



**LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE
ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE**

APPLICATIONS FOR ABRIDGMENT OF TIME

All applicants for admission as advocate and solicitor to the Supreme Court must comply with the filing and service deadlines as set out in Part VI of the Legal Profession (Admission) Rules 2011.

Please note the following three important timelines:

- (1) There must be a 60-day period between filing of the Originating Summons for admission and the hearing date;
- (2) There must be a 30-day period between filing of the Originating Summons and filing the affidavit for admission with all supporting documents; and
- (3) There must be a 21-day period between filing of the affidavit for admission and the hearing date.

However, under certain circumstances, the applicant for admission might not be able to meet the above timelines. The applicant may consider submitting an application for abridgment of time.

Procedure

On e-Litigation, submit a “Summons for Abridgment of Time” requesting an abridgment of time together with an affidavit in support of the Summons.

The affidavit supporting the Summons must be succinct, stating the reasons why you are requesting for an abridgment of time and for how many days. You must also include the circumstances which led you to require an abridgment of time.

You may use this format as a guide:

1. Under Rule 25(3)* / Rule 25(4)* (*select as applicable*) of the Legal Profession (Admission) Rules 2011, the time to file my Originating Summons* / Affidavit in support of my application for admission* (*select as applicable*) was on ___(insert date)___.
2. My Originating Summons / Affidavit was filed on ___(insert date)___.
3. I am asking for an abridgment of ___(insert number of days)___ days.
4. The reason for the delay is:

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

Do not repeat what is in your affidavit for admission. That is a separate document. The judge at the abridgment of time application hearing is deciding whether to grant an Order in Terms purely on your request for an abridgment of time. This hearing is not to decide on your suitability for admission.

If you are granted Order in Terms, the Court will allocate you to the next available hearing date.

General policy for abridgements

The Law Society's policy on abridgement applications is based on the outcome of discussions in 2015 with the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General's Chambers ("AGC") and the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE"), and the previous abridgement hearings:

- (i) There will generally be no approval granted for abridgment of the 60-day period for the filing of the Originating Summons;
- (ii) There will generally be no approval granted for abridgement of **FOUR** days or more for the filing of the Affidavit for Admission. Abridgement of less than four days will be decided on a case-by-case basis and may be allowed if supported by reasons that are acceptable to the Society, AGC and SILE;
- (iii) Where there is an objection to any of the applications, all the three parties (AGC, the Society and SILE) shall attend the hearing and give their grounds of objection.

Please note that the following grounds are usually not considered to be good reasons in support of an abridgement application:

- (i) Late receipt of Part B exam results;
- (ii) Practice training period ending on or shortly after the cut-off date for filing the affidavit under Rule 25(4);
- (iii) Getting called earlier being necessary for a salary adjustment;
- (iv) Law firm's manpower shortages.

For more information, please contact compliance@lawsoc.org.sg

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