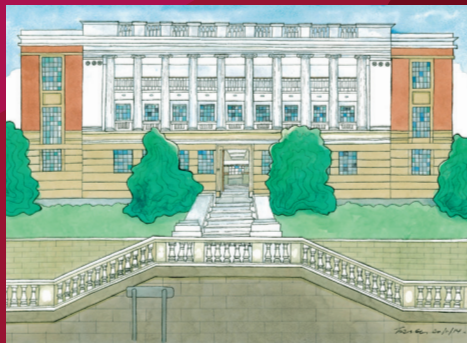


淫褻物品審裁處

Obscene Articles Tribunal

法庭服務簡介

Guide to Court Services



淫褻物品審裁處

淫褻物品審裁處由一位主審裁判官及兩位或以上審裁委員組成，其主要負責的兩項工作為事物及物品評定類別及裁定性質。

物品的作者、印刷人、製造商、出版人、進口商、發行人、版權擁有人，或設計、生產或發布的委託人，可向淫褻物品審裁處呈交有關物品，以便評定類別。律政司司長或其他獲授權的公職人員，亦可呈交物品給淫褻物品審裁處評定類別。

除此之外，法官或裁判官亦可在法律程序進行期間，將物品或事物轉交審裁處，要求裁定：

- 該物品是否淫褻或不雅；
- 公開展示的事物是否不雅；或
- 發布或公開展示該物品或事物，是否符合公眾利益。

電影和廣播材料等分別受《電影檢查條例》及《廣播條例》監管，淫褻物品審裁處不會予以評定類別。

根據《淫褻及不雅物品管制條例》，淫褻物品審裁處有權評定物品類別，為社會詮釋淫褻及不雅的含義。包括任何暴力、腐化或引起厭惡情緒的物品均被視為不雅。

按法例要求，審裁處在裁定及評定物品類別時，須考慮以下各項事宜：

- 一般合理的社會人士普遍接受的道德、禮儀及言行標準；
- 物品或事物整體上產生的顯著效果；
- 擬發布或相當可能發布物品的對象是甚麼人，屬那一類別或年齡組別；
- 如屬公開展示的事物，則須考慮展示地點及相當可能觀看該事物的人屬那一類別或年齡組別；及
- 該物品或事物是否有真正目的，還是用作掩飾其不可接受的內容。

審裁處可將物品評定為：

- 第I類 — 既非淫褻亦非不雅；
- 第II類 — 不雅；或
- 第III類 — 淫褻。

如屬第II類物品，審裁處可附加條件，規限發布範圍。如果被評定為第III類物品，一律不得發布。

程序

評定類別

審裁處須於收到該物品5天內，以非公開形式及在申請人或其他人不在場的情況下，進行評定及暫定類別。審裁處須指出該物品屬淫褻或不雅的部分，更可就申請人呈交的物品向該人作出指引，但無須為所作的任何暫定類別提出理由。主審裁判官可把期限延長，最多5天。

審裁處可主動或應呈交物品人要求，重新考慮物品的評定類別，並予以更改或維持。如有人要求覆核，審裁處亦須覆核該暫定類別。

審裁處覆核或重新考慮物品的評定類別時，主審裁判官將會同4名或以上審裁委員，作公開聆訊。

要求評定物品類別、覆核聆訊或重新考慮物品的評定類別，均需繳付指定費用。

審裁處評定物品類別後14天內，任何一方均可就法律論點向高等法院原訟法庭提出上訴。

裁定

由法庭或裁判官轉交的物品，審裁處一般會在21天內完成相關聆訊的排期程序，並安排公開聆訊的日期以鑑定物品中屬淫褻或不雅的部分。

審裁處作出評定後14天內，任何一方均可就法律論點向高等法院原訟法庭提出上訴。

刑罰

發布、管有或輸入以供發布第III類物品，可被罰款港幣100萬元及監禁3年。向青少年發布不雅物品，首次被定罪，可被罰款港幣40萬元及監禁12個月。第二次或其後定罪，可被罰款港幣80萬元及監禁12個月。

