

Key Highlights From AG Lucien Wong's Opening Of The Legal Year 2024 Speech



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(A) SUPPORTING FORWARD SG THROUGH AGC'S WORK AS THE GOVERNMENT'S LAW FIRM



Legal support is required for every outcome that Forward SG seeks to achieve. This is a high calling, but I have complete confidence that we are up to the task.

Lucien Wong
Attorney-General and President of the Legal Service Commission

AGC and the broader Legal Service will continue to support Forward SG and help Singapore become a society that is:



► Fair and Thriving

AGC worked closely with Government agencies to:



Update our employment laws, to ensure fair treatment of workers by their employers.



Grow the economic pie by supporting the expansion of our network of economic agreements and safeguarding Singapore's reputation as a global financial centre.



Ensure a good living environment for all, including for the elderly, persons with disabilities and marginalised groups, by providing legal advice and support to agencies.

► Resilient and United

AGC updated the legislative framework to promote the appropriate use of our national and presidential symbols, giving Singaporeans greater latitude to express national pride.

AGC supported Government agencies in efforts to tackle key challenges:



COVID-19: Provided legal advice on measures to help ensure Singapore's long-term resilience in the face of challenges arising from pandemics, such as energy imports and supply chain disruptions.



Cyberspace: Worked with agencies on whole-of-Government positions and initiatives regarding cross-cutting and fast developing issues in cyberspace.



Climate Change: Supported every aspect of Singapore's green plan and initiatives to secure a climate-resilient future, and furthered Singapore's thought leadership on issues of climate change and oceans on the international stage.



► Within AGC and Legal Service

Work-life balance, wellness and mental health and support for families

Launch of Resiliency@AGC, a comprehensive one-stop portal to support AGC officers in self-care; a Resiliency Team, led by an in-house psychologist, a Crime Resiliency Team, and an Ombudspersons Team.

► Vibrant and Inclusive

AGC worked closely with Government agencies:



To put in place measures on housing affordability, and on CPF top-ups to ITE graduates.



On funding agreements for additional support to special education schools.



On legislation on housing and retirement adequacy, and rights of workers.

► Within AGC and Legal Service

Inclusive and Diverse Opportunities

Hiring and rewarding a diverse range of qualifications and abilities, and offering diverse roles to serve the public interest.

Training and Upskilling

Sponsorship for promising executives to undertake LLB studies; training to support job transitions, and to develop specialised expertise.

(B) CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Highlights of AGC's achievements on this front include:



Issuance and implementation of the *Guidelines on Reduction in Sentences for Guilty Pleas*, for accused persons and defence counsel, to better ensure fairness.



Establishment of a new Policy Unit and a Ministry and Statutory Board Unit in AGC's Crime Division to better ensure consistency and fairness through enhanced oversight over the handling of cases.



Setting up of a Task Force to enable more effective and efficient prosecution of cases involving child sexual exploitation.