

# Family Therapeutic Justice Certification Programme

This professional development certification programme is a collaboration between the Singapore Academy of Law, the Family Justice Courts and the Law Society of Singapore. It is the result of the efforts of Judges from the Family Justice Courts, members of the Family Bar, Mediators, Counsellors and Social Scientists, from Singapore and internationally, working together in the spirit of Therapeutic Justice, as part of the movement to reshape the Family Justice arena.

This programme was conceived to give members of the family bar an appreciation of the spirit and an ethos of Therapeutic Justice and in-depth view of what it means, practically, to be an advocate of Therapeutic Justice.

The complete programme comprises a series of compulsory modules and two elective modules on mediation and valuation. It is recommended that practitioners attend the programme in its entirety (i.e. both compulsory and elective modules).

**Course commencement:**

E-Learning: 13 October 2021

In-person: 21 October 2021 (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)

Registration closes at 6pm, 12 October 2021. *(Limited seats available)*



### Module 1: Therapeutic Justice and the Family Lawyer as a ‘Therapeutic Agent’

This module seeks to give family lawyers perspectives on the impact of divorce on the family, especially the children, and the importance of focusing on the family beyond the divorce proceedings. The module will look closely at Therapeutic Justice in practice and explore what a multi-disciplinary, solutions-focused approach to family justice means. The module will also examine the inter-personal dynamics in family justice through a “lens of care”.

Estimated Duration	E-learning	In-person session (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)
	6hrs	3hr 50mins

### Module 2: The Social Science Perspectives on the Family and Child

In this module, family lawyers will better understand divorce from a psychosocial perspective and the immediate and long-term impact of divorce on the family, financially, emotionally, psychologically and interpersonally. The module looks at how family lawyers can manage and support their clients and their children through the challenges at each stage of the legal process, with a view to giving clients the best start to their lives beyond the divorce proceedings. This module will also cover Family Violence, Mental Health, Impact of Divorce on Children, Co-Parenting and Child Abduction.

Estimated Duration	E-learning	In-person session (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)
	12hrs	5hrs

### Module 3: Interpersonal Skills - The Lawyer as ‘Diagnostician’

This module recognises the unique role of family lawyers in the interpersonal space and examines how they can be sensitive to clients’ mental and emotional needs and challenges and best support them. Family lawyers will be armed with the skills and knowledge to recognise anxiety, depression, grief and trauma and appreciate when referrals may be helpful or necessary. Topics covered in this module include Empathy, Interpersonal Communication, Motivational Interviewing and Trauma-Informed Practices.

Estimated Duration	E-learning	In-person session (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)
	6hrs	5hrs

### Module 4: The Problem-Solving Lawyer - Mediation and Courtroom Advocacy through the TJ Lens

In this module, family lawyers will be able to adopt collaborative, creative, problem-solving approaches when interacting with clients, opposing counsel and the courts. This module will cover Mediation Advocacy and Courtroom Advocacy in Therapeutic Justice. Family lawyers will appreciate the importance of peer learning and support, and be encouraged to actively engage in community dialogue as co-creators in the evolving landscape of Therapeutic Justice.

Estimated Duration	E-learning	In-person session (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)
	9hrs	9hrs

### Module 5: Personal Wellness - Care for Others begins with Care for Self

This module looks at the unique mental and emotional demands and challenges that come with the job and the importance of building emotional intelligence, emotional capital and emotional courage. In the Therapeutic Justice model of lawyering, awareness of the lawyer’s own emotional state is as important as awareness of the client’s emotional state.

In the in-person session, insights from neuroscience and research on human consciousness and social sciences for understanding our human condition will be introduced, and a fundamental attribute of all life – energy - the focus to exploring a framework for greater self-awareness and self-regulation. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on the different human energies and emotions they bring to their role as family lawyers, and how they can better understand and manage their responses given the different influences, situations and stressors in family practice.

Estimated Duration	E-learning	In-person session (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)
	2hrs	2hrs

## Family Therapeutic Justice Certification Programme : Elective Modules

\*Only participants of Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials are eligible to register for the Elective Modules

### Elective Module A: Mediation Essentials for Family Lawyers

The course is an intensive face-to-face training programme to learn the foundations of interest-based family mediation which focuses on the disputing parties' interests and encourages a broader range of solutions.

Participants who successfully complete this Module will be exempted from taking SMC's Strategic Conflict Management for Professionals (Module 1) and may proceed to apply for Strategic Conflict Management for Professionals (Module 2).

#### Course duration:

In-person (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation): 10hrs

#### In collaboration with:

Singapore  
Mediation  
Centre



### Elective Module B: Valuation Essentials for Family Lawyers

This course seeks to arm family lawyers with skills to value matrimonial assets such as trusts, funds, stocks, offshore accounts, insurance policies, CPF investments, overseas investments and businesses and corporations. The course will also examine the common challenges in valuation of matrimonial assets and how to resolve them. Case studies and practical application will form part of this course.

