INTELLLEX

Introducing INTELLLEX and Legal Search to NUS CS3245

23 March 2018

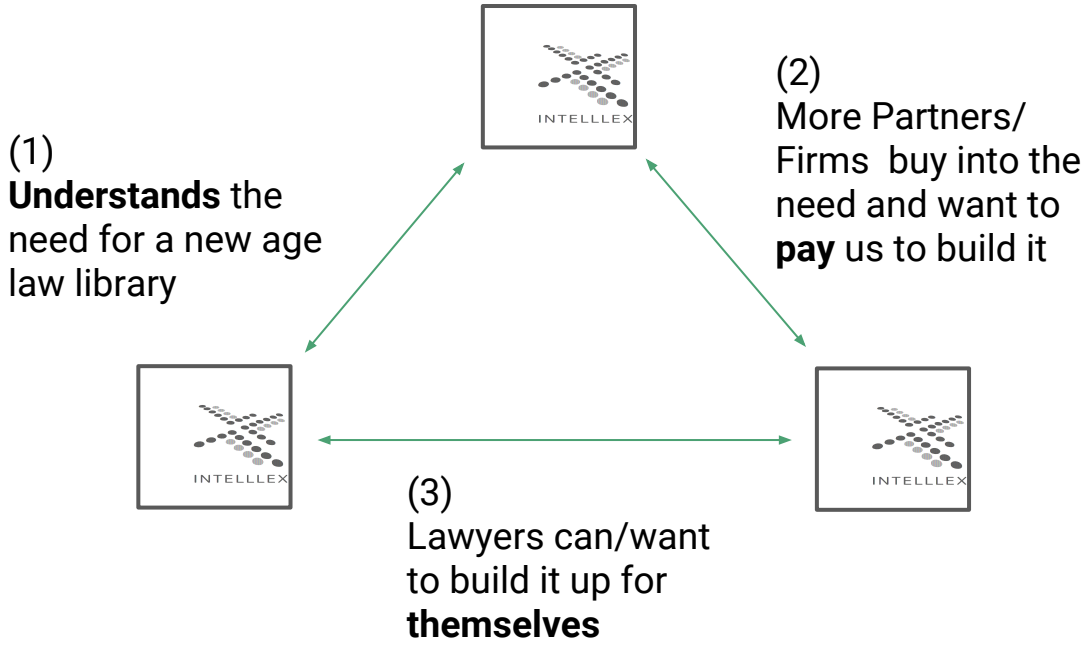
Our Value Proposition

Law Firms want a knowledge library

Law firms want to pay us to build one for them

Law firms are generating good data for themselves

KM is mainstream Recognised to be a firm's competitive advantage



OUR PRODUCTS - SOURCE AND STACKS

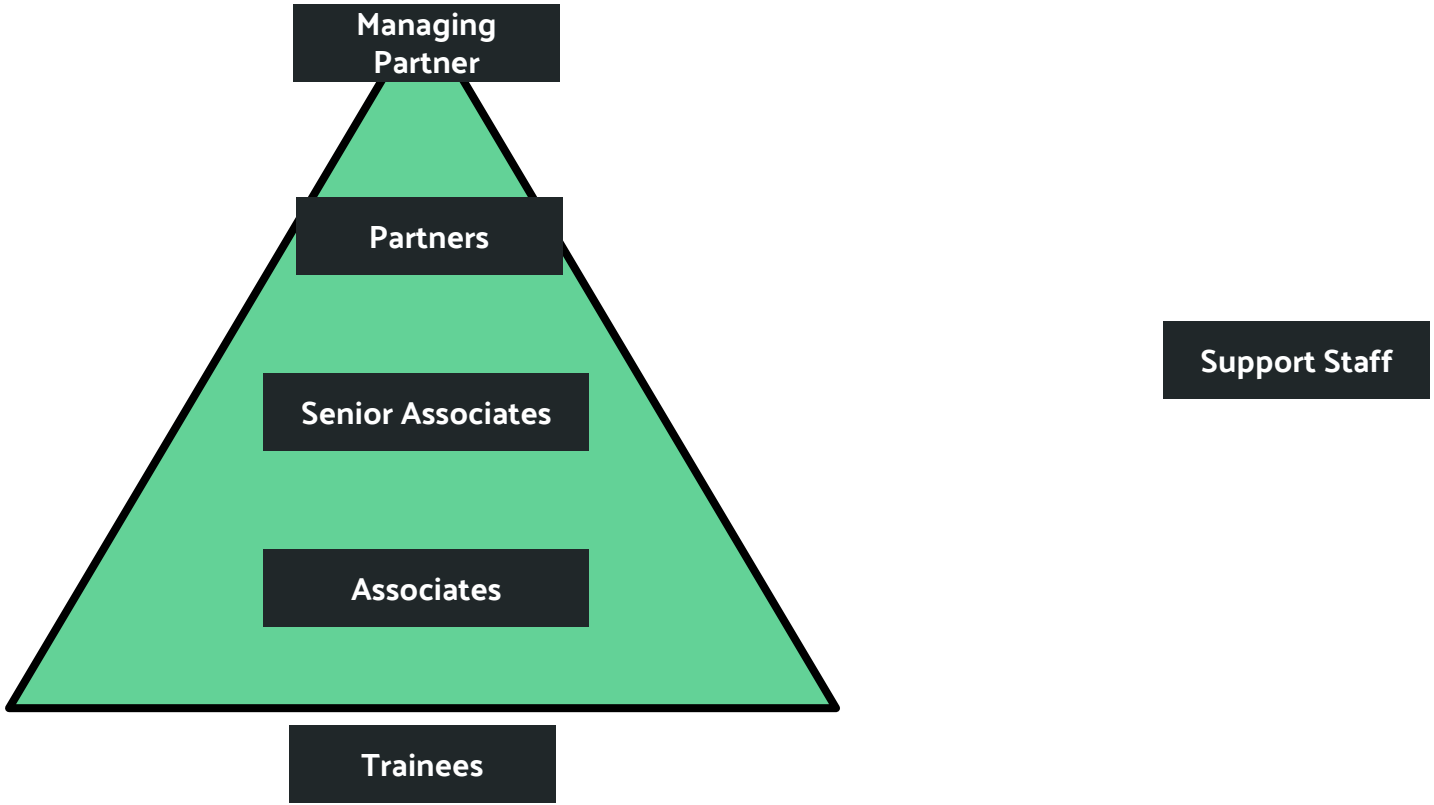
1. **SOURCE - Intelligent Search Engine**
   Leverage on legal metadata to:
   - Provide a more *efficient & effective* legal research & lawyering experience -- spend time on the things that truly matter (e.g. formulating legal arguments)
   - Level the playing field for smaller law firms

2. **STACKS - Knowledge Bank**
   - Automatic categorisation and organisation of a lawyer's work using A.I.
   - Allows lawyers to tap into the law firm's collective knowledge (including those from lawyers who had left the firm)

How does a lawyer think?

