

Jeremy Pereira

SPECIAL COUNSEL | SINGAPORE



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OPERATING AS WITHERS KHATTARWONG LLP IN SINGAPORE.

Jeremy is a special counsel in the criminal litigation team.

Jeremy specialises in criminal law, with a focus on white collar / financial crime and investigations. He has been recognised by The Legal 500 as a key lawyer often engaged in internal investigations for both corporates and individuals.

He has considerable experience leading cases which involve cheating; invoice financing fraud; domestic and cross-border corruption; ship-bunkering offences; casino crime; remote gambling offences; money-laundering; confiscation of proceeds of crime, and various offences under the Securities and Futures Act. In pre-emptive instances, he has been engaged to advise on compliance with local laws or to investigate into suspected wrongdoings. On many other occasions, he defends individuals and organisations accused of committing crimes.

He is equally competent in the defence of blue-collar offences encompassing harm caused to property and persons, substance abuse, sexual misconduct, violent crimes, and strives for the best attainable outcome in all matters.

Jeremy is also on the Supreme Court's list of assigned lawyers for capital cases and has been involved in a number of murder and drug trials and appeals. He has also acted for clients in the Military Courts and before various Disciplinary Tribunals. He is passionate about educating others in the law and devotes part of his time to teaching criminal law at the Singapore University of Social Sciences, and Military Law at the Officer Cadet School at SAFTI.

Track record

Multimillion-dollar gold investment scam

Represented one of 3 persons arrested for allegedly being involved in a multimillion-dollar gold investment scam.

One of Asia's top commodity traders

Assisted with the investigations into suspected false and misleading statements, and breaches of disclosure requirements.

Prevention of Corruption Act

Advising white collar clients on possible breaches and offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, Security and Futures Acts, Corruption, Drug Trafficking and other Serious Crimes Act, Penal Code and various other legislations.

Hedge fund

Acted for the fund managers of a hedge fund which transacted approximately S\$500 million worth of investments between their hedge funds, BSI bank and 1MDB.

Market manipulation scheme

Advised broking houses and acted for two brokers implicated in an alleged market manipulation scheme involving LionGold Corporation, Blumont Group and Asiasons Capital.

Energy Market Authority

Acted for the Casino Regulatory Authority on a matter involving a casino operator's regulatory duties to prevent the commission of certain offences within the casino, and advising on the imposition of financial penalties and sanctions.

Acted for the Energy Market

Acted for the Energy Market Authority in investigating a gas supply disruption incident which led to major power outages in various parts of Singapore, and advising on the imposition of financial penalties and sanctions.

Suspected embezzlement

Conducted investigations into the suspected embezzlement of US\$13 million from the Hong Kong companies of one of our private clients.

Kickback arrangements with contractors

Acted for a multi-national company in investigating its employees who were suspected to be involved in kick-back arrangements with their contractors. The investigations were successful and the company was able to recoup the losses from the errant employee.

Criminal breach of trust

Pittis Stavros v PP: Acted for an accused person charged with Criminal Breach of Trust as a servant for having misappropriated approximately US\$125,000 of marine fuel oil. On appeal, the charge was successfully reduced to CBT simpliciter.

Corruption trial

Tjong Mark Edward v PP: Acted for an accused person in a corruption trial (2 charges under Section 6(a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act), and his subsequent appeal against conviction and sentence.

Section 420 of Penal Code

Ajith Murali v PP: Acted for an accused person in his appeal against a conviction of cheating under Section 420 of the Penal Code.

Casino Control Act

PP v Sengmanivong Soum: Acted for an accused person who claimed trial to charges under Section 172A of the Casino Control Act for participating in a scheme to cheat the Marina Bay Sands casino with 13 others.

Corrupt buyback transactions

Acted for a managing director of a Singapore-based marine fuel oil supplier charged with criminal conspiracy to engage in corrupt buy-back transactions with 3 other individuals.

Criminal breach of trust

Acted for a former sales director who was facing a charge for criminal breach of trust. A discharge amounting to an acquittal was eventually granted.