#### Course duration:

In-person (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation): 3hrs

E-learning: 4hrs

#### In collaboration with:



### In-person Programme (or virtual, subject to Covid-19 situation)

Date	Timing	Topic
21 Oct (Thu)	8pm - 9.30pm	Module 1: Therapeutic Justice and the Family Lawyer as a 'Therapeutic Agent' (Virtual Face-to-Face)
23 Oct (Sat)	9am - 3pm	Module 2: The Social Science Perspectives on the Family and Child
30 Oct (Sat)	9am - 3pm	Module 3: Interpersonal Skills - The Lawyer as 'Diagnostician'
5 Nov (Fri)	9am - 5.15pm	Mediation Essentials for Family Lawyers (Part 1) <b>*Elective module*</b>
13 Nov (Sat)	9am - 12pm	Mediation Essentials for Family Lawyers (Part 2) <b>*Elective module*</b>
	1pm - 5.30pm	Module 4: The Problem-Solving Lawyer - Mediation and Courtroom Advocacy through the TJ Lens
20 Nov (Sat)	9am - 5.35pm	Module 4: The Problem-Solving Lawyer - Mediation and Courtroom Advocacy through the TJ Lens
		Module 1: Therapeutic Justice and the Family Lawyer as a 'Therapeutic Agent'
24 Nov (Wed)	8pm - 10pm	Module 5: Personal Wellness - Care for Others begins with Care for Self
27 Nov (Sat)	9am - 12.15pm	Valuation Essentials for Family Lawyers <b>*Elective module*</b>

Terms and conditions apply.

The Singapore Academy of Law reserve the right to make changes or improvements to the programme in this document without prior notice.

## Registration Fee

	w/o GST	w GST
Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials (Modules 1 to 5)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,675.00
Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials (Modules 1 to 5) + Elective Module A (Mediation Essentials for Family Lawyers)	\$ 3,370.00	\$ 3,605.90
Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials (Modules 1 to 5) + Elective Module B (Valuation Essentials for Family Lawyers)	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,210.00
Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials + Elective Modules A & B *	\$ 3,870.00	\$ 4,140.90

\***SkillsFuture Study Award Grant** is available.

If you wish to apply for SkillsFuture Study Award, please email the SAL Learning Concierge who will assist with your registration: [les@sal.org.sg](mailto:les@sal.org.sg)

## Other Grants / Subsidy

**SkillsFuture Credit** - All Singaporeans aged 25 and above can use their SkillsFuture Credit from the government to pay for a wide range of approved skills-related courses. If you wish to apply for SkillsFuture Credit funding, please email the SAL Learning Concierge who will assist with your registration: [les@sal.org.sg](mailto:les@sal.org.sg)

[Please click here for the FAQs](#)

Registration deadline:  
12 October 2021, 6pm

Register at:  
[www.sal-e.org.sg](http://www.sal-e.org.sg)

## SILE Public CPD Points (applies for in-person or virtual sessions only)

### Family Therapeutic Justice Essentials

- Number of Public CPD points: 24.5
- Practice Area: Family Law | Training Level: General


### Mediation Essentials for Family Lawyers


- Number of Public CPD points: 10.0
- Practice Area: Alternative Dispute Resolution | Training Level: General

### Valuation Essentials for Family Lawyers

- Number of Public CPD points: 2.0 (TBC)
- Practice Area: Professional Skills | Training Level: General

Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points are reminded that they must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For participants attending the face-to-face activity, this includes signing in on arrival and signing out at the conclusion of each day of the activity in the manner required by the organiser, and not being absent from each day of the activity for more than 15 minutes. For those participating via the webinar, this includes logging in at the start of the webinar and logging out at the conclusion of the webinar on each day of the activity in the manner required by the organiser, and not being away from any part of the webinar for more than 15 minutes on each day of the activity. Participants may obtain Public CPD Points for each day of the event on which they comply strictly with the Attendance Policy. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy on any particular day of the activity will not be able to obtain CPD Points for that day of the activity. Please refer to [www.sileCPDcentre.sg](http://www.sileCPDcentre.sg) for more information.



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## Introductory Remarks



**The Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon**  
Supreme Court of Singapore



**The Honourable Justice Debbie Ong**  
Presiding Judge, Family Justice Courts

## Module 1: Therapeutic Justice and the Family Lawyer as a 'Therapeutic Agent'

### International / local guest speakers



**Professor David B. Wexler**  
Professor of Law, University of Puerto Rico

David B. Wexler is Professor of Law at the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Distinguished Research Professor of Law, Rogers College of Law, Tucson, Arizona. He is an Honorary President of the International Society for Therapeutic Jurisprudence.

He received the American Psychiatric Association's Manfred S. Guttmacher Forensic Psychiatry Award; chaired the American Bar Association's Commission on Mental Disability and the Law; chaired the Association of American Law Schools Section on Law and Mental Disability; chaired the Advisory Board of the National Center for State Courts' Institute on Mental Disability and Law; was a member of the Panel on Legal Issues of the President's Commission on Mental Health; was a member of the National Commission on the Insanity Defense; served as Vice President of the International Academy of Law and Mental Health; received the New York University School of Law Distinguished Alumnus Legal Scholarship/Teaching Award; received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts; and served as a member of the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Mental Health and the Law. Professor Wexler has been named an Honorary Distinguished Member of the American Psychology-Law Society. In October, 2012, at its Congress in Pontevedra, Galicia, Spain, Wexler was named Honorary President of the Iberoamerican Association of Therapeutic Jurisprudence. For his work in Therapeutic Jurisprudence, Wexler was presented with the 2019 Alumni Achievement Award from Binghamton University.



