Ng Yuan Siang

Associate

LL.B. (*Magna cum laude*)
Singapore Management University (2021)
Admitted to the Singapore Bar (2022)

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ABOUT YUAN SIANG

Yuan Siang graduated magna cum laude from Singapore Management University in 2021, placing on the Dean's List for the academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021. He was called to the Bar in 2022, obtaining two distinctions in Part B of the 2021 Singapore Bar Examinations in the process.

Yuan Siang joined Eugene Thuraisingam LLP because the firm's commitment to access to justice resonated strongly with him. Since getting called to the Bar, Yuan Siang has appeared in a wide variety of civil and criminal proceedings, including cases involving novel points of law as well as appeals before the High Court and the Court of Appeal. He has argued civil and criminal matters in the General Division of the High Court and the State Courts, including an appeal before the General Division of the High Court.

Yuan Siang has been endorsed by clients for his "humanity, reliability, passion ... and professionalism".

Yuan Siang is interested in both civil and criminal litigation and has published in both these areas.

Outside of law, Yuan Siang has led and participated in several refugee-related initiatives. He enjoys watching movies and reading.

Significant Arbitration Matters:-

• SIAC arbitration involving a shipping dispute: A dispute between an American company and a Japanese counterparty over goods that were shipped but are alleged to be of defective quality.

Significant Civil Matters:-

- HC/OC 91/2023; HC/S 624/2020: Acted for entities and persons within a global commodities group
 of companies in two worldwide disputes, concerning disputed sums totalling more than USD 600
 million. Media coverage: Trafigura faces hit of up to \$577mn over alleged nickel fraud / Trader in
 Trafigura scandal ordered to pay US\$63mn to financier TransAsia
- HC/S 1019/2020: Acted in a USD 30 million contractual dispute for the defendant, an entity within the abovementioned global commodities group. The plaintiff is an Indian multinational bank. Acted

- as lead counsel in the Plaintiff's application to enter judgment, and successfully convinced the Court to adopt a contractual interpretation favourable to the Defendant. Acted as lead counsel in the consequent appeal, in which said interpretation was upheld.
- <u>HC/S 716/2021</u>: Acting for the temporary liquidator and temporary representative liquidator of a Japanese incorporated defendant company in a suit involving a 17 billion yen (~S\$215 million) claim by a foreign government-owned entity relating to fraud and unjust enrichment.
- HC/S 722/2021: Represented the defendant in a suit concerning a decades-long dispute between
 members of a family-run and locally established food products company. A favourable settlement
 was reached and the suit was concluded by way of consent judgment.

Significant Criminal Matters:-

- (Schizophrenia) Public Prosecutor v Soo Cheow Wee and anor appeal [2023] SGHC 204: Succeeded in a cross-appeal on sentence before the Honourable Chief Justice, in a landmark judgment on how to account for an offender's underlying psychiatric conditions when meting out a sentence for criminal offences. The offender was schizophrenic and actively psychotic when he committed the offences. The Prosecution nevertheless sought a lengthy imprisonment sentence, taking the position that this was irrelevant. The Honourable Chief Justice disagreed, allowing our appeal and reducing the sentence. Media coverage: Court cuts jail term for man shot by police in Clementi stand-off due to his mental conditions.
- (Murder) Public Prosecutor v Miya Manik [2022] SGCA 73: Successfully resisted an appeal against the acquittal of a Bangladeshi national charged under Section 300(c) read with Section 34 of the Penal Code for sharing in a common intention with two others to murder a fellow Bangladeshi national. This arose out of a turf war between rival syndicates over the sale of illegal cigarettes in Tuas. The High Court had earlier acquitted the accused and convicted him on a reduced charge of voluntarily causing grievous hurt with a dangerous weapon instead. This decision was upheld in the Court of Appeal ("CA"). In doing so, the CA accepted our written submissions and dismissed the Prosecution's appeal without hearing from the Defence. Media coverage: Court of Appeal upholds murder acquittal, sentence of man who slashed cigarette syndicate leader
- (Murder) Public Prosecutor v Azlin Binte Arujinah & Anor [2022] SGCA 67: Defended Ridzuan Bin Mega Abdul Rahman ("Ridzuan") before the CA. Ridzuan had originally been charged with his wife for the murder of their son. He was acquitted of murder and convicted on a reduced charge of voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous means. The Prosecution's appeal against sentence was allowed by the CA, but the CA accepted the Defence's arguments that his sentence of caning should be set aside. Media coverage: Father of 5-year-old boy who died from abuse gets life sentence, mother convicted of murder after appeal
- (Rape) CA/CCA 27/2022: Acted for the co-founder of a local eatery chain in his appeal before the
 CA against conviction and sentence for molest and sexual assault. Media coverage: <u>Court dismisses Beef Bro co-founder's appeal to overturn sentence for sexually assaulting sister's drunk friend</u>
- (Murder) HC/CC 31/2022: Defended an 86-year-old man who killed his 79-year-old romantic
 partner of 60 years. The accused was originally charged with murder, but pleaded guilty to a single
 charge of culpable homicide and was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment. Media coverage: 86year-old man jailed for killing partner in 'unspeakably vicious' attack

Yuan Siang's publications include:-

- November 2023, Chambers and Partners' publication (as co-author): Global Practice Guide for White-Collar Crime 2024 (Singapore chapter).
- 2023, Lexis Nexis publication (as co-author): Atkin's Court Forms Singapore, Chapter XXXIII.

- July 2022, Eugene Thuraisingam LLP publication (with Gall Solicitors): Wire Fraud and Recovery Options in SIngapore and Hong Kong
- June 2022, Eugene Thuraisingam LLP publication: The Modes of Recovery of Stolen Cryptocurrency Assets in Singapore
- May 2022, Asialaw: CKH v CKG Clarifying the Grounds for Setting Aside an Arbitral Award
- April 2022, Eugene Thuraisingam LLP publication: Mitigating Factors in Sentencing Where Forgiveness Stands

Selected media:-

- 12 October 2023, Channel News Asia: CNA Explains: Why do criminals use Telegram?
- 18 August 2023, Channel News Asia: Not illegal to hang LGBTQ pride flag in public, including outside HDB windows, say lawyers
- 1 August 2023, *TODAY*: Lawyers say rehab is 'best option' for cat-killer boy, but animal groups call for more follow-ups to prevent repeat
- 26 July 2023, *Channel News Asia*: Some make nothing, others can earn \$\$1,000 a month: Group buy organisers on why they do it
- 9 July 2023, *TODAY*: My brush with the Telegram underworld, where shady characters offer up to \$\$7,000 to buy Singpass login details

Professional appointments:-

- Junior Assisting Counsel, Legal Assistance for Capital Offences Scheme (LASCO)
- Counsel, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS)