Accessing Reliable Legal Resources for LGST101 Business Law

Law Team, SMU Libraries 2019
You will learn how to locate...

• Singapore Case Law using LawNet
• UK Case Law using LawNet
• Singapore Legislation using Singapore Statutes Online (SSO)
Case Law

What is Case Law?

A written record of the courts’ decisions
What kind of case law are you looking for?

- A specific case
  - Search using case name or citation

- Cases around a specific topic
  - Search using appropriate key words
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Case Name

Consists of the names of the parties involved

Civil Case

*Chwee Kin Keong v Digilandmall.com Pte Ltd.*

Criminal Case

*Public Prosecutor v PDM International Pte Ltd*

The case name alone is often not enough. There is no indication of the date, where it was reported, or which case in particular is being referred to (there may be more than one case).
Reported Case Citations

[2004] 2 SLR (R) 594

Year Volume Reporter Pg

The citation tells us that the case may be found in vol 2 of the Singapore Law Reports (Reissue) for 2004, starting on page 594.
The citation above tells us that this was the 3rd case in 2005 in the Singapore Court of Appeal.

This is a system of citation where each written judgment from a particular level of court is assigned a sequential number, starting from 1 at the beginning of each calendar year.
Exercise 1 – SG Case

Search for the case using the reported case citation

[2004] 2 SLR(R) 594
Chwee Kin Keong and others v Digilandmall.com Pte Ltd - [2004] 2 SLR(R) 594

[2004] 2 SLR(R) 594

Relevance: 84% | Category: Singapore Law Reports
2 Following | 37 Referring | 0 Distinguishing | 0 Not Following | 0 Overruling

Sunny Metal & Engineering Pte Ltd v Ng Khim Ming Eric (practising under the name and style of W P Architects) - [2007] 1 SLR(R) 853
Relevance: 5% | Category: Singapore Law Reports
Search for the case using the neutral citation.

[2009] SGCA 3
Gay Choon Ing v Loh Sze Ti Terence Peter and another appeal - [2009] 2 SLR(R) 332
What if you search using case name?

Spandeck Engineering (S) Pte Ltd v Yong Qiang Construction
Spandeck Engineering (S) Pte Ltd v Yong Qiang Construction

Resource(s)

- Select All

Cases
- Judgments
- Singapore Law Reports
- Decisions

Reference Materials
- Journals
- Press Articles
- Commentaries
When the case name is used, different cases with the same case name may be retrieved.
Exercise 4 – keyword search

Search for cases discussing the concept of offer and acceptance.
Search using the relevant key terms

"offer and acceptance"
Chia Kim Huay (litigation representative of the estate of Chua Chye Hee, deceased) v Saw Shu Mawa Min Min and another - [2012] 4 SLR 1096

Relevance: 24% | Category: Singapore Law Reports

0 Following | 5 Referring | 1 Distinguishing | 1 Not Following | 0 Overruling

...to ordinary principles of contract law, such as concepts of offer and acceptance. However, being a statutory mechanism, O 22A modified...

Once O 22A is invoked, the common law rules of offer and acceptance were statutorily modified. Order 22A r 3(2) mandated...

Soon Kok Tiang and others v DBS Bank Ltd and another matter - [2011] 2 SLR 716

Relevance: 22% | Category: Singapore Law Reports

0 Following | 1 Referring | 0 Distinguishing | 0 Not Following | 0 Overruling

HN5 application form contained the relevant terms upon which the offer and acceptance of the HN5 contracts with each investor was made....

...to that question, I must consider what constituted the relevant terms in this case. Although the launch of the HN5...
List of Titles in the Law Reports series

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The Law Reports are published by The Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England & Wales
Exercise 5 – UK case

• Search for the following English case

Page V. Smith (no. 2) - [1996] 1 WLR 855
Welcome User IP Access

Resource(s)

- Select All

Cases

- Judgments
- Singapore Law Reports
- Decisions

Reference Materials

- Journals
- Press Articles
- Commentaries
Page V. Smith (no. 2) - [1996] 1 WLR 855
Relevance: 30% | Category: English Cases
• To find out what the legal abbreviations stand for you can also use the following website:

http://www.legalabbrevs.cardiff.ac.uk/
CARDIFF INDEX TO LEGAL ABBREVIATIONS

Cardiff Index to Legal Abbreviations

This database allows you to search for the meaning of abbreviations for English language legal publications, from the British Isles, the Commonwealth and the United States, including those covering international and comparative law.

A wide selection of major foreign language law publications is also included. Publications from over 255 jurisdictions are featured in the Index.

The database mainly covers law reports and law periodicals but some other legal publications are also included. The Index is under continuous development with new abbreviations and titles being added on a regular basis.

Search by Abbreviation

Enter an abbreviation to find matching Law publication titles

Search Options:
- Exact
- Close

Search by Title

Enter the title of a Law publication to find the abbreviation

Search Options:
- Exact Words (ALL words, any order)
- Phrase (ALL words in order)
- Keyword (ANY words, any order)

For further information contact: legalabbreves@cardiff.ac.uk

Winner of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians Wallace Bremm Memorial Award 2004

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Singapore Legislation
- **Statutes /Acts**
  - Deals with broad legal principles
    - E.g. Companies Act, Cap 50

- **Subsidiary Legislation**
  - Deals with details such as procedures, admin matters, technical standards, etc.
    - E.g. Companies (Application of Bankruptcy Act Provisions) Regulations, Cap 50, Section 411
Locating Singapore Legislation

- Available through **LawNet**

Find the following legislation on Singapore Statutes Online.

Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act (Cap 53B)
Ensure that the legislation is still effective by checking its status.
library@smu.edu.sg
Phone: 6828 0355