

Teo Weng Kie
Senior Partner and Head of Insurance



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Areas of practice

- Insurance
- Insurance litigation

Qualification/Education

- Advocate & Solicitor, Singapore, 1990
- Bachelor of Laws (Hons), National University of Singapore, 1989

Appointments/Memberships

- Member, The Law Society of Singapore Disciplinary Committee's Panel
 - Member, The Law Society of Singapore
 - Member, Singapore Academy of Law
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Weng Kie regularly handles claims involving various classes of insurance such as Public Liability, Professional Indemnity, Fidelity Guarantees, Errors & Omissions, Contractors' All-Risk, Workmen's Compensation, Motor Insurance and Material Damage/Business Interruption.

Experience

In the course of Weng Kie's work, he has had the opportunity of arguing important points of law on behalf of insurers, such as the privilege from disclosure of the insurance loss adjusters' reports, disclosure of secret trade information and formulae in the litigation context and the right of an insurer to seek medical re-examination of the Plaintiff for personal injury claims.

Weng Kie's expertise is as varied as the nature of the practice. He has represented underwriters in many large claims most notably in the area of insurance fraud litigation. He has successfully defended several fire insurance claims where underwriters raised a defence of arson and fraud. He often works with forensic accountants and scientists, handwriting experts and investigators on such matters.

Weng Kie also regularly handles material damage/business interruption claims. For instance, he was involved in an intensive litigation of a large business interruption claim arising from the well-publicized Pan Pharmaceuticals debacle in Australia.

Weng Kie also specializes in road traffic and industrial accident claims and has acted in some of Singapore's largest personal injury claims.

In the area of property and liability insurance, Weng Kie successfully argued the policy position on behalf of underwriters as respects bailees' liability for goods in their custody, care and control, or held by them on trust and commission. Until today, the judgment in the case of *Siu Brothers v Norwich Winterthur Insurance* remains the only locally reported one on this question.

Weng Kie has also been entrusted with various professional indemnity policy claims. For instance, he led a team of solicitors in handling a S\$27 million claim against a professional engineer involving a cement silo failure. He has also provided advice to professional indemnity insurers for doctors, lawyers, accountants, building managing agents and insurance brokers. In the course of his professional indemnity work he has had the opportunity to advise on a myriad of policy issues such as multiple excess questions, limit of insurance, defence costs clauses, duty of disclosure, non-reporting, claims-made basis and retroactive clauses, limitation periods and others.

Weng Kie has conducted numerous seminars for insurance companies. He takes special interest in advocacy skills and has trained in advocacy under the guidance of Australian Queen's Counsel. He presently teaches advocacy to lawyers and postgraduate law pupils under the aegis of the Law Society of Singapore.