Lawyers' workflow

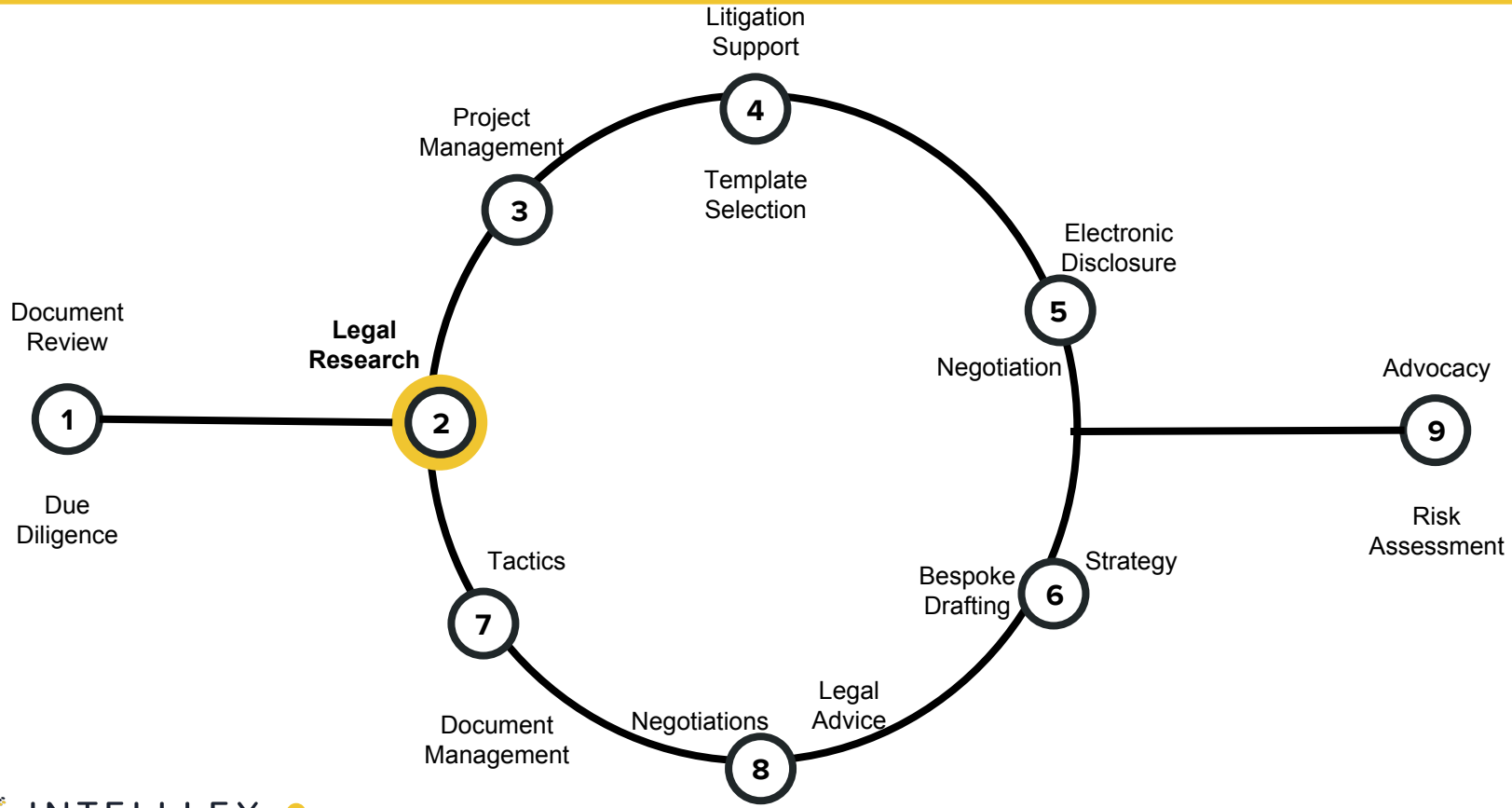
A law firm


Managing Partner
Partners
Senior Associates
Associates
Trainees
Support Staff

A law firm's assets?

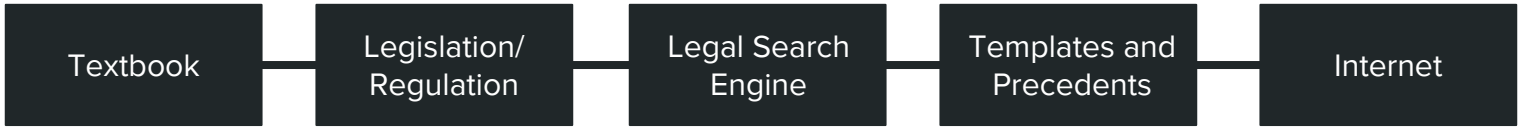
- Clients
  - Pays lawyers for work done
- Lawyers
  - Usual fee models: Time Costs or Lump Sum
- Prior work done = Intellectual Capital

A Lawyer's Actual Work Flow



Legal Research

Litigation



Transactions

“Find me a case in the mining industry, where a broker is involved in selling a mine. There is a non competition clause in the employment contract of the broker and an injunction is successfully granted against the broker”

Fact Specific Research

Textbooks and case books are not useful

“Can we run an argument saying that a perpetual loan is considered equity in this case?”

Difficult point of law

Don’t know where to start

“Are there clauses like this out there which have been ruled to be unreasonable?”

Scope is too wide

Don’t know where to start

“What is the nature of excess monies paid from a debtor to a creditor? Do the creditors hold onto the monies as debtors or trustees?”

