

**The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Faculty of Law
Term One 2025-2026**

Course code and title : LAWS6004A-C Legal Research, Analysis and Writing

Start date and time : 25 November 2025, 10:00 am

Submission deadline : 30 November 2025, 10:00 pm

This paper has FOUR (4) pages (including this cover page).

This is a **TAKE-HOME** Assignment.

Instructions to candidates:

1. Your marks for this assignment account for **90%** of your final mark in this course.
2. The word requirement is **2,000 – 2,500 words (including footnotes and references)**. Your answers must be typed using a computer and in English.
3. Your answer paper must show your student ID on the front page. You must not make any reference to your name in your answer paper.
4. You must not discuss or collaborate with another person when completing this take-home assignment.
5. Your answers must be your own work. You may consult any sources in preparing your answers. Sources are not restricted to those discussed in class. When you use sources, cite them adequately. You are expected to know and abide by the **University's plagiarism policy**. Copying another person's work or using language or ideas without proper attribution are subject to disciplinary action, as appropriate, and can lead to your failure of the course.
6. **Use of generative artificial intelligence tools**
 - (a) You may use generative artificial intelligence tools (e.g. ChatGPT, and Dall-e) *for research and/or text generation purposes*.
 - (b) Before relying on contents generated by such tools, you must verify such contents against relevant court judgments, legislation and/or other authoritative materials.
 - (c) Should you choose to use such tools, you **must** further disclose at the end of the answer paper **exactly** which artificial intelligence tools you have used; how they were utilized; and where applicable, where in your assessment such tools were utilized. Such disclosure should come in the form of a footnote at the very end of your submission. If you utilize software and are unsure whether it qualifies as an "artificial intelligence tool," you should still disclose the name of the tool utilized and its purpose. This includes **any form** of tool used for research and/or text generation.
 - (d) Violation of sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) may constitute an act of academic dishonesty and can lead to disciplinary action leading to your failure of the course.

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7. **Submission of your answer paper:** You must submit your answer paper in **WORD format** electronically to the Blackboard course site for the above course **by 10:00pm, 30 November 2025.**
 8. **Submission of your duly signed VeriGuide Receipt:** By 10:00pm, 2 December 2025, you must
 - (i) upload your answer paper to the CUHK VeriGuide system at <https://academic2.veriguide.org/portalcuhk/>,
 - (ii) duly sign the receipt issued by the VeriGuide system containing a declaration of honesty statement (the VeriGuide Receipt); and
 - (iii) upload the duly **signed** VeriGuide Receipt to the Blackboard course site.
 9. If the answer paper is submitted after the applicable deadline, the answer paper will receive a mark of zero and a grade of F. **No late submission will be accepted.**
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Andy married Ivy in 2015, when they were both 18 years old.

28 years

On 22 October 2025, Andy was at home with Ivy in Kwong Fuk Estate, Tai Po. At around 1 a.m., Andy's mistress, Candy, knocked on the door repeatedly and shouted "*Andy, come out!*"

When Andy opened the door, Andy told Candy that they should stop seeing each other since they had broken up a month ago. Candy refused and insisted that Andy leave Ivy for her. Ivy came to the door and asked Candy "*to disappear with her ugly face immediately*". Candy responded by saying that Ivy was "*a jealous old fart*" and began to run down the corridor. Before Candy disappeared from Ivy's sight, Ivy heard Candy ask her to go downstairs so that they could "*talk this through*."

On her way out, Ivy took a paper cutter from a tray next to the door, intending to use it for self-defence in case Candy attacked her. Andy, who was worried about Ivy, decided to follow Ivy downstairs.

When Ivy and Andy went downstairs, they saw Candy standing next to a bus stop. Candy saw them approaching and picked up a rubbish bin threatening to throw it at Ivy. Ivy took out the paper cutter so that Candy would not come any closer. The blade of the paper cutter was not out. Despite Ivy's action, Candy continued to provoke Ivy by saying "*I dare you to attack me, old lady*". Ivy remained passive and told Candy that she was "*not interested in fighting her*". A few minutes later, Candy put down the rubbish bin and fled the scene. Ivy and Andy decided to sit at a nearby bench to recover from the encounter with Candy.

Subsequently, two police officers Ben and Dale approached Ivy, and arrested her for possession of an offensive weapon in a public place under section 33 of the Public Order Ordinance (Cap. 245) ("POO"). Ben and Dale brought Ivy to the Tai Po Police Station, where Ben took a statement from her. Under caution, Ivy told the police that she was not the aggressor and that she took out her paper cutter in response to Candy's behaviour. Ben showed Ivy CCTV footage of the lift from her apartment building, which captured Ivy and Andy going down to meet Candy. In the process, Ivy was seen putting on a pair of gloves. Ivy said nothing in response to the CCTV footage.

The police did not lay any charges against Ivy and released her after taking the statement.

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Instructions

Ivy came to your firm for advice. Specifically, she wants to know:

- (1) If the Prosecution charged her with the offence under section 33 POO, whether they have a **case against** her and, if so, what is/are her applicable **defence(s)**; and
- (2) What is the possible **sentence** if she is convicted?

Your supervising partner has asked you to prepare a legal opinion for him, so that he can advise Ivy at a subsequent conference in early December 2025.

Cite no more than five (5) primary and/or secondary authorities (English only), not including section 33 of the POO. To avoid confusion, provisions from the same statute constitute one authority.

***** LAST PAGE *****
***** END OF ASSIGNMENT PAPER *****