

Report of the Standing Committee on Overseas Admissions 2021

1. As of 31 December 2021, there were a total of 7 applications for the admission of overseas counsel to practise as a barrister in Hong Kong on an *ad hoc* basis, compared to 16 in 2020. Of the 7 applications, all were civil cases.
2. This year the Standing Committee consented to 6 applications, all of which were civil cases. It opposed 1 application.
3. The total number of applications allowed by the Court was 6.
4. Members are referred to the judgment of Poon ACJHC (as he then was) in *Simpson QC* [2019] HKCFI 2689, where an application for admission of an overseas silk, proposing that they lead only local solicitor-advocates, was approved only on the condition that local barristers were to be instructed. The appeal against this decision was dismissed and leave to appeal to the Court of Final Appeal was refused by the Appeal Committee of the Court of Final Appeal. The relevant judgments in *Simpson QC*'s application and the appeals are set out under HCMP 1013/2019, CACV 543/2019 and FAMV 144/2021 and FAMV 141/2021.
5. Members of the Standing Committee are:

Civil proceedings: Abraham Chan SC (Chairman), Gladys Li SC, Robert Whitehead SC, Clifford Smith SC, Paul Shieh SC, Eugene Fung SC, Hectar Pun SC, Douglas Lam SC, Benjamin Chain, Liza Jane Cruden, P Y Lo, Sanjay Sakhrani, Ling Chun-wai and Hew Yang-wahn.

Criminal proceedings: Selwyn Yu SC (Chairman), Derek Chan SC, John Reading SC, Wong Man Kit SC, Peter Duncan SC, Edwin Choy SC, James McGowan, Steven M.W. Kwan, David Boyton, Charles J. Chan and Tony C.Y. Li.
6. We would like to express our thanks to all members of the Standing Committee for their valuable time spent in considering these applications, to every member of the Bar who appeared for the Bar Council in contested applications before the Court, and to Ms Amy Lee and Ms Ava Wong of the Bar Secretariat for their invaluable support and assistance.

Selwyn Yu, SC
Chairman (Criminal)

Abraham Chan, SC
Chairman (Civil)

December 2021