Difficult point of law

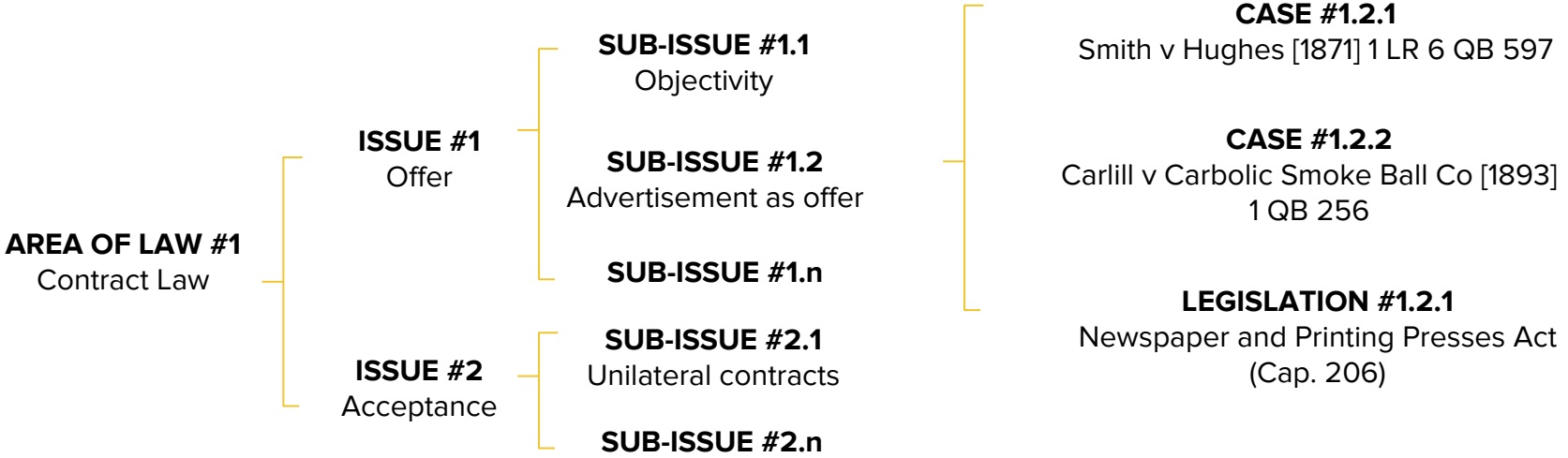
Don’t know where to start

A.I. SOLUTION - For Legal Concepts

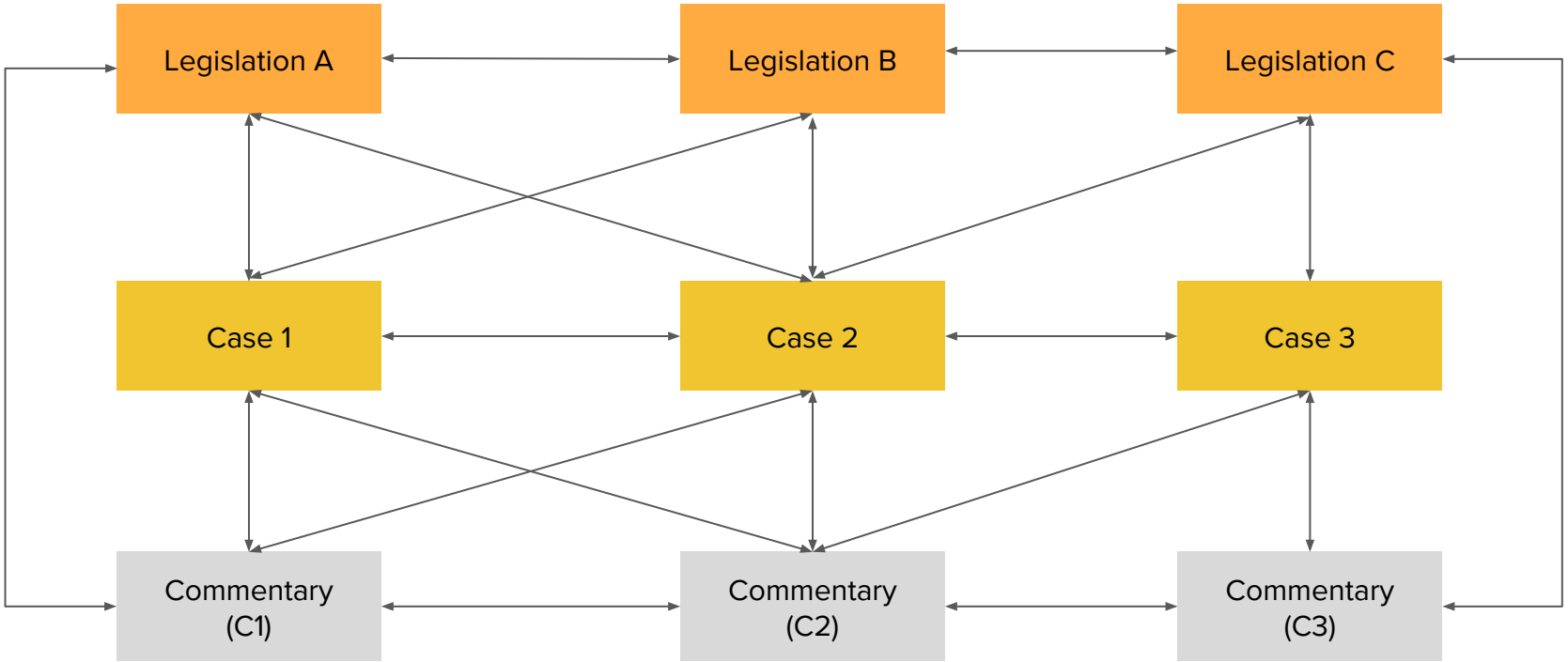
THE LAW IS RELATIONAL

To effectively understand what a document produced by a lawyer is about, we must first understand what legal entities are involved. We are trying to build a **Legal Mindmap** based on all the discrete legal data available.

