

**Curriculum Vitae
of The Honourable Mr Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-li
Chief Judge of the High Court**

1. Personal Background

Mr Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-li (Mr Justice Ma) was born in Hong Kong on January 11, 1956. He is married to Madam Justice Maria Candace Yuen. They have one daughter.

2. Education

Mr Justice Ma received his education in England at a young age. He obtained the degree of Bachelor of Laws from the Birmingham University in 1977. He obtained his Bar Final Part 2 from the College of Law in 1978.

3. Legal Experience

Mr Justice Ma was called to the English Bar at Gray's Inn in 1978, to the Hong Kong Bar in 1980, to the Bar of the State of Victoria in Australia in 1983 and to the Bar of Singapore in 1990. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1993. He was appointed a Recorder of the High Court in November 2000. He was made an Honorary Bencher of Gray's Inn in 2004.

Mr Justice Ma was in private practice since 1978 until he joined the Judiciary as a Judge of the Court of First Instance of the High Court (CFI Judge) in December 2001.

Mr Justice Ma has wide legal experience in various areas of the civil law. His main areas of practice were: arbitration, commercial (including shipping, admiralty, banking, insurance), company, building, administrative and constitutional law.

Mr Justice Ma was also legal consultant to Messrs David Chong & Co, Singapore, Advocates & Solicitors. He was the head of litigation, shipping and admiralty departments.

4. Judicial Experience

Mr Justice Ma was appointed a Recorder of the High Court in November 2000 until his appointment as a CFI Judge in December 2001. He heard cases involving various aspects of civil law.

Mr Justice Ma was appointed a Justice of Appeal of the Court of Appeal of the High Court in November 2002. He heard both criminal and civil appeals, including judicial review cases.

Mr Justice Ma was appointed as the Chief Judge of the High Court in July 2003. As the Court Leader of the High Court, Mr Justice Ma leads the High Court both judicially and administratively. He presides in the Court of Appeal and deals with the important appeals before that court. He is responsible for the administration of the High Court. He has to ensure the smooth operation of the High Court and the efficient utilization of judicial resources and court time, and to advise the Chief Justice on policies, legislation and practices relating to the High Court. He has statutory powers and duties under various Ordinances. These include the Legal Practitioners Ordinance under which he has the power to admit barristers and solicitors. He is responsible for the implementation of Civil Justice Reform and the monitoring of the working of the reformed system.

5. Services and Activities related to the Legal Field

1982-84 1992-96	Member, Bar Council of the Hong Kong Bar Association
1987-96	Adjudicator, Registration of Persons Tribunal, Hong Kong
1987- Present	Honorary Lecturer, Department of Professional Legal Education, University of Hong Kong
1991-2001	Member, Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Board
1992-94	Member, Steering Committee for the Eleventh International Congress of Maritime Arbitrators
1993- 2001	Member, Civil Court Users Committee of the Judiciary

- 1997- Present Member, Appointment Advisory Board of the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)
- 1998- Present Member, HKIAC Arbitration Ordinance Review Committee
- 2000-2001 Member, Working Party on Civil Justice Reform
- 2004-2009 Chairman, Steering Committee on Civil Justice Reform
- 2009- Present Chairman, Monitoring Committee on Civil Justice Reform

6. Publications

Mr Justice Ma was contributing Editor to the Hong Kong Civil Procedure 2002. He had also contributed to “Litigation in the Commercial List”: 2002 Law Lectures for Practitioners. He is the Editor in Chief of “Arbitration in Hong Kong: A Practical Guide” (published 2003) and “Professional Conduct and Risk Management in Hong Kong” (published 2007).

7. Other Public Services

- 1994-2001 Member, Hong Kong Futures Exchange Disciplinary Appeal Tribunal
- 1994-98 Member, then Vice-Chairman, Management Committee of the Consumer Legal Action Fund
- 1994-2001 Chairman, Appeal Tribunal Panel (Buildings)
- 1997-2000 Deputy Chairman, Board of Review (Inland Revenue)
- 1999-2001 Deputy Chairman, Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) Appeals Panel
- 1999-2001 Deputy Chairman, SFC Takeovers Appeal Committee