**Professor Barbara A. Babb**  
Associate Professor of Law, Emerita  
Founder, Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts  
Founding Director, Post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law Program & Editor-in-Chief, Family Court Review

Professor Babb, founder and director of the Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts and director of the Post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law, is with the University of Baltimore where she teaches several courses in the family law area, including Family Law and, Child and the Family. She has led the design and development of the nation's only Post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law, and now directs the program.

Professor Babb's scholarship focuses on an interdisciplinary, holistic approach to family law through the application of therapeutic jurisprudence, the ecology of human development, and the creation of unified family courts. She is the author (with Judith D. Moran) of *Caring for Families in Court: An Essential Approach to Family Justice* (2019), a book that envisions the family court as a care center, blending contemporary theories with an ethic of care and narrative practice. She also has written on family law issues in various publications including the *Southern California Law Review*, *Indiana Law Journal*, *Family Law Quarterly* amongst others. Babb is a frequent presenter at the national and international levels on unified family courts, family justice system reform, and family law decision-making. In 2016, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts appointed Professor Babb editor-in-chief of the *Family Court Review*, the leading interdisciplinary academic and research journal for family law professionals. Babb has served on the Review's editorial board since 1999 and has also written numerous articles for the journal. She is an Advisory Board member of the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System's Family Justice Program. Babb also serves on the Curriculum Committee of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She is a past Chair and current Executive Committee Member of the Family and Juvenile Law Section of the Association of American Law Schools. Babb has served as a member of the Family and Juvenile Law Section Council of the Maryland State Bar Association and has co-chaired the Family Courts Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Family Law.



**Professor Vicki Lens**  
Professor, Hunter College, City University of New York

Dr. Vicki Lens is currently a professor at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, City University of New York. She has dual degrees in both social work (B.S.W., M. S. W., Ph.D.) and law. Prior to receiving her Ph.D. in Social Welfare, Dr. Lens worked as a public interest lawyer. As a legal aid lawyer she provided legal services to low income people. She also served as an Assistant Attorney General under New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams. Her primary research interest is in socio-legal studies, where she uses ethnographic and other qualitative methods to study the judicial system, including an ethnographic study of child abuse and neglect cases in Family Court. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation, The Robin Hood Foundation, The Lois and Samuel Silberman Fund of the New York Community Trust, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She has authored over sixty articles in peer-reviewed journals, books, encyclopedias and law reviews and is the author of *Poor Justice: How the Poor Fare in the Courts*, published by Oxford University Press. She has presented her research and lectured at universities, community organizations, and government agencies, including assisting in the training of administrative law judges and family court judges in New York State. She is also a founding member of the International Society for Therapeutic Jurisprudence.

### International / local guest speakers



**Mr Charlie Asher**  
Attorney and Co-founder of Freedom 22 Foundation, [CharlieAsherLaw.com](http://CharlieAsherLaw.com).

Charlie Asher is an honors graduate of both Earlham College (B.S. 1974) and Indiana University School of Law (J.D. 1977) and an AV-rated attorney. For 20 years Charlie concentrated his practice in criminal defense, earning annual recognition in The Best Attorneys in America. Then in 1997 he stopped taking new cases except for select pro bono ones and dedicated his professional time to leading the creative teams of three free resources for better legal service to the public.

In part due to witnessing the ways in which contentious family breakups often injured children and led to the involvement of many of them in an array of self-destructive behaviours, Charlie has led the team creating and constantly updating UpToParents.org. This ground-breaking free and bilingual website has been used by more than 250,000 separated, divorced, and never-married parents to build their better futures by focusing on meeting their children's needs, especially their need for peace in their family. The website's unique personalization and interactivity have earned it many prestigious awards, including the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's "Lawyer as Problem Solver Award" and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC)'s "Judge Irwin Cantor Innovative Program Award." Charlie has lectured to judges and bar leaders in over 300 counties about the development of comprehensively cooperative systems of family law. Charlie gathered the lessons from those collaborations into AssessFamilyLaw.org, a free tool jurisdictions can use to assess and improve their family law systems.

Beginning about four years ago Charlie decided to use the successful experiences with UpToParents.org and AssessFamilyLaw.org to circle back to his roots in criminal defense to lead the development of DefenseMap.com. Currently Charlie concentrates his professional time presenting about these websites, helping with their implementation, and consulting on criminal cases where clients have used DefenseMap.com.

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**Mr Gregory Vijayendran SC**  
Partner, Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP

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**Mr Yap Teong Liang**  
Managing Director, T L Yap Law Chambers LLC

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**Ms Loh Wai Mooi**  
Partner, Bih Li & Lee LLP

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### Subject matter expert facilitators



**District Judge Suzanne Chin**  
District Judge, Family Justice Courts

Suzanne graduated from the National University of Singapore and was admitted as an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1987. She commenced practise as a commercial litigation lawyer but later moved to focus on commercial law spending the bulk of her career in the corporate arena. In 2014, she joined the Legal Service in 2014 and was appointed District Judge in the family justice division of the State Courts, now the Family Justice Courts. As District Judge, Suzanne hears a wide range of matters in the Family Justice Courts including divorce and ancillary matters, as well as maintenance and family violence disputes. Additionally, Suzanne has conducted mediations and is a qualified mediator with the Singapore Mediation Chambers.



