



Resumption of Business Activities for Lawyers After Circuit-Breaker

Updated MinLaw FAQs

The Ministry of Law has given further clarifications to the legal profession on law firms' resumption of business activities from 2 June 2020. Please refer to Q21 to Q29 of Ministry of Law's set of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (updated as of 30 May 2020) that accompanies their [Advisory for Law Practices on Elevated Safe Distancing Measures - Gradual Resumption of Business Activities](#) (issued on 20 May 2020).

Update on Supreme Court Bar Room and Other Facilities

In its effort to embark on a controlled approach to the safe resumption of activities and approach the "Safe Re-opening" phase on 2 June 2020, the Bar Room, Library, Learning Court, Judicial Heritage Gallery and cafe in the Supreme Court will remain closed.

The Supreme Court has however, thoughtfully designated an area in level B1 for the use by practitioners or court users who require space to work, rest or have their lunch. All practitioners and court users must continue to practise safe distancing within the court premises and vicinity at all times.

Update on State Courts Bar Room Operations

As advised in the Honourable Chief Justice's message [*The Judiciary's response to the exit of the "Circuit Breaker" period*](#) dated 29 May 2020, the State Courts Bar Room may reopen from 2 June 2020. We will resume Bar Room operations on a limited basis during Phase I of the post-circuit-breaker period. For the initial period from 2 to 5 June 2020, the Bar Room will be open only during State Courts' lunch break hours, **from 12.00pm to 2.00pm**. We will closely monitor the situation and advise members on the Bar Room opening hours thereafter based on usage by members balanced with safe distancing requirements.

Practitioners at State Courts are reminded to practise the following safe distancing measures:

- Check in and check out of the Bar Room using SafeEntry
- Turn on the TraceTogether app on your mobile phone
- Maintain a clear physical spacing of at least 1 metre between yourself and other persons at all times
- Observe where seating is/not allowed and queue markers (where applicable)
- Wear a face mask except when eating or drinking
- Avoid socialising or congregating in groups

We will also be implementing additional safe precautions as follows:

- The total of number of members allowed in the Bar Room will be limited to **20** at any one time to ensure safe distancing within the Bar Room
- Members are advised to leave promptly upon finishing their meals (preferably within 45 minutes after entry) to spare a thought for fellow State Court practitioners to have their lunch in the Bar Room too
- Self-service of drinks will be temporarily suspended; drinks will be served only by Bar Room attendants
- Complimentary newspapers will be temporarily suspended

We seek your understanding and cooperation during this period of transition as we gradually phase out of the Circuit Breaker period.

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