A simplified example:



A more complicated example/relationship network would contain multiple connections between Cases and Legislation, and less of a tree hierarchy.



The cases are not stacked in a 1 direction hierarchy.

The Data

Different Legal Materials / Data

Types of data and their value

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITES

1. Secondary Sources (Articles, Journals, Commentaries)
2. **Cases**
3. Legislation

LAW REPORTS

1. Case Law; source of Law
2. Area of Law → Issues → Sub-issues
3. Relationship between *Case-Case* and *Case-Legislation* (overruled, followed,...)

CASES/JUDGMENTS/ GROUNDS OF DECISION

Similar to Law Reports but needs experts to extract information

LEGISLATION/REGULATION

1. Written Law; source of Law
2. Can cover 1 or more Area(s) of Law
3. Relationship between *Legislation-Legislation*, *Legislation-Regulation*

GUIDELINES/CODES/ QUASI-REGULATION

1. Treated as an important guideline interpreting written law
2. Issued by Public Authorities

TEXTBOOKS & CASEBOOKS

1. Area of Law → Issues → Sub-issues
2. Relationship between Cases, Legislation etc. Needs experts to extract information
3. Highly relied upon by lawyers

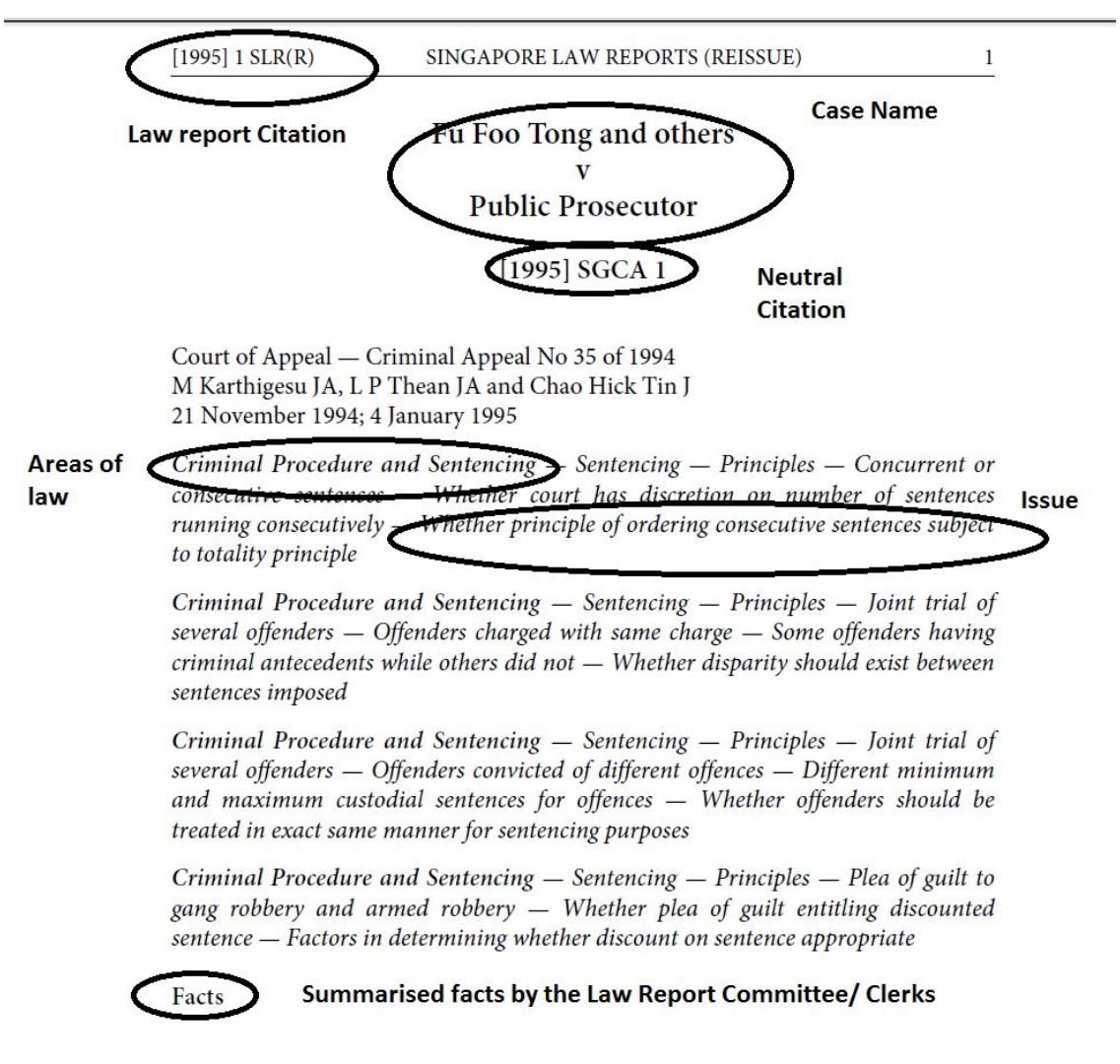
Legal Databases

- Lawyers access law reports and journals through online legal databases
- Examples:
    - LexisNexis (RELX)
    - Westlaw (Thomson Reuters)
    - Lawnet (SAL)

Singapore Law Report

Standardized format:

- The areas of law are reflected in the head notes
- The issues argued are reflected in the head notes
- The headnotes represents the geist of the case.
- They are arranged after the Justice Law Clerks read the judgment.



[1995] 1 SLR(R) SINGAPORE LAW REPORTS (REISSUE) 1

Law report Citation

Case Name

Fu Foo Tong and others
v
Public Prosecutor

[1995] SGCA 1

Neutral Citation

Court of Appeal — Criminal Appeal No 35 of 1994
M Karthigesu JA, L P Thean JA and Chao Hick Tin J
21 November 1994; 4 January 1995

Areas of law

Criminal Procedure and Sentencing — Sentencing — Principles — Concurrent or consecutive sentences — Whether court has discretion on number of sentences running consecutively — Whether principle of ordering consecutive sentences subject to totality principle

