



**Andrew Chua**

*Associate Director, Dispute Resolution*

LL.B. (Hons), National University of Singapore (2017)

Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore (2018)

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## ABOUT ANDREW

Andrew is an experienced and respected criminal defence, civil and commercial counsel.

He has an extensive criminal defence practice, which spans a wide spectrum of matters, including commercial, financial and business crime, money laundering, fraud and corruption, drug offences, physical and violent crimes and other miscellaneous offences.

His civil and commercial litigation practice includes advising and representing individuals in contractual and commercial disputes, asset recovery, negligence, cyber security and technology-related disputes.

With his experience in both criminal and civil litigation, Andrew also regularly advises and represents individuals and corporations in relation to investigations and regulatory matters.

Andrew graduated from the National University of Singapore in 2017. As an undergraduate, he participated actively in local and international moot competitions. Most notably, he was part of the team that reached the Quarterfinals of the prestigious Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in 2017, where he won Honourable Mentions in every category of award possible.

In 2018, Andrew passed the Singapore Bar Examinations as joint-4<sup>th</sup> out of 658 candidates. He received two distinctions and was awarded Best Student in Ethics and Professional Responsibility.

Andrew has been with Drew & Napier since 2018, when he joined the firm as a trainee.

## EXPERIENCE

### Commercial / Financial Crimes

- Representing **Vang Shuiming**, one of the ten individuals charged in relation to the landmark **“S\$3 billion money laundering”** case, with assets of nearly **S\$210 million seized**.
- Representing a key trader involved in the **“Penny Stock Crash”**, where almost S\$8 billion in the market value of shares in three companies was erased in October 2013.
- Represented a **Managing Director in the F&B / hospitality industry** in relation to corruption charges. Secured a **discharge amounting to acquittal on all charges** after a 10-day trial.
- Represented a **global supply chain manager in the oil and gas industry** in a rare case where the Prosecution was found to have breached its disclosure obligations by failing to disclose investigative statements of a key Prosecution witness.
- Represented a Singaporean individual charged for perpetrating the **Ponzi scheme involving fund management company leading to more than S\$2 million in losses**.
- Represented a **security supervisor of a large multi-national corporation** in the electronics sector in relation to corruption charges. Secured a non-custodial sentence which departed significantly from sentencing norms.
- Advised a **director of management consultancy firm** facing charges under the Companies Act for **arranging for placement of “nominee” directors in at least 109 companies**.

- Represented a **director of scrap metal recycling firm** in relation to charges of an alleged **conspiracy to falsify accounts**.
- Represented a **large multi-national company in the mobile components sector** in relation to issues under the Securities and Futures Act relating to an **intended share buyback scheme**.

## Drug Offences

- Assigned counsel for an appeal against the death penalty by **Oh Yew Lee**. Secured an **acquittal, retrial and non-capital sentence** on the basis of potential issues in the chain of custody of drug exhibits.
- *Pro bono* counsel for an appeal against the death penalty by **Teo Yiu Kin Tee**.
- Represented a **Canadian expatriate in a novel drug possession case involving a cannabis vaporizer pen**. Secured a discharge amounting to an acquittal on one charge on the basis that the charge was scientifically impossible to prove.
- Represented a 21 year old, among others, **"LT" drug charges for possession and consumption of various drugs**.

## Physical / Violent Crimes

- Represented a 72 year old in the seminal case on sentencing for the offence of **criminal force on a public servant**.
- Represented an 18 year old charged with **rioting**. Secured a reduction of charge and an order of probation.
- Representing a high-profile individual in case involving **voluntarily causing grievous hurt** in a private dispute.
- Represented a 22 year old charged with **voluntarily causing grievous hurt with weapon** and a further **"CESOWA"** offence for possession of a karambit knife in a serious slashing incident at Boat Quay.

- Represented the eldest brother in the **"four brothers" sexual assault case**, who faced more than 40 charges of sexual assault by penetration, attempted sexual assault by penetration and attempted rape.
- Representing an individual charged with **criminal intimidation and voluntarily causing hurt to a public servant**, in a case involving issues of **psychiatric disorder(s) of the accused person**. Successfully obtained a **Mandatory Treatment Order (MTO)**.

## Corporate and Internal Investigations / Private Prosecutions

- Representing a **formerly-listed multi-national company** in relation to **internal investigations into accounting fraud and potential breaches of directors' duties** by key management personnel.
- Representing a charity with Institute of Public Character status in relation to investigations by the Singapore Police Force regarding **potential assault, violence and breaches of duties by employees**.
- Representing **Tencent** in **three concurrent private prosecutions** relating to offences of copyright infringement under the **Copyright Act 2021** through **illegally modified set-top boxes**.
- Representing a **Swiss-headquartered multinational corporation** in relation to **internal investigations into illicit payments to third-party contractor(s) and potential breaches of financial control measures**.
- Advised **crypto technology firm** in internal investigations in relation to **misappropriation of cryptocurrency and other monies**.

## Disposal Inquiry / Asset Recovery

- Representing a foreign national in relation to the **seizure of assets arising from requests under the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act** by the Department of Justice (USA) and Thai Ministry of Justice.
- Represented a foreign national in disposal inquiry proceedings relating to the **seizure and release of bank accounts** pursuant to requests by Italian authorities.
- Represented a Singaporean national in relation to **extensive disposal inquiry proceedings relating to the seizure and release of cryptocurrency accounts** held by a limited liability partnership.

