

COOMARASWAMY PROFESSORIAL LECTURE

Proof and Presumption of Criminal Elements

Professor Ho Hock Lai
NUS Law

Chairperson:
Justice Choo Han Teck, Judge of the Supreme Court

THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023

5.30 PM to 7.00 PM

NUS LAW (BUKIT TIMAH CAMPUS), WEE CHONG JIN MOOT COURT

The prosecution generally carries the burden of proving the elements of the crime. If the prosecution fails to discharge this burden, the accused person is presumed innocent and, for that reason, has to be acquitted. Sometimes, the prosecution may seek to rely on a rule of presumption in order to make the accused person carry the burden of disproving a criminal element. This lecture explores the logical operation of this type of rule as a burden-shifting device, identifies a principal source of anxiety over its use, and analyses the different modes of resisting the attempt to have a presumption drawn. Selected provisions of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1973 and cases on those provisions will serve as examples in the discussion.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Ho Hock Lai is Coomaraswamy Professor of the Law of Evidence at the National University of Singapore.

Ho Hock Lai obtained his first law degree from the National University of Singapore (LLB) in 1989, his postgraduate degree, the BCL, from Oxford University in 1993, and his doctorate from Cambridge University in 2003. He was called to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Singapore in 1990. His research interests lie mainly in the law and theory of evidence and proof, and the administration of criminal justice.

PROGRAMME

5.00PM: Registration
5.30PM: Event Commences
6.30PM: Q&A Session
7.00PM: Dinner Reception

REGISTRATION

There is no registration fee for this lecture but seats are limited. Visit <http://bit.ly/3wAi5ds> or scan the QR Code below to register by 13 April 2023 (Thursday) 5.00 PM.



CONTACT PERSON

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CPD POINTS



Public CPD Point: 1
Practice Area: Crime
Training Level: Foundation

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