Issue

Criminal Procedure and Sentencing — Sentencing — Principles — Joint trial of several offenders — Offenders charged with same charge — Some offenders having criminal antecedents while others did not — Whether disparity should exist between sentences imposed

Criminal Procedure and Sentencing — Sentencing — Principles — Joint trial of several offenders — Offenders convicted of different offences — Different minimum and maximum custodial sentences for offences — Whether offenders should be treated in exact same manner for sentencing purposes

Criminal Procedure and Sentencing — Sentencing — Principles — Plea of guilt to gang robbery and armed robbery — Whether plea of guilt entitling discounted sentence — Factors in determining whether discount on sentence appropriate

Facts

Summarised facts by the Law Report Committee/ Clerks

Singapore Law Report

- Cases referred in the case is arranged in the law report
- Legislation referred in the case is arranged in the law report

years' imprisonment: at [7], [21] and [23].

Law report shows what cases were cited and how they were

Case(s) referred to

Kanagasuntharam v PP [1991] 2 SLR(R) 874; [1992] 1 SLR 81 (folld)
PP v Lee Meow Sim Jenny [1993] 3 SLR(R) 369; [1993] 3 SLR 885 (folld)
R v Costen (1989) 11 Cr App R (S) 182 (refd)
Wong Kai Chuen Philip v PP [1990] 2 SLR(R) 361; [1990] SLR 1011 (folld)

The legislation involved are also listed here.

Legislation referred to

Criminal Procedure Code (Cap 68, 1985 Rev Ed) ss 18, 230
Miscellaneous Offences (Public Order and Nuisance) Act (Cap 184, 1990 Rev Ed) s 35
Penal Code (Cap 224, 1985 Rev Ed) ss 379(*a*), 392, 395, 397

First appellant in person;
Low Kuang Ting (John Tan & Winston Low) for the second appellant;
Christine Lim Siaw Soon (Palakrishnan & Pnrs) for the third and sixth appellants;
Wee Pan Lee (Wee Tay & Lim) for the fourth appellant;
Ramesh Tiwary (Leo Fernando) for the fifth and seventh appellants;
Jasbender Kaur (Deputy Public Prosecutor) for the respondent.

