#### Administrative Instructions on Detailed Technical Requirements for using the Judiciary's integrated Court Case Management System

Under Section 32 of the Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Ordinance (Cap. 638) ("the Ordinance"), the Chief Justice may specify, by implementation notices published in Gazette, the date from which electronic technology may be used in relation to a particular e-Court<sup>1</sup> or a type or description of proceedings, thereby implementing the use of electronic technology in relation to court proceedings in phases. Please refer to the implementation notice(s) issued by the Chief Justice currently in force. The e-system under Section 7 of the Ordinance shall be referred to as the integrated Court Case Management System ("iCMS") hereinafter.

## **Uniform Resource Locator ("URL")**

2. The URL for accessing the iCMS is https://www.judwebportal.judiciary.hk.

#### System Requirements for Using the iCMS

3. Hardware requirements:

Personal computers or mobile devices with Internet connection.

- 4. Software requirements:
  - (a) combinations of operating systems and browsers supported by the iCMS are as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> e-Court means a court and/or a tribunal specified by the rules made by the Chief Justice under Section 6 of the Ordinance as a court/tribunal in which electronic documents may be used. For example, the Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) (Specification of e-Courts) Rules (Cap. 638A) specify the High Court, the District Court, the Magistrates' Court and the Small Claims Tribunal as e-Courts.

#### **Personal Computers**

	Operating System	
Browser	Microsoft Windows 10/11	macOS
Microsoft Edge	Yes	Yes
Safari	-	Yes
Mozilla Firefox	Yes	Yes
Google Chrome	Yes	Yes

#### **Mobile Devices**

	Operating System	
Browser	iOS / iPadOS	Android
Safari	Yes	-
Mozilla Firefox	Yes	-
Google Chrome	Yes	Yes

(b) browser settings to be enabled:

- ➢ Javascript
- Cookies
- Transport Layer Security ("TLS")
- Allow pop-ups from iCMS
- (c) software required for specific iCMS function:
  - Microsoft Word<sup>2</sup>

# **Character Sets and Encoding**

5. Information which contains English characters only shall be coded in American Standard Code for Information Interchange ("ASCII"), ISO/IEC 10646:2003 with Amendment 1 or ISO/IEC 10646:2011. Information which contains Chinese characters shall be coded with the Chinese and English characters in ISO/IEC 10646:2003 with Amendment 1 or the characters

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The version of Microsoft Word shall support the restricted editing feature for viewing and updating the draft case originating documents generated by the iCMS for the High Court.

included in the Hong Kong Supplementary Character Set - 2004 (HKSCS-2004), or in ISO/IEC 10646:2011.

# Submission of Documents to the e-Courts Using the iCMS

6. The documents shall not contain any computer instructions such as those as follows:

- (a) computer viruses/malware; and
- (b) macros, scripts and fields that depend on the execution environment and the execution of which will cause changes to the document itself.

7. The documents shall be prepared by using common word processing software (e.g. Microsoft Word, Pages, etc.). The file format (or the "save as type") of documents shall be as follows:

File Format <sup>3</sup>	Standard(s)
Text Format	Plain text format (TXT)
Formatted Document	Rich Text Format (RTF);
File Format	Word format (.doc);
	ISO/IEC 29500-1 format (.docx)
Portable Document Format	Portable Document Format (PDF)

8. The access to or viewing of the documents shall not require password or access code of any form or invoking any decryption mechanism.

- 9. Other requirements include:
  - (a) to optimise image quality and file size, the resolution of a PDF image file shall be:
    - (i) at least 300 dpi; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For documents that are of file formats other than those listed in the table, they shall be converted to the PDF format prior to submission to the e-Courts.

- (ii) in black and white or in 24-bit color depth<sup>4</sup>;
- (b) to ensure maximum readability, for machine printed texts and/or numbers, proportionally spaced fonts with a font size between 12 and 14 points shall be used;
- (c) if the document(s) are uploaded from users' personal computer or mobile device to the iCMS direct for submission, the total size of document(s) shall not exceed 50MB in each transaction. If the document(s) are uploaded from user's personal computer or mobile device to the Judiciary Cloud<sup>5</sup> and then selected in the iCMS for submission, the 50MB limit does not apply and the size of each document uploaded to the Judiciary Cloud shall not exceed 1GB;
- (d) if the total file size of any document(s) uploaded from user's personal computer or mobile device to the iCMS direct and to be submitted at one go exceeds 50MB, the iCMS will prompt the submitter that the document(s) to be submitted in the transaction has exceeded the limit set by the Judiciary and the submission is not successful. Where applicable, the submitter may choose to split the submission into batches so that each batch will contain documents of less than 50MB in total and the total size of all documents submitted in all batches shall not exceed 500MB;

if the total file size of a submission exceeds the limit set by the Judiciary, even after splitting the submission into batches, the submitter may consider approaching the respective Court Registry