如不遵從有關發布第II類物品的限制，首次定罪，可被判罰款港幣40萬元及監禁12個月。第二次或其後被定罪，可被罰款港幣80萬元及監禁12個月。

審裁委員

根據《淫褻及不雅物品管制條例》，審裁委員組成審裁委員小組，由終審法院首席法官委任，任期3年，並可再獲委任。審裁委員須向終審法院首席法官發出通知，才可辭去職務。如有以下情況，終審法院首席法官亦可將其姓名從審裁委員小組名單中刪除：

- 不再通常居於香港；
- 因任何罪行而被定罪；
- 被宣布為破產人；或

- 終審法院首席法官認為其疏忽職守或不能執行職責。

為了確保審裁處所採納的標準具代表性，並盡量符合社會規範，社會各階層的人士、不同年齡組別、職業和專業均可申請成為審裁小組的成員。有意成為審裁委員的人，可致電 3655 5413 向商務及經濟發展局查詢，或瀏覽有關網頁 <https://www.cedb.gov.hk/tc/policies/control-of-obscene-and-indecent-articles.html>

儲存庫

所有經審裁處評定類別的物品，均存於儲存庫內。市民可向審裁處申請查閱儲存庫內的資料。申請一經批准，每次查閱收費為港幣420元。

不提供法律意見

司法機構必須保持公正中立，因此本機構職員不會提供任何法律意見，或就個別案件的進行或勝訴機會作出評論。

如需要法律意見或援助，請聯絡律師或向提供免費法律諮詢服務的機構尋求協助。

如何聯絡我們？

地址：九龍深水埗通州街501號西九龍法院大樓A座九樓

電話：3916 6303

傳真：2568 1324

辦公時間

審裁處登記處及會計部

星期一至五 上午八時四十五分至下午一時

下午二時至五時三十分

（星期六、日及公眾假日休息）

如果天氣惡劣，淫褻物品審裁處有甚麼安排？

請參閱司法機構網頁：颱風及暴雨警告的安排

（http://www.judiciary.hk/tc/crt_services/business_hours_typhoon.htm）或留意電台/電視台的相關報導。

司法機構

二〇二一年四月

（第九版）

THE OBSCENE ARTICLES TRIBUNAL

The Obscene Articles Tribunal, consisting of a Presiding Magistrate and two or more adjudicators, carries out two main tasks with respect to articles and matter – **classification** and **determination**.

It **classifies** articles submitted by such parties as authors, printers, manufacturers, publishers, importers, distributors, copyright owners or any person who commissions the design, production or publication of the articles concerned. The Secretary for Justice or any authorized public officer may also submit any article for classification.

Additionally a court or magistrate may, in the course of proceedings, refer an article or matter to the Tribunal, asking it to **determine** whether:

- the article is obscene or indecent;
- the matter is indecent; or
- the publication of the article or the public display of the matter is intended for the public good.

Films and broadcasting material, etc are not classified by the Tribunal, but are dealt with under the Film Censorship Ordinance and the Broadcasting Ordinance respectively.

Under the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, the Tribunal's power to classify articles effectively provides society with an effective means of interpreting in practice the notions of obscenity and indecency. Indecency is here deemed to include violence, depravity and repulsiveness.

In arriving at the determination and classification of an article, the Tribunal is called upon by law to take account of:

- the standards of morality, decency, language or behaviour and propriety that are generally accepted by reasonable members of the community;
- the dominant overall effect of an article or matter;
- the persons, classes of persons, or age groups intended or likely to be targeted by an article's publication;
- in the case of matter publicly displayed, the location of such display and the persons, classes of persons, or age groups likely to view it; and
- whether the article or matter has an honest purpose or whether instead it seeks to disguise unacceptable material.

The Tribunal can classify an article as follows:

- Class I – neither obscene nor indecent;
- Class II – indecent; or
- Class III – obscene.

The Tribunal may impose conditions or restrictions relating to the publication of a Class II article. Class III articles are prohibited from being published.