**District Judge Yarni Loi**  
District Judge, Family Justice Courts

District Judge Yarni Loi earned her LLB (Hons) from the London School of Economics and Political Science and obtained her Postgraduate Diploma in Singapore Law from the National University of Singapore. After being called to the Singapore Bar, she spent the bulk of her career in private practice as a corporate litigation lawyer in a top tier law firm in Singapore where she was Director. In 2011, she started pursuing part-time studies in counselling and was awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling by TCA College (accredited by the University of Wales) in 2013. As part of her counselling studies, she completed a full-time counselling internship at a Family Service Centre for 6 months. She joined the Legal Service and was appointed District Judge in the family justice division of the State Courts, now Family Justice Courts, in March 2014.

### International / local guest speakers



**Dr Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., ABPP**  
**Professor of Clinical Psychology, William James College**

Dr. Robin Deutsch is a Board Certified psychologist (Couple and Family) who provides consultation, mediation, parenting coordination and expert witness services in Wellesley, MA. She developed and was the director of the Center of Excellence for Children, Families and the Law at the William James College where she is currently a Professor of Clinical Psychology. Previously she was an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychology at Harvard Medical School and Director of Training and Forensic Services in the Children and the Law Program at Massachusetts General Hospital. She has published extensively on issues related to attachment, alienation, co-parenting after divorce, high conflict divorce, parenting plans, and parenting coordination, and is the co-editor with Abigail Judge of the book *Overcoming Parent-Child Contact Problems: Family-Based Interventions for Resistance, Rejection, Alienation* (Oxford, 2016). She is a cofounder of *Overcoming Barriers* and she currently serves as Chair of the American Psychological Association (APA) working group to Review Scientific Literature Regarding High Conflict Family Relationships with Child Involvement.

Dr. Deutsch served on both the first Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and APA task forces that developed Guidelines for Parenting Coordination, the AFCC task force for Guidelines for Examining Intimate Partner Violence and the AFCC task force for Court-Involved Therapists. She is a former President of AFCC (2008-2009) and Chair of the APA Ethics Committee. (2007), and current President-elect of the American Board of Couple and Family Psychology (ABPP CF). Dr. Deutsch is a fellow of APA, 2006 recipient of the American Psychological Association Karl F. Heiser Presidential Award for Advocacy, the 2017 recipient of the Massachusetts Psychological Association Kenneth D. Herman, Ph.D. J.D. Career Contribution Award, and the 2018 recipient of the AFCC John E. Van Duzer Distinguished Service Award.



**Dr Daniel Fung**  
**Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Mental Health**

Dr Daniel Fung is the CEO of the Institute of Mental Health in Singapore. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor at all 3 Singapore medical schools. Dr Fung is the President of the International Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions and President of the College of Psychiatrists, Academy of Medicine, Singapore. Dr Fung has co-authored over 200 peer reviewed research papers, books and book chapters.



**Assoc Prof Lourdes Mary Daniel**  
**Head & Senior Consultant, Department of Child Development, KK Women's and Children's Hospital**

Assoc Prof Lourdes Mary Daniel is currently the Head of Department in the Department of Child Development, KKH. She is a pediatrician who is trained both in Neonatology and Child Development. She received her neonatal postgraduate training in Singapore and Australia and her child development training in the USA (Kennedy Krieger Institute [Johns Hopkins Hospital], Boston Children's Hospital and the Harvard Graduate School of Education). She has worked with high risk children in KK Women's and Children's Hospital from the antenatal period, through delivery, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, childhood and into primary school for the last 35 years.

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**Ms Lim Hui Min**  
**Director of Legal Aid, Legal Aid Bureau, Ministry of Law**

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**Ms Angelina Hing**  
**Founder & Managing Director, Integro Law Chambers LLC**

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**Mr Yeo Eng Kwan**  
**Senior Court Counsellor, Counselling And Psychological Services (CAPS), Family Justice Courts**

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**Ms Evonne Lek**  
**Systemic Psychotherapist, Family Therapist, RECONNECT Psychology & Family Therapy**

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**Ms Cherylene Aw**  
**Centre Director, TRANS SAFE Centre**

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**Dr Peronna Lee**  
**Senior Counsellor, Divorce Support Specialist Agency, Ministry of Social and Family Development**

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**Ms Shannon Chew**  
**Social worker, TRANS SAFE Centre**

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**Ms Michelle Tan**  
**Counsellor, Strengthening Families Programme @ FSC (Eunos), Family Support Services, Care Corner Singapore Ltd**

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### **Subject matter expert facilitators**



**Ms Sylvia Tan**  
**Director and Principal Counselling Psychologist, Sylvia Tan Psychology Consultancy**

Sylvia is a Counselling Psychologist, couple and family therapist, custody evaluator and child inclusive mediator. She has been a psychologist for about 17 years and has been working with families affected by divorce for the past 10 years. She was previously in the Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) of the Family Justice Courts where she provided custody evaluation, counselling for divorcing families and helped implement the child inclusive counselling and the child representative program.

She then joined the social service sector and spearheaded a psychological services unit at Community Psychology Hub where she trained and supervised psychologists in conducting custody evaluation and therapy for high conflict families referred to the Divorce Support Specialist Agencies (DSSA). Sylvia is now in private practice where she continues to support individuals and families with mental health, relationships and divorce related issues.



**Mr Benny Bong**  
**Director and Principal Consultant, The Family Therapist**

Mr Benny Bong is a Marital and Family Therapist in private practise. He has over thirty-five years of experience in counselling, teaching and consulting. In his counselling practise, he specialises in couple counselling, working with troubled relationships where there is abuse and violence and working with men. In 2008, he wrote *Couples in Crisis*. He currently teaches Marital and Family Therapy at the National Institute of Education, National University of Singapore and the Singapore Bible College.