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The conversion or similar process of coloured paper should be avoided where possible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Judiciary Cloud is a temporary storage area which enables the organization users of the iCMS to upload the documents exceeding the file size limit of 50MB. Uploading document via the Judiciary Cloud is currently enabled at the iCMS electronic filing function for the High Court and will progressively be extended to the other e-Courts. When the Judiciary Cloud is enabled, the organization users are provided with the options to upload the document(s) from the personal computers/mobile devices or select the document(s) in the Judiciary Cloud storage when using the iCMS to submit document(s) to the e-Courts.

and doing the submission offline using removable storage media which shall:

- (i) be USB mass storage device;
- (ii) be compliant with File Allocation Table ("FAT") file system or NT file system ("NTFS"); and
- (iii) be free from computer instructions stipulated in paragraph 6 above;
- (e) the maximum length of each file name is 100 characters including space;
- (f) to facilitate the e-Courts and/or their support staff in affixing relevant details onto the received electronic documents
  - (i) wherever practicable, every document (except for form templates with other predefined spacing requirements) prepared by a party for submission to an e-Court to have a unique document identification label imprinted (setting out details such as case numbers, Document Reference Numbers, relevant barcodes, hereinafter referred to as "DRN Label") should have a spacing measuring

> 70mm (width) x 40mm (length)

to be left blank at the top right side corner of the first page of the document. A sample is at <u>Appendix 1</u>.

- (ii) if the documents are sent to an e-Court for issuance and shall be sealed with the seal of the court (namely the images of the court seal and signature (as appropriate), as well as imprinted other details such as DRN Label, hearing details, court directions, etc.), these documents (except for form templates with other predefined spacing requirements) prepared by a party in this regard should include spacing measuring
  - 70mm (width) x 40mm (length) to be left blank at the top right side corner of the first page of the document; and

➢ 36mm (width) x 36mm (length) to be left blank near the word "Registrar" to facilitate the affixing of image of the court seal and signature (as appropriate).

A sample illustrating the detailed requirements is at <u>Appendix 2</u> and examples of types of documents that may be sent to the e-Courts for issuance and sealing are set out under <u>the Schedule</u>.

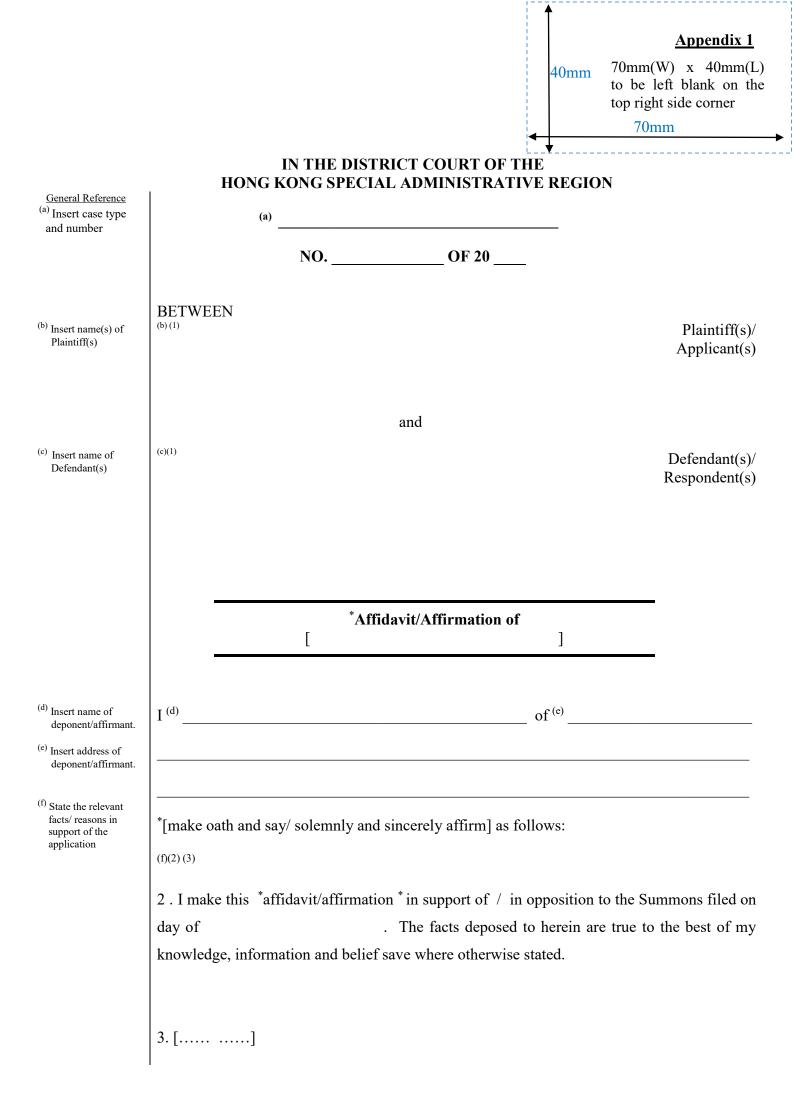
10. For the avoidance of doubt, every electronic document shall satisfy the requirements listed under paragraphs 5 to 9 as far as practicable. Care should be taken to ensure there is a complete legible copy of the document. Failure to comply with the same may render certain part of a document illegible; or the submission of the document to the e-Court may be rejected.