Procedures

Classification

Classification of articles is conducted in private and without the applicant or any other person in attendance. The Tribunal makes an interim classification within 5 days of the article's being submitted. It shall also identify the part of the article causing the obscenity or indecency or may give guidance to the applicant but it is not required to give any reasons for any interim classification. The Presiding Magistrate may extend that period by a further period of not more than 5 days.

A classification may be reconsidered by the Tribunal itself or at the request of the person submitting the article in question. The classification may be altered or confirmed. An interim classification must be reviewed if an application for review is made.

When the Tribunal hears reviews or reconsiders a classification, the Presiding Magistrate is joined by four or more adjudicators in a full public hearing.

A prescribed fee has to be paid for the classification, review or reconsideration of articles.

A party may appeal on a point of law to the Court of First Instance of the High Court against a decision of the Tribunal within 14 days of that decision.

Determination

Determination of articles referred by a court or a magistrate is conducted in open court, and the fixing of a hearing date for the case will in general be completed within 21 days from its transfer. The Tribunal identifies the part(s) of the article which gives rise to obscenity or indecency.

A party may appeal on a point of law to the Court of First Instance against a decision of the Tribunal within 14 days of that decision.

Penalties

Anyone who publishes, possesses or imports for the purpose of publication a Class III article is liable to a fine of \$1 million and to imprisonment for 3 years. Anyone who publishes an indecent article to a juvenile is liable to a fine of \$400,000 and to imprisonment for 12 months on first conviction and \$800,000 and imprisonment for 12 months for a second or subsequent conviction.

Anyone who fails to observe conditions or restrictions on publishing Class II articles is liable to a fine of \$400,000 and imprisonment for 12 months on first conviction and to a fine of \$800,000 and imprisonment for 12 months on a second or subsequent conviction.

Adjudicators

Under the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance, eligible persons are appointed by the Chief Justice to the panel of adjudicators. They serve for 3 years and are eligible for re-appointment. They may resign by giving notice to the Chief Justice, who may also remove an adjudicator from the panel if the adjudicator:

- ceases to be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong;
- is convicted of any offence;
- is declared a bankrupt; or
- neglects or is unable to perform his/her duty in the opinion of the Chief Justice.

To ensure that the standards used by the Tribunal are representative and as close to social norms as possible, eligible persons from all walks of life and sectors of society and come from different age groups, professions and occupations can apply to be adjudicators. Anyone wishing to become an adjudicator should contact the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau at 3655 5413 or visit their relevant website at <https://www.cedb.gov.hk/en/policies/control-of-obscene-and-indecent-articles.html>

Repository

All articles classified by the Tribunal are kept in a repository. Members of the public can apply to the Tribunal to search the repository. If the application is granted, there is also a payment of the prescribed fee of \$420 per search.

No Legal Advice

In order to maintain the impartial role of the Judiciary, our staff will not provide any legal advice or offer any comment on the conduct or merits of specific court cases and proceedings.

Please note that you should consult a legal practitioner or approach free legal advisory bodies for assistance if you require legal advice or assistance.

How to contact us?

Address: 9/F, Tower A, West Kowloon Law Courts Building,
501 Tung Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon

Telephone: 3916 6303

Facsimile: 2568 1324

Business Hours

Tribunal Registry and Accounts Office

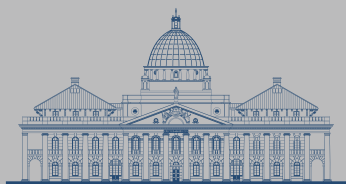
Monday to Friday 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

(Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays)

What are the arrangements of the Obscene Articles Tribunal in case of bad weather?

Please refer to Typhoon and Rainstorm Warning Arrangements in the Judiciary website (http://www.judiciary.hk/en/crt_services/business_hours_typhoon.htm) or radio/ television announcements of the same.

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authoritative statement of law
or court practice.

香港特別行政區政府新聞處設計封面
政府物流服務署印

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