Mr Bong is the current President of the Society Against Family Violence, a non-profit organisation he helped form 30 years ago. He was one of the principal researchers in the Society's International Violence Against Women Survey in 2009. In 2011, Benny was one of two recipients of the AWARE inaugural Hero Award. The other is none other than the President of Singapore Her Excellency Ms Halimah Yacob.



**Mr Rajan Chettiar**  
**Managing Director, Rajan Chettiar LLC**

After having qualified as a barrister-at-law in England and admitted to the Singapore Bar in March 1997, Mr Rajan Chettiar worked in one of the oldest and most prestigious law firms in Singapore. Having caught the entrepreneur bug and a strong desire to use his legal skills to assist individuals, he then set up the firm of Rajan Chettiar & Co in 2003 which specialises in all aspects of family and personal laws. He is currently the Managing Director of Rajan Chettiar LLC.

He is an Associate Mediator of the Singapore Mediation Centre and a court-appointed volunteer mediator of the State Courts and Family Justice Courts in Singapore. He mediates civil, criminal and family matters. He also runs one of the first private mediation companies in Singapore, Resolvers Pte Ltd, which offers mediation services to assist parties to resolve their matters through mediation instead of resorting to litigation.

He is one of the first collaborative lawyers in Singapore and handled the first collaborative family law case in Singapore in early 2013. He is appointed as a Child Representative by the Family Justice Courts to assist the Court on complex child custody and access cases. He is a trained Parent Coordinator and a Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) Certified Mediator. He is also qualified to mediate cross border family disputes. In 2016, he was recognised as an Outstanding Volunteer (Advocate and Solicitor category) by the State Courts in Singapore. He has also been recognized for his contributions to the Law Society of Singapore on two occasions.

Rajan has been appointed to be a director of the Board of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals in the United States of America. He is the second Asian to serve on the Board. An active member of the Law Society of Singapore, he was a past member of the Council of the Law Society of Singapore and currently serves on various committees. He is regularly featured in local newspapers, radio and television in Singapore on family-related issues. A prolific writer, he writes a monthly column in the Singapore Law Gazette.

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**Ms Ruby Lee**  
**Deputy Director, SMU Pro Bono Centre**

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### International / local guest speakers



**Mr Bill Eddy, LCSW, Esq.**  
**Co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer, High Conflict Institute**

Bill Eddy has been a lawyer (Certified Family Law Specialist) and therapist (Licensed Clinical Social Worker) based in San Diego, California. He is also the co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer of the High Conflict Institute, for which he has trained lawyers, mediators, judges, mental health professionals and others on managing high-conflict personalities in over 30 states and ten countries. He is the developer of the New Ways for Families® skills-training method for high conflict divorce and New Ways for Mediation® method for high conflict cases. He has written twenty books and manuals, including BIFF for CoParent Communication and High Conflict People in Legal Disputes, 2nd Edition. He has a blog on the Psychology Today website with over five million views. He teaches Psychology of Conflict at the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at the Pepperdine University School of Law near Los Angeles, and teaches Advanced Communication Skills at the Newcastle School of Law and Managing High Conflict Personalities in Legal Disputes at Monash University School of Law in Australia.

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**Professor Vicki Lens**  
**Professor, Hunter College, City University of New York**

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**Ms Fayane Tan**  
**Senior Deputy Director, Child Protective Services, Ministry of Social and Family Development**

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**Ms Ho Ling**  
**Assistant Director, Child Protective Services, Ministry of Social and Family Development**

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### Subject matter expert facilitators



**Ms Sophia Ang**  
**Senior Director, Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Family Justice Courts**

Sophia is the Senior Director of the Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at the Family Justice Courts. She provides strategic direction for the mental health and social science related services within the Family Justice Courts. Sophia leads a professional team of court psychologists, social workers, and counsellors to provide custody related assessments and counselling services for litigants and their families undergoing various legal proceedings in the FJC. In 2011, she helped conceive the Child Focused Resolution Centre that provides mandatory mediation and counselling in the Family Justice Courts.

Sophia has been providing mediation and counselling related services for more than 25 years. Prior to joining the Courts, she headed a non-profit social service agency that provided mediation, clinical and training services to corporations, social service and government agencies. She has been a member of various boards such as the Review Board constituted under the Children and Young Persons Act and Domain Specific Review Board (DSRB) under the National Health Group.

Her professional affiliations include, among others, being a registered counsellor and clinical supervisor with the Singapore Association of Counselling (SAC), member of Singapore Psychological Society, Principal Mediator and Family Mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre, and a SIMI Certified Mediator with the Singapore International Mediation Institute.



**Ms Jennifer Teoh**  
**Director and Senior Principal Forensic Psychologist, Clinical and Forensic Psychology Service, Ministry of Social and Family Development**

Jennifer is the Director and Senior Principal Forensic Psychologist of Clinical and Forensic Psychology Service in the Ministry of Social and Family Development. She has been working with the ministry for the past 23 years. She holds a Masters degree in Forensic Psychology from the University of New South Wales, Australia. A registered forensic psychologist in Singapore and Australia, her areas of specialisation are in providing clinical forensic assessment and intervention for individuals who are involved in criminal and civil matters. Jennifer has authored international publications in the areas of social psychology, youth delinquency, sexual violence and custody issues.