## **Provision of Electronic Copy of Documents to the Courts**

11. The documents for uploading from the USB mass storage devices using the self-service kiosks shall satisfy the requirements listed under paragraphs 5 to 8, 9(a), 9(b), 9(e) and 9(f) as far as practicable.

12. Size of each document uploaded using the self-service kiosks shall not exceed 1GB.

Judiciary Administration June 2025



	4. [] And I make oath and say/solemnly and sincerely affirm <sup>*</sup> that the contents of this affidavit/affirmation <sup>*</sup> are true. (Signature of deponent / affirmant <sup>*</sup> )
<ul> <li>Footnotes:</li> <li>* Delete whichever is inapplicable</li> <li>(1) or to fill in details which appear on the originating document.</li> <li>(2) if necessary, attach to it the relevant documents numbered and listed in chronological order as exhibit(s).</li> <li>(3) If the space here is insufficient, blank paper may be used and attached to this affirmation / affidavit. The last paragraph and the jurat should appear at the end of the last page.</li> </ul>	*SWORN / AFFIRMED at the Courts of Justice, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region thisday of20 Before me, Commissioner for Oaths Judiciary This *affidavit/affirmation is filed on behalf of the *Plaintiff(s)/Defendant(s)/Applicant(s) /Respondent(s).

DC	No.	OF 20

# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION NO OF 20

\_\_\_\_\_NO. \_\_\_\_\_OF 20\_\_\_\_

BETWEEN

Plaintiff(s)/ Applicant(s)

AND

Defendant(s)/ Respondent(s)

#### \*AFFIDAVIT / AFFIRMATION OF [

]

Filed on the ....., 20 .....,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

\*Plaintiff(s) / Defendant(s) / Applicant(s) / Respondent(s) in person

Address for Service:\_\_\_\_\_

Appendix 2 70mm(W) x 40mm(L) to be left blank on the top right side corner 70mm

For all writs, judgments, orders, documents and etc. submitted by electronic means and to be issued by the Court in which it shall be sealed with the court seal.

> Claim nature: A. \* Monetary Claim/Non-Monetary Claim/Mixed Claim B.

> > No. 1 Writ of Summons (Order 6 rule 1)

> > > DC / 20

#### IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION \_\_\_\_\_\_ NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 20\_\_\_\_

Between

Plaintiff

AND

Defendant

TO THE DEFENDANT (name) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of (address)

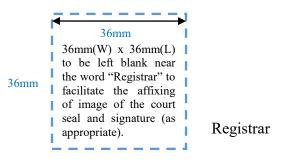
THIS WRIT OF SUMMONS has been issued against you by the above-named Plaintiff in respect of the claim set out on the back.

