

Guidance for Movers

The following serves as a guide to help you navigate the AAS Hearing.

Applicants and their movers must be punctual and be in Court at least ten (10) minutes before the first application is heard.

The hearing typically proceeds as follows.

1. Private Secretary to the Judge: AAS [number] and [name of applicant].
2. Mover: *May it please the Court, my name is [name] and I am moving the call of Mr/Ms [name].*

[If you are the first mover of the day/session, introduce the other lawyers present in court as follows:

My learned friends, Mr [name] appears for the Attorney-General, Mr [name] appears for the Law Society and Mr [name] appears for the Singapore Institute of Legal Education.

Note: To be able to introduce them, you must have found out their names before the start of the hearing.]

3. [Optional - Mover: *With the Court's leave, I will say a few words about the applicant.*]

[speech]

Important Tips about the Speech You Make:

(a) Make sure it is information about the applicant - remember that the purpose is to introduce the applicant, not yourself or any other person, to the judge nor to talk about any other topic no matter how interesting that topic is to you.

(b) Bear in mind you are addressing the judge and not the applicant - the occasion is not for you to give advice, no matter how sagely, to the applicant or otherwise communicate with the applicant (e.g. about your feelings, etc for him or her), relegating the judge to a bystander.

(c) You must always be on your feet when addressing the judge or when the judge addresses you.

(d) Remember that you are in Court - while a slight dose of humour or a short anecdote is not disallowed, it must be appropriate for Court proceedings.

(e) Make sure it is just a few words - rarely would you be justified to speak about the applicant for more than a minute and frequently your speech should be shorter than that. If the hearing list is long, do not make any speech about the applicant and proceed to 4 below.

(f) Try to make your speech interesting - if something is not interesting, do not say it.

(g) Do not be too effusive in your praise for the applicant - keep any praise for the applicant succinct and reasonable.

(h) Do prepare and rehearse your speech - you do not want to be mistaken as the novice instead of the mover.

4. Mover: *I believe that the papers are in order and that the Attorney-General, the Law Society and the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ('SILE') have no objections to the application.*

5. Counsel for Attorney-General, Law Society and SILE will each in turn get on their feet and confirm that they have no objections.

6. Mover: *Your Honour, may I pray for an order in terms of the application?*

7. Judge says: "Order in Terms".

8. Mover: *Much obliged, Your Honour.*

9. Applicant goes up to robe himself or herself and take the oath or affirmation.

10. Please remain in Court with your trainee until all the applicants for admission have been moved. The judge will address all newly-admitted advocates and solicitors after all the applications have been heard and neither applicant nor mover should leave before then.