Cross-border investigations of corruption

Acting for a multi-national marine conglomerate and its former director in cross-border investigations (in the United States and Singapore) involving corruption.

Ponzi scheme

Acting for a former director of a gold investment company who is facing charges for suspected involvement in what has been alleged to be a multi-million dollar Ponzi scheme. The company attracted more than 2000 investors and recorded a turnover close to S\$150 million. The company was eventually wound up by its creditors after it failed to honour its payments and buy-back obligations.

Breaches of disclosure by commodities trading company

Acting for a large Singapore-listed multinational commodities trading company and its founder in ongoing joint investigations with the Commercial Affairs Department, Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority for suspected false and misleading statements, and alleged breaches of disclosure requirements under the Securities and Futures Act.

Monetary Authority of Singapore

Acting for individuals and corporations investigated and charged for offences by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Commercial Affairs Department.

Residential Property Act

Acting for individuals investigated and charged for false declarations under the Residential Property Act.

Fraudulent probate matters

Acting for interested parties in fraudulent probate matters.

Singapore tax evasion

Advising and acting for individuals and corporations investigated on matters relating to tax evasion by the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore.

Casino and gaming legislation

Acting for prominent individuals investigated and charged for offences relating to the casino and gaming legislation.

Murder charges

PP v Iskandar Bin Rahmat: Acted for an accused person facing 2 charges for murder. (The "Kovan" murders).

Rape charge

PP v Khong Tam Thanh: Acted for the accused person who claimed trial to a rape charge. The charge was successfully negotiated down to aggravated molestation just prior to the commencement of the trial.

Drug trafficking

PP v Kow Lee Ting Serena: Acted for an accused person facing 2 capital charges for drug trafficking. Both capital charges were successfully discharged after representations and negotiations with the Attorney-General's Chambers.

High Court of Singapore ASD client

Acting for a client who is on the autism spectrum and also suffers from Asperger's syndrome in a sentencing hearing in the High Court of Singapore for a sexual offence.

International gambling syndicate

Acting for an individual facing multiple charges under the Organised Crime Act and the Remote Gambling Act for being involved in an alleged international gambling syndicate.

Sexual assault on patients

Acting for 2 doctors in 2 separate cases involving allegations of sexual assault on their patients.

Drug trafficking

Engaged by the Philippines Government to act for a Filipino national facing a capital offence of drug trafficking. The charge was eventually reduced to a non-capital charge.

Expedited Protection Orders and Protection Orders

Expedited Protection Orders / Protection Orders - Acted for a Swedish National and successfully obtained Expedited Protection Orders and Protection Orders against 6 other individuals to restrain them from publishing defamatory information about our client, and to take down a number of postings from the internet.

Criminal Law Act

Appeared at hearings before the Criminal Law Advisory Committee on behalf of accused persons being dealt with under the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act.

Law Society

Acting for the Law Society against a lawyer of 22 years' standing who was alleged to have negotiated higher payments from the opposing party without her client's knowledge or instruction. The matter has been referred by the Disciplinary Tribunal to the Court of Three Judges.

Disciplinary Tribunal Proceedings

Law Society v Pascal Baylon Netto: Acted for the Law Society in the Disciplinary Tribunal Proceedings, as well as proceedings before the Court of Three Judges. The errant lawyer was found guilty of dishonesty and struck off the rolls.

External publications

Manipulating the Stock Market (Published 18 March 2016 on Euromoney's Expert Guides)

Anti-Money Laundering in Singapore (2016 Withers Khattarwong LLP publication)

How white is your Persil (The Business Times, 6 Dec 2016)

Admissions

Singapore Bar, 2014

Education

National University of Singapore, LLB (Honours)

Languages

English

Memberships

Member, Singapore Law Society

Member, Singapore Academy of Law

Appointed Assisting Counsel under the Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences (LASCO)

Volunteer for Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (2014 to present)

Key dates

Year joined: 2014

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