Within (14 days) after the service of this Writ on you, counting the day of service, you must either satisfy the claim or return to the Registry of the District Court the accompanying ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SERVICE stating therein whether you intend to contest these proceedings or to make an admission.

If you fail to satisfy the claim or to return the Acknowledgment within the time stated, or if you return the Acknowledgment without stating therein an intention to contest the proceedings or to make an admission, the Plaintiff may proceed with the action and judgment may be entered against you forthwith without further notice.

\*[If you intend to make an admission, you may complete an appropriate form enclosed in accordance with the accompanying Directions for Acknowledgment of Service.]

Issued from the Registry of the District Court this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_



*Note:* – This Writ may not be served later than 12 calendar months beginning with that date unless renewed by order of the Court.

#### IMPORTANT

Directions for Acknowledgment of Service are given with the accompanying form.

\*[Statement of Claim]

The Plaintiff's claim is for \_\_\_\_\_

\*Where words appear between square brackets, delete if inapplicable. \*(Signed if statement of claim indorsed.)

A statement of claim must be verified by a statement of truth in accordance with Order 41A of the Rules of the District Court (Cap. 336 sub. leg. H).

(Where the Plaintiff's claim is for a debt or liquidated demand only: If, within the time for returning the Acknowledgment of Service, the Defendant pays the amount claimed and \$ ...... for costs, further proceedings will be stayed. The money must be paid to the Plaintiff or his Solicitor.)

THIS WRIT was issued by \_\_\_\_\_ of

Solicitors for the said Plaintiff whose address is

\*(or where the Plaintiff sues in person:

THIS WRIT was issued by the said Plaintiff who resides at \_\_\_\_\_

and (if the Plaintiff does not reside within the jurisdiction) whose address for service is ).

(This footnote and the claim nature box at the front page do not form part of the statutory Form No. 1) Please refer to Order 41A rule 5(1) of the Rules of the District Court, Cap.336, sub. leg. H for the form of the statement of truth. Example is given below:

\*I / The plaintiff believe(s) that the facts stated in this statement of claim are true."

## **Schedule**

# Examples of Types of Electronic Documents that shall comply with the technical requirements for issuance and sealing by means of the iCMS<sup>1</sup>

(A)	For High Court Civil Cases
1.	Writ of Summons, Originating Summons and other originating documents
2.	Inter-partes Summons, Applications / Notices / Orders, etc. to be taken out pursuant to legislation and/or Practice Directions with hearing fixed
3.	Warrant of arrest
4.	Writ of Subpoena
5.	Writ of execution under Order 46, Cap. 4A
6.	Judgment / Order / Consent Order / Certificate of Assessment of Damages / Certificate of Costs (including Allocatur, Interim Certificate of Costs and Final Certificate of Costs) / Certificate of Award / Order
<b>(B)</b>	For High Court Criminal Cases
<b>(B)</b> 7.	For High Court Criminal Cases         Summons to a Witness
7.	Summons to a Witness
7.       8.	Summons to a Witness Orders pertaining to confiscation proceedings
7. 8. 9.	Summons to a Witness Orders pertaining to confiscation proceedings Order (Dated)
7. 8. 9. 10.	Summons to a Witness         Orders pertaining to confiscation proceedings         Order (Dated)         Summons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A registered user may submit documents electronically under the iCMS in relation to a particular court-related matter only after the use of electronic technology has been implemented to the respective Court and/or the respective type of proceeding. Please refer to the implementation notice(s) issued by the Chief Justice for details.

13.	Inter-partes Summons, Applications / Notices / Orders, etc. to be taken out pursuant to legislation and/or Practice Directions with hearing fixed
14.	Warrant
15.	Warrant of Distress
16.	Writ of Subpoena
17.	Writ of Possession and Writ of Fieri Facias
18.	Judgment / Order / Consent Order / Certificate of Assessment of Damages / Certificate of Costs (including Allocatur, Interim Certificate of Costs and Final Certificate of Costs) / Certificate of Award / Order
(D)	For District Court Criminal Cases
19.	Summons to a Witness
20.	Orders pertaining to confiscation proceedings
(E)	For the Summons Courts of the Magistrates' Courts
21.	Summons to a Witness
<b>(F)</b>	For Small Claims Tribunal
22.	Inter-partes Summons
23.	Summons to Witness (Form 5)
24.	Writ of Fieri Facias