She has provided training for social service practitioners and law enforcement agencies. Jennifer has served as an Adjunct Associate Professor with the National University of Singapore in the past 10 years. Jennifer was the Vice-President of the Singapore Psychological Society from 2013 to 2019. For her outstanding contribution to the civil service, she was conferred the National Day Award Public Administrative Medal (Silver) in 2021.

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**Ms Kee Lay Lian**  
**Partner, Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP**

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**Ms Pamela Ong**  
**Senior Assistant Director & Principal Clinical Psychologist, Clinical and Forensic Psychology Service, Ministry of Social and Family Development**

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**Ms Leong Shengyu**  
**Senior Court Family Specialist, Counselling And Psychological Services (CAPS), Family Justice Courts**

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**Mr Andy Lam**  
**Senior Court Family Specialist, Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Family Justice Courts**

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## International / local guest speakers



**Ms Tania Sourdin**  
Dean, University of Newcastle Law School in Australia

Professor Tania Sourdin is the Dean of the University of Newcastle Law School in Australia.

In the past two decades, she has conducted qualitative and quantitative research projects into aspects of the dispute resolution and justice system systems in 12 Courts and Tribunals and six external dispute resolution schemes within Australia. Other research has focussed on therapeutic justice, restorative justice, justice innovation, technology, delay and systemic reforms. Professor Sourdin is the author of more than 140 books, articles and papers, that are focussed on justice reform issues and has published and presented widely on a range of topics including ADR, justice innovation, justice issues, mediation, conflict resolution, collaborative law, artificial intelligence, technology and organisational change. She has also retained a part time practice focus and has worked for more than 30 years as a lawyer and more than 25 years in various senior part time tribunal positions and as a mediator. In 2020 she completed the 6th edition of her book 'Alternative Dispute Resolution' (Thomson Reuters) and also a book on 'Justice Apps' (Routledge). In May 2021 her book on 'Judges, Technology and Artificial Intelligence' (Edward Elgar) was published.

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**Mr Bill Eddy**  
Co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer, High Conflict Institute

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## Subject matter expert facilitators



**Mr Yap Teong Liang**  
Managing Director, T L Yap Law Chambers LLC

Teong Liang was called to the Bar of England and Wales (Middle Temple) in 1991 and admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Singapore in June 1992. On 10th June 2002, he set up his boutique law firm specialising in Family Law.

Teong Liang has represented high net worth clients and handles cases involving foreign marriages, cross-border international complex child abduction and relocation cases, as well as jurisdictional and forum issues (Australia, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States of America), child custody and access cases, maintenance for the child and wife, division of matrimonial assets and family violence. He is listed as a Preeminent and Leading Family & Divorce Lawyer in the Doyle's Guide.

Teong Liang also practices as a Collaborative Family Practitioner, Parenting Coordinator, and is an Associate Mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre; he is an Accredited Mediator with the Family Justice Courts and Regent's University, London (Mediation and Psychology). He is on the panel of Cross-Border Family Mediators of Mediation bei Internationalen Kindschaftskonflikten (MiKK), Berlin, Germany and the Cross-Border Family Mediators' Network.

He was Chairperson of the Family Law Practice Committee of the Law Society of Singapore from 2006 to 2015. He is currently the Head of the Family Law and Children's Rights Chapter of the Professional Affairs Committee of the Singapore Academy of Law, and Chairperson of the Family Law and Family Rights Section and Vice President of LAWASIA.

He has been appointed by the Chief Justice as a member of the Family Justice Rules Committee constituted pursuant to Section 46(1) of the Family Justice Act and appointed onto the panel of Child Representatives by the Family Justice Courts since October 2014. Teong Liang has presented papers at both local and overseas family law conferences over the years and recently co-authored the chapter on Dispute Resolution Options in the book "The Art of Family Lawyering" (2019 Special Edition) and authored the chapter on Ancillary Relief: Orders That Can be Made in "The Law and Practice of Family Law in Singapore".



**Mr Raymond Yeo**  
Sole Proprietor, Raymond Yeo

Raymond was called to the Bar in England in 1996 and was admitted to the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1998 as an Advocate and Solicitor. Raymond has since developed a specialist area of practice and he runs his own boutique law firm providing services in the area of family and matrimonial law, handling cases commencing in the Family Justice Courts to prosecuting and defending cases in the High Court and in the Court of Appeal. He undertakes a wide variety of cases ranging from applications under the Mental Capacity Act to foreign divorces with complex cross-border jurisdictional and foreign claims. He has extensive litigation experience in cases concerning acrimonious custody disputes as well as division of assets of substantial value.

Raymond was also appointed by the Family Justice Courts as an Amicus Curiae and is listed as a Child Representative with the Family Justice Courts for cases involving custody disputes. He is also a trained Parenting Coordinator, having completed his Advanced Parenting Coordination Training Program (Singapore) as well as a training course on Parenting Coordination in Hong Kong. Raymond also has extensive experience in Solicitors' work including drafting of wills, deeds and pre-nuptial agreements. He also presents papers and speaks on family law issues and moderates at conferences and seminars, both locally and abroad.