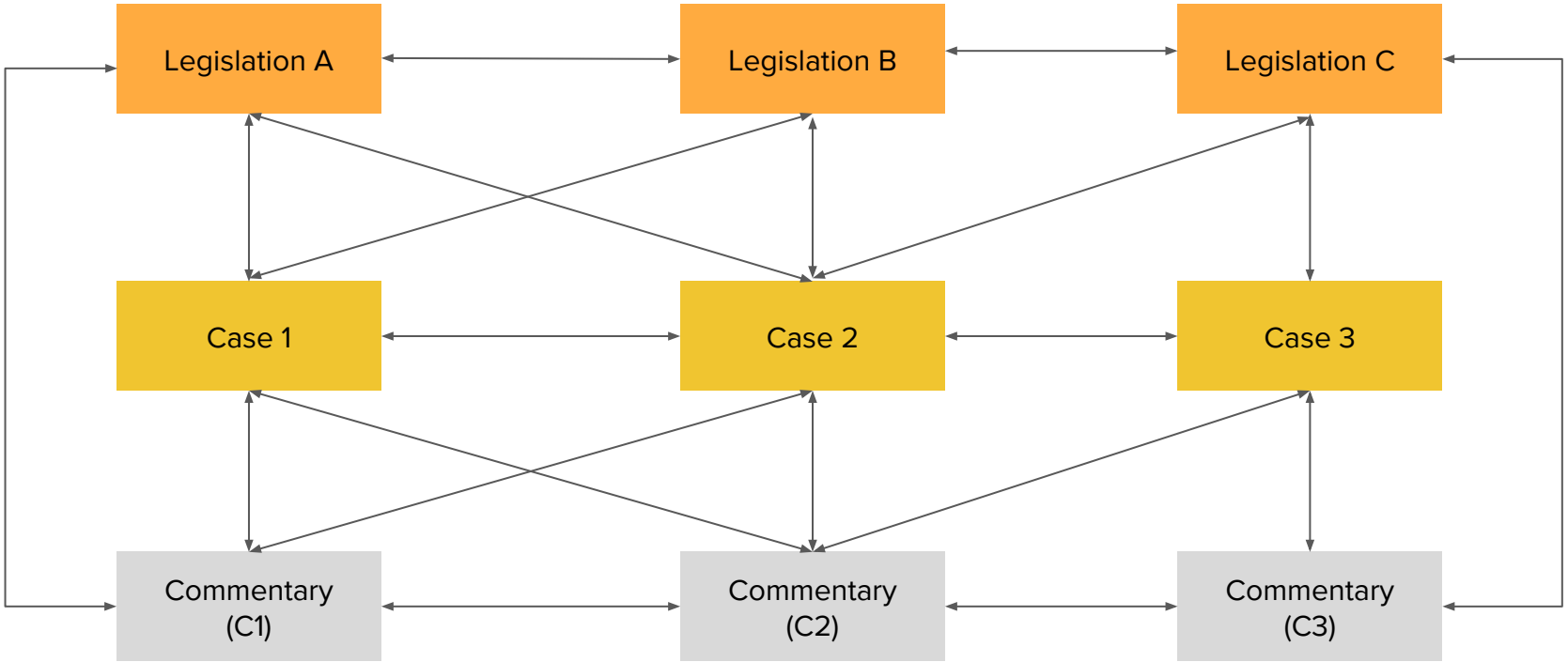
Judgment starts here

4 January 1995

M Karthigesu JA (delivering the grounds of judgment of the court):

1 The appellants appealed against the sentences imposed on them by the learned judge on their "pleas of guilt" on the charges of gang robbery and armed robbery with which they were respectively charged. We varied the sentences in the manner as appears hereafter and now give our reasons.

2 Between the months of May and July 1993 there were a spate of robberies committed late at night at various billiard saloons. These



The cases are not stacked in a 1 direction hierarchy.

UK Law Report

- Most of the law reports from common law jurisdictions have roughly the same format

A

House of Lords

UK Case

Farley *v* Skinner

UK Law Report Citations

[2001] UKHL 49

UK Neutral Citations

2001 June 18, 19, 21; Oct 11

B

Lord Steyn, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Clyde, Lord Hutton and Lord Scott of Foscote

Damages — Contract — Breach — Plaintiff instructing surveyor to report whether property affected by aircraft noise — Surveyor negligently reporting that property unlikely to be affected — Plaintiff purchasing property — Property substantially affected by aircraft noise — Plaintiff deciding not to move — Provision of amenity not sole object of contract and not subject of guarantee by surveyor — Whether plaintiff entitled to damages against surveyor for loss of amenity

C

The plaintiff, who was considering buying a house in Sussex some 15 miles from an airport, engaged the defendant as his surveyor. He specifically asked the defendant to investigate, in addition to the usual matters, whether the property would be affected by aircraft noise, telling him that he did not want to be on a flight path. The surveyor reported that he thought it unlikely that the property would suffer greatly from aircraft noise. The plaintiff bought the property. Before moving in he spent a considerable sum on modernisation and refurbishment. After moving in, he discovered that the property was substantially affected by aircraft noise. He decided, however, not to sell. On his action against the defendant for damages, the judge found that the defendant had been negligent and that if he had carried out his