## Miscellaneous Crimes

- Represented **DJ Tenashar**, a prominent former club DJ and model in relation to charges for the use of **forged letters purportedly written by the Attorney-General of Singapore** in Court proceedings.
- Represented an individual charged under the **Medical Registration Act** for offering **"fat-burning injection" services** without a license. Secured a reduction of all charges and non-custodial sentence.
- Represented a senior engineer involved in the **"Jurong Refinery Toxic Gas Accident"** charged under the **Workplace Safety and Health Act** for **negligence causing death** to one contractor and injuries to two others.
- Representing a director and shareholder in a high-profile **Ministry of Manpower investigation** in relation to alleged **"phantom workers"** and false declarations to obtain work permits.

## Civil / Commercial Cases

- Successfully represented **Mr Bert Wong Sung Boon, former Managing Director of Fuji Xerox Singapore** in a wrongful dismissal suit, with damages in excess of S\$1.4 million awarded.

- Successfully represented **high net worth individual in the hospitality sector** in a suit relating to claims of family arrangements and/or family trusts over assets in excess of S\$40 to 60 million.
- Successfully represented **Razer** in a highly technical suit arising from its **security vendor's breaches of contract and negligence in misconfiguring Razer's Linux-based customer database** (leading to a data leak involving the data of nearly 147,000 customers worldwide).
- Successfully represented **Johnson & Johnson Pte Ltd** in obtaining summary judgment against prominent local optics business for unpaid invoices in excess of S\$4 million.
- Successfully represented **the liquidators of Eye-Biz Pte Ltd** in a novel case relating to the appointment of solicitors by a company in liquidation.
- Successfully represented **former directors of a BVI-incorporated company** facing claims by a SGX-listed company for fraud, dishonest assistance, knowing receipt and conspiracy.
- Successfully represented a local company in the **"M.I.C.E." (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) sector** in claims against a UK / Singapore joint-venture company in the exhibitions sector.

## Commercial / Corporate Advisory

- Advised a **large multinational company in the pharmaceutical sector** on potential anti-competition, sourcing / diversion and potential disclosure obligations arising from acquisition of a company whose major shareholder was SGX-listed.
- Advised local company in the **"M.I.C.E." sector** on potential restraint of trade issues in relation to allegations of poaching of clients and corporate opportunities by large international firm in the events sector.
- Advised **large formerly-listed steel company** on potential relaunch of voluntary general offer.

- Advised **individual in the casino / gaming sector** on potential recovery of potential gambling debts and debts arising from gaming credit lines.

## Other Matters

- Represented the **Law Society of Singapore** in Admission of Advocates and Solicitors hearings relating to the “**Part B Cheating**” cases.
- Represented the **Law Society of Singapore** in Admission of Advocates and Solicitors hearings involving applicants who committed plagiarism and/or other forms of misconduct.

## ACCOLADES

### The Legal 500 Asia Pacific

Dispute Resolution 2023 – Recommended lawyer

*“Wendell Wong and Andrew Chua are able to place the client’s interest foremost in their conduct of a matter”*

### asialaw Profiles

*“Wonderful personality”* – asialaw Profiles 2024

*“Very focused on his work and able to give me timely and effective advice”* – asialaw Profiles 2024

*“He is attentive and responsive, able to relate to the case and provide insights and share best practices, and at the same time highlight potential issues or ideas from past cases and experiences”* – asialaw Profiles 2023

## APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Council Representative, Regulatory Department (Law Society of Singapore), 2023, 2024
- Council Representative, Mediation Committee (Law Society of Singapore), 2023, 2024
- Council Representative, Foreign Lawyers Advisory Panel (Law Society of Singapore), 2024

- Counsel Representative, Young Lawyers Committee (Law Society of Singapore), 2023
- Committee Member, Young Lawyers Committee (Law Society of Singapore), 2024
- Committee Member, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme Committee (Pro Bono SG), 2023, 2024
- Appointed Member, Civil Legal Aid Means Test Panel (Ministry of Law)
- Appointed Member, Criminal Defence Aid Means Test Panel (Ministry of Law)
- Volunteer Counsel, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS)
- Volunteer Counsel, Supreme Court’s Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences (LASCO)
- Member, Law Society of Singapore
- Member, Singapore Academy of Law

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Chambers Global Practice Guide: Anti-Corruption & Bribery (Singapore)**, 2022 – 2024
- **The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides: Bribery and Corruption (Singapore)**, 2021 – 2024
- **Rewriting the Rules: The Game of International “Catch Me If You Can”**, Drew & Napier LLC, Legal Update, 6 April 2022
- **“Paying Back” or “Payback”? Understanding the Penalty Provision under the PCA**, Drew & Napier LLC, Legal Update, 21 January 2022
- **Just cause, and not just because**, Drew & Napier LLC, Legal Update, 19 February 2021
- **The Science of the Art of Sentencing**, Drew & Napier LLC, Legal Update, 27 January 2021
- **The Regime for Deferred Prosecution Agreements**, Drew & Napier LLC, Legislation Update Series, 10 April 2018