:](#)** Successfully persuading the High Court to dismiss a winding up application filed by the Plaintiff, on the novel basis that the winding up application was an abuse of process and part of a conspiracy to wrest control of an iconic Indian vegetarian business. The High Court also found in favour of our client on a novel point of law, viz, notwithstanding the general rule that a shareholder of the company will have no standing to opposing a winding up when the company is insolvent, an exception to such a bar exists when the shareholder alleges that the winding up application is an abuse of process. Media coverage: [Woman orchestrated scheme to wrest control of restaurant from sister-in-law, says judge.](#)
- **HC/S 581/2020:** Acting in a High Court suit involving the sale and partition of a shophouse which

was professionally valued at SGD 12.5 million at one point.

- **HC/S 1083/2020:** Successfully negotiating a settlement between the clients and the plaintiff bank for a claim in excess of SGD 41 million.
- **HC/S 697/2018:** In an ongoing matter, acting for a major sports goods company in a claim against a former director for an alleged complex fraudulent scheme resulting in the misappropriation of approximately SGD 3.5 million from the company. The case also raises an interesting legal issue as to whether the company is bound by a matrimonial settlement agreement between the defendant and another director of the company.
- **Confidential client:** Advising a healthcare company who has acquired a 65% stake in a Singapore-incorporated holding company of Vietnam-incorporated subsidiaries operating medical manufacturing plants, in connection with disputes that have arisen with the 35% minority shareholder, the previous majority shareholder, and receivers appointed over the 35% minority shares of the holding company.
- **Confidential clients:** Acting as Singapore counsel for confidential clients in connection with asset forfeiture proceedings and other legal matters involving more than USD 200 million in assets.

### Significant Criminal Matters

- (Forgery/Money-Laundering) [\*\*Public Prosecutor v Zhang Ruijin\*\*](#): Acting for one of 10 accused persons with Chinese origin, who have been arrested in connection with alleged money-laundering involving up to SGD 2.8 billion in assets. Approximately SGD 100 million of Zhang Ruijin's assets have been seized.
- (Murder) [\*\*Teo Ghim Heng v Public Prosecutor \[2022\] SGCA 10\*\*](#): Acting for the appellant in his appeal against his sentence for murder. The matter also included a novel question of constitutional law and/or the separation of powers doctrine. Media coverage: [Woodlands double murder: Man loses appeal, to face death sentence for killing pregnant wife and daughter](#).
- (Murder) **Muhammad Salihin bin Ismail**: Sophia is involved in ongoing cross-appeals by both the Prosecution and the accused against the decision of the High Court in [\*\*Public Prosecutor v Muhammad Salihin bin Ismail \[2023\] SGHC 155\*\*](#). The Prosecution is appealing against the High Court's decision to acquit the accused of a murder charge and substitute it with a conviction for voluntarily causing hurt. The accused is appealing against the length of sentence imposed on him. Media coverage of the matter: [Man acquitted of murder for kicking stomach of 4-year-old stepdaughter, who later died](#).
- (Market manipulation and cheating) [\*\*Public Prosecutor v Soh Chee Wen & Quah Su-Ling \[2023\] SGHC 299\*\*](#): Acting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> co-accused, Ms Quah Su-Ling at the sentencing stage for one of the longest-running trials involving the persons accused of masterminding the 2013 penny stock crash, which resulted in the erasure of SGD 8 billion in market capitalisation of the Singapore Stock Exchange. Media coverage: [36 years' jail for mastermind of scheme that led to S\\$8 billion penny stock crash in 2013](#).
- (Transmission of infectious diseases) **SC-904438-2020**: In an ongoing matter, acting for an accused charged under the Infectious Diseases Act 1976. The matter involves the novel question of whether an individual who has an undetectable viral load (for which there is current expert consensus that there is effectively no/zero risk of human immunodeficiency virus ("HIV") being

transmitted) is nonetheless obliged to inform his/her sexual partner of the risk of contracting HIV infection from him/her. The District Court ultimately found that there still exists a duty of disclosure notwithstanding there being effectively no/zero risk of HIV transmission. The matter is awaiting written judgment from the District Court and pending an appeal to the High Court. Media coverage: [HIV disclosure law being reviewed: MOH](#)

**Sophia's publications include:-**

- Co-authored the annotations of *Criminal Procedure Code 2010* published by Lexis Advance® under the Annotated Laws of Singapore, December 2021
- Co-authored the 2023 and 2024 Singapore chapter of Lexology's Panoramic Asset Recovery Guide.
- Co-authored the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> editions of the Singapore chapter of The Law Review's The Disputes Resolution Review. The 16<sup>th</sup> edition of The Disputes Resolution Review is due for publishing in 2024.