D

Singapore Judgments

Overview

Commercial Law

Case Law

- Cases in Articles
- Free Law
  - High Court Judgments
  - Court of Appeal Judgments
- Arbitration Cases

Statutes

Geowin Construction Pte Ltd (in liquidation) v Management Corporation Strata Title No 1256 [2007] 1 SLR 1004; [2006] SGHC 245

Case Details

Suit No:	Suit 1209/2003
Decision Date:	29 Dec 2006
Court:	High Court
Coram:	V K Rajah J
Counsel:	T S Oon (T S Oon & Bazul) for the plaintiff, Tan Chee Kiong (Seah Ong & Partners) for the defendant

Subject Area / Catchwords

Civil Procedure **This will become the headnotes in the law report**

Judgment

29 December 2006
V K Rajah J

1 The plaintiff was the main contractor engaged by the defendant to carry out addition and alteration works to Nadia Mansion ("the works"). The plaintiff asserts that it has completed the works

Law Reports vs Judgments

In addition to the judgment written by the judge, the law report also includes

a. Summarised Facts

b. Summarised Conclusions

c. Catchwords/phrases (which includes area of law, issues argued)

d. Cases cited in the case

e. Legislations cited in the case

Areas of Law

Criminal
Tort
Road Traffic

Areas of Law (AOLs)

- No official fixed taxonomy
  - Commonly known AOLs
    - **Criminal**
    - **Tort**
    - Contract
  - Less ‘established’ AOLs
    - **Road Traffic**
    - Data Protection

- Overlapping
  - E.g. Road Traffic can overlap with Criminal and Tort

- Useful metric for classifying cases and documents
  - Each AOL tends to have terms and concepts unique to itself.
  - In practice, a lawyer has to look at a variety of AOLs at once. Clients go to lawyers with their facts, not AOLs.

Your Scope: Criminal, Tort, Road Traffic

- Criminal Law
  - Where a person commits an unlawful act **punishable** by the state.
    - Elements of the crime: a) Actus Reus b) Mens Rea c) Defences
    - Types of offences: ✓ Basic Intent ✓ Strict liability ✓ Ulterior intent offences

Types of criminal offences:

Murder	Rape	Theft	Criminal damage	Preparatory Acts	Accessory

- Tort Law
  - To **compensate** a victim for harm suffered; To **prevent** a harm from occurring/continuing.
    - Types of torts: a) Negligence b) Intentional Torts c) Strict Liability

Types of tort:

Negligence	Defamation	Nuisance	Assault	Battery	Trespass

- Road Traffic offences
  - Mostly strict liability (i.e. not wearing a seatbelt, running a red light, etc.)

Terminologies

Terms associated with Criminal law:

murder	assault	battery	knife	hurt	stab	steal	provoke	omission	risk	prosecution	assist

Terms associated with Tort:

negligence	duty of care	assault	pure economic loss	carelessness	Rylands v Fletcher	reputation

Terms associated with Road Traffic:

bus lane	traffic light	~~parking aunty~~	demerit points	dangerous

- Problems with search: Overlapping terms
  - Terms may not conclusively point to a particular AOL
    - E.g. “claimant”; “damages”; “liability”; “wrong”
  - They can be *used differently* in different AOLs.
    - E.g. “Battery” and “Assault”; “Criminal Negligence”; “Public Nuisance”
  - Different AOLs achieve different purposes:
    - Criminal Law: punishes defendant for wrongdoing.
    - Tort Law: compensates aggrieved party, or prevent wrong act from continuing.

INTELLLEX

Knowledge Management

Post Legal Research → Knowledge Management

Ideal knowledge management

- Law Firm's KM department updates the lawyers about the latest regulations and positions of law
- Lawyers can save and easily retrieve their own work and their colleague's work
- Lawyers can annotate and comment on the work saved and update it accordingly

What are law firms doing about KM?

No KM	Poor KM	Structured KM
Firms have no KM capabilities	KM department or staff present but no idea on how to help lawyers	In-house KM systems
Lawyers save and file their own work	Shared directory for storage/archive used as substitute for KM tools	Extremely high cost (time) in maintaining system
Informal sharing of knowledge	Cost in building up KM does not translate to an organised knowledge bank	Rare; only seen in global law firms
Law firm unable to leverage off previous work		

The Problem

Law firms are not tracking, building and utilising their prior work:

1. No good way of pooling together useful materials
2. Poor KM systems prevent lawyers from conveniently accessing and building upon previous work
3. Lawyers are unwilling participants in building up the KM system
4. Without a proper KM system, lawyers have to re-do work from scratch
5. With current KM system, finding previous work is difficult

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