Raymond is the author of the chapter on the Law Relating to Children in "The Law and Practice of Family Law in Singapore". He is also the co-author of a chapter on Children's Issues in "The Art of Family Lawyering" (2019 Special Edition) as well as the revised chapter on Custody Care and Control and Access in "The Art of Family Lawyering (2nd Edition, 2013). He has also attained a Certificate in Practical Counselling (Basic) with the School of Counselling. Raymond also sat as a Member and Consultant on Review Committees on family law issues.

## **Subject matter expert facilitators**



**Ms Wong Kai Yun**  
**Co-Managing Director, Chia Wong Chambers LLC**

Kai Yun is the Co-Managing Director of Chia Wong Chambers LLC. Having been in practice for over 20 years, Ms Wong maintains a niche focus on private wealth and family matters. Ms Wong's family law clients comprise largely high net worth individuals with especial concerns over financial settlements, as well as cross-jurisdictional issues.

Ms Wong is a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL), as well as a registered practitioner of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP). She is an accredited Singapore Mediation Centre Associate Mediator, an accredited Mediator on their Family Panel, and sits on the panel of their Collaborative Family Practice and is also a Mediator on the panel of Cross-Border Family Mediators of Mediation bei Internationalen Kindschaftskonflikten (MiKK), Germany. She is a Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb) and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb). She is also the Executive Editor of the Singapore Journal of Legal Studies, the flagship law journal of the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore. She is presently the Co-Chair of the Family Law Practice Committee.

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**Mr Loong Seng Onn**  
**Former Executive Director, Singapore Mediation Centre**

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**Mr See Chern Yang**  
**Director, Drew & Napier LLC**

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**International / local guest speakers**



**Ms Susan de Silva  
Igniter, The Silva Coach**

Susan de Silva was a practicing lawyer for more than 30 years in Singapore and England until she retired in 2018. She is now a Life Coach.

Susan was a co-founding partner of Singapore law firm Bird & Bird ATMD LLP. Susan has enjoyed building the firm's Corporate Law and Environmental Law practices, and its regional Employment Law practice. As a co-founding partner, former practice head and the firm's Managing Partner for some years, she learned about organisational and personal effectiveness, and she continues to learn.

Susan began coaching in 2015 while still in legal practice. She is a Certified Professional Coactive Coach, an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coaches Federation, a Certified NeuroTransformational Coach, and a Licensed trainer of BEabove Leadership LLC's Neuroscience and Effectiveness curriculum.

In addition to coaching, Susan speaks, writes and delivers training on creating working environments in which people can thrive. She contributes to the Law Society of Singapore's Practice Well programme. She also actively contributes to the activities of Mindful Business Singapore, a ground-up initiative which seeks to make work better for the legal community through its support of the Mindful Business Charter [www.mindfulbusinesscharter.com](http://www.mindfulbusinesscharter.com).

### **Subject matter expert facilitators**



**Mr Loong Seng Onn**  
**Former Executive Director, Singapore Mediation Centre**

Mr Loong Seng Onn was an officer of the Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) for over 2 decades. He took over as Executive Director, SMC from 2004 till 2019. As Executive Director, he was involved in the strategic development of SMC as well as had oversight of its day to day operations. Under his leadership, SMC grew to be one of the largest ADR institutions in the region, with around 1000 disputes lodged per year and over 600 mediators on its panel.

Seng Onn is on the panel of mediators of SMC as well as the Singapore International Mediation Centre. He is also a CEDR UK, IMI (International Mediation Institute) and SIMI (Singapore International Mediation Institute) accredited mediator and a gazetted mediator for the Tribunal for the Maintenance of Parents. Seng Onn also used to hold Board positions in IMI and SIDRA (Singapore International Dispute Resolution Academy). He is an EXCO member of the Society of Mediation Professionals (Singapore). Seng Onn has mediated and resolved a great diversity of disputes, ranging from family matters to complex commercial disputes.

Seng Onn is an experienced dispute resolution trainer where he oversaw SMC's training work as well as a faculty of trainers, coaches and assessors. He has been involved as the lead instructor for many conflict management workshops in countries such as Austria, Brunei, Cambodia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Jordan, Malaysia, Malta, the Philippines and United Arab Emirates. He also has considerable experience in developing new training programmes and curricula.



**Mr See Chern Yang**  
**Director, Drew & Napier LLC**

Mr See Chern Yang is a Director at Drew & Napier LLC, the most celebrated dispute resolution practice in Singapore. Chern Yang is a seasoned mediator and has attended advanced mediation training by the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law and the Harvard Negotiation Institute, Harvard Law School.

Chern Yang is one of the youngest to be appointed as a Principal Mediator of the Singapore Mediation Centre, and as an International Mediator at the Singapore International Mediation Centre. He regularly teaches mediation and has done so for the Judiciary in Brunei, Thailand and Myanmar and government officials in Fiji.

Chern Yang also has an active litigation practice and handles a wide range of disputes involving commercial matters, professional misconduct or negligence, data protection matters and matrimonial matters. Chern Yang regularly speaks at disputes and mediation conferences. He has authored a number of mediation and family law chapters, the most recent being Mediation: A Better Approach to Managing Business Disputes, Singapore Venture Capital & Private Equity Guide 2019.

The Legal 500 Asia-Pacific 2019 edition has praised Chern Yang as "a good team player" and "strategic thinker". He is presently vice-chairperson of the Law Society's Mediation Committee and Society of Mediation Professionals (Singapore).

