

## Report of the Standing Committee on Overseas Admissions 2019

1. As of 31 December 2019, there were a total of 17 applications for the admission of overseas counsel to practise as a barrister in Hong Kong on an *ad hoc* basis, as compared to 31 in 2018. Of the 17 applications, 4 were for criminal cases.
2. This year the Standing Committee consented to 13 applications, 3 of which were criminal cases. It opposed 3 applications, including 1 criminal case. Of these 3 applications, the Court allowed one, with one pending and one withdrawn.
3. The total number of applications allowed by the Court was 14 (of which 3 were criminal cases).
4. Members are referred to the judgment of Poon ACJHC in *Simpson QC* [2019] HKCFI 2689, where an application for admission by an overseas silk proposed to lead only local solicitor-advocates was only approved on condition that local barristers were to be instructed. The judgment is under appeal.
5. Members of the Standing Committee are:  
  
Civil proceedings: Stewart Wong 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), John Reading SC, Wong Man Kit SC, Peter Duncan SC, Joseph Tse SC, Graham Harris SC, Derek Chan SC, James McGowan, David Boyton, Charles J. Chan and Tony C.Y. Li.
6. We would like to express our thanks to every member 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)

Stewart Wong SC  
Chairman (Civil)

December 2019