### **Subject matter expert facilitators**



**Mr Chay Yiowmin**  
Founder and CEO, Chay Corporate Advisory Pte

Yiowmin is currently the chief executive officer of Chay Corporate Advisory Pte. Ltd., a boutique corporate advisory firm. Yiowmin is also the lead independent and non-executive director of UMS Holdings Ltd. and Metech International Limited, and a non-executive director of 8I Holdings Limited. Between 2013 and 2015, Mr. Chay was the lead independent and non-executive director of Advance SCT Limited, and between 2019 and 2020, Mr. Chay was a non-executive director of Libra Group Limited.

Since graduating in 1998, Yiowmin has accumulated many years of public accounting experience in Singapore and the United Kingdom with a number of reputable international accounting firms, including PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Deloitte and Touche LLP, Moore Stephens LLP and BDO LLP, the latter of which he was the advisory partner heading the Corporate Finance Practice from 2012 to 2019. Prior to joining BDO LLP, Yiowmin was an assurance partner from 2010 to 2012, specialising in financial services and shipping.

Yiowmin holds a Bachelor of Accountancy (Hons) and a Master of Business from Nanyang Technological University, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Birmingham. Yiowmin is also a Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA Singapore) of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants (ISCA), an Associate Chartered Accountant (ACA) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), and a Chartered Valuer and Appraiser (CVA) of the Institute of Valuers and Appraisers of Singapore (IVAS).

Yiowmin currently sits on the Singapore steering committee of the Professional Risk Managers' International Association (PRMIA), and the Standards and Technical Committee of IVAS, the latter of which Yiowmin is also a programme instructor. Yiowmin is also an associate lecturer with the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) teaching financial statements analysis and valuation.

Yiowmin is also an active Grassroots Leader, serving as a treasurer with the Kebun Baru and Sengkang South Citizens Consultative Committees, and an auditor with the Thomson Hills Neighbourhood Committee. Yiowmin is also a member of the Kebun Baru Inter-Racial and Religious Confidence Circles. Yiowmin was awarded the Pingat Bakti Masyarakat (Public Service Medal) (PBM) by the President of the Republic of Singapore on 9 August 2016.



**Mr Mun Siong Yoong**  
Founder and CEO, VALLARIS

Siong Yoong is an entrepreneur, SGD1.5 billion deal adviser, and has advised the Singapore government on deals; as well as disputes as an expert witness.

He is passionate about assessing a business' performance and prospects, explaining a business' worth, and obtaining the best deal for his client. His reports have been submitted to the Singapore Exchange, Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, Supreme Court as well as Family Justice Courts of the Republic of Singapore. He has advised government, private sector and not-for-profit Boards and Management across Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Myanmar, Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, India, Greece, Netherlands and the United States of America.

## Adult educator facilitators



**Ms Anita Parkash**  
**Senior Director, Learning & Professional Development Cluster, Singapore Academy of Law**

Anita Parkash is a Senior Director in the Learning & Professional Development Cluster at the Singapore Academy of Law. She is certified as an Adult Educator under the WSQ Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment. She leads its Legal Industry Framework for Training and Education ('LIFTED') initiative. LIFTED is an industry-level, globally-oriented initiative to help legal practitioners, in-house counsel and allied legal professionals develop competencies needed to thrive in a rapidly-changing legal services landscape. Anita is currently a member of the Programmes Committee of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education. She also serves as a Digital Legal Exchange Faculty Advisor. Anita graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and Masters of Arts (Literary Studies) from the National University of Singapore.



**Ms Sharon Lee**  
**Consultant, Learning & Professional Development Cluster, Singapore Academy of Law**

Sharon Lee is a Consultant in the Learning & Professional Development Cluster at the Singapore Academy of Law. She is certified as an Adult Educator under the WSQ Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment. Sharon project manages the Family Therapeutic Justice Certification Programme. This includes advising on instructional design and development of online learning content. Sharon graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the National University of Singapore and holds a Masters in Business Administration from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth, USA.



**Ms Carolyn Lim**  
**Consultant, Learning & Professional Development Cluster, Singapore Academy of Law**

Carolyn Lim is a Consultant in the Learning & Professional Development Cluster at the Singapore Academy of Law. She is certified as an Adult Educator under the WSQ Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment. Carolyn holds a graduate certificate in counselling from the Executive Counselling and Training Academy. She project manages the Family Therapeutic Justice Certification Programme. This includes speaker and learner management and marketing communications. Carolyn graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the National University of Singapore.



**Ms Gillian Chee**  
**Assistant Director, Learning & Professional Development Cluster, Singapore Academy of Law**

Gillian Chee is an Assistant Director in the Learning & Professional Development Cluster at the Singapore Academy of Law. She is certified as an Adult Educator under the WSQ Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment. Gillian oversees the Specialist Accreditation Scheme. Her work includes curriculum planning and instructional design of structured training programmes in partnership with subject matter experts and other institutions. Gillian graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and a Master of Laws (International Economic Law) both from the University of Warwick.



**Ms Teh Y-Lyn**  
**Senior Manager, Learning & Professional Development Cluster, Singapore Academy of Law**

Teh Y-Lyn is a Senior Manager in the Learning & Professional Development Cluster at the Singapore Academy of Law. She is certified as an Adult Educator under the WSQ Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment. Y-Lyn manages the LIFTED LinkedIn Learning Pathways eLearning initiative and leads seminar and conference programme development. Her work includes commissioning online learning content, speaker and learner management, and programme development. Y-Lyn graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the National University of Singapore.