

司法機構政務處

Judiciary Administration

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來函檔號 Your Ref.:

8 December 2021

Mr C M CHAN
President
Law Society of Hong Kong
3/F, Wing On House,
71 Des Voeux Road Central,
Hong Kong

Dear President,

**Security Screening Extended to
West Kowloon Law Courts Building on 18 December**

As part of our on-going efforts to ensure the safety of Judges and Judicial officers, Judiciary staff and court users, the Judiciary is planning to put in place security screening for the whole West Kowloon Law Courts Building (“WKLCB”) from 18 December 2021.

The security screening procedures are intended to prevent prohibited items, such as weapons, knives, scissors, water and drinks, from being brought into court premises.

Under the new arrangement, court users will be required to undergo security screening procedures, including body screening by metal detectors and inspection of personal belongings by x-ray baggage scanners, before they can gain access to courtrooms, registries, accounts office, information centre, office areas and associated facilities from 1/F to 11/F of WKLCB (hereinafter referred to as “controlled areas”).

A dedicated lane for screening will be assigned for regular court users (including mainly legal representatives and members of the media) to facilitate their faster access to the controlled areas.

Out of security considerations, court users will not be allowed to bring water or drinks into the controlled areas of WKLCB. Drinking water will be available in the controlled areas and court users are encouraged to bring their own cups. Court users may also buy drinks from the vending machines within the controlled areas.

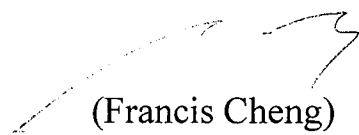
The screening checkpoint will be located at the Atrium on the 1/F of WKLCB. Court users will be directed to follow a designated route from the main entrance to the checkpoint via the escalator or a designated public lift.

In implementing security screening at WKLCB, we will make every effort to enable the smooth and orderly access of court users. However, the screening procedures will inevitably take time to complete. We have reminded all court users to arrive at WKLCB earlier, in particular during peak hours in the morning or after lunch break, and follow the instructions of the Judiciary staff and security personnel when they attend WKLCB for court business.

A press release on the relevant arrangements is enclosed for your reference.

I should be grateful if you would keep your members informed of the security screening measure to be implemented at WKLCB as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



(Francis Cheng)
for Judiciary Administrator

Encl.

Press Releases

Security screening extended to West Kowloon Law Courts Building on December 18

The following is issued on behalf of the Judiciary:

The Judiciary today (December 8) announced that as part of the efforts to ensure the safety of Judges and Judicial Officers, Judiciary staff and court users, the Judiciary is planning to put in place security screening for the whole West Kowloon Law Courts Building (WKL CB) from next Saturday (December 18).

Under the new arrangement, court users will be required to undergo security screening procedures, including body screening by metal detectors and inspection of personal belongings by x-ray baggage scanners, before they can gain access to courtrooms, registries, the accounts office, the information centre, office areas and associated facilities from 1/F to 11/F of the WKL CB (controlled areas). A dedicated lane for screening will be assigned for regular court users (including mainly legal representatives and members of the media) to facilitate their faster access to the controlled areas.

A Judiciary spokesman said, "The security screening procedures are intended to prevent prohibited items, such as weapons, knives, scissors, water and drinks from being brought into court premises.

"The use of metal detectors and x-ray baggage scanners can enhance the efficiency and reliability of such screenings. Security personnel of the Judiciary will provide appropriate assistance to court users at the screening checkpoint", the spokesman added.

Out of security considerations, court users will not be allowed to bring water or drinks into the controlled areas of the WKL CB. Drinking water will be available in the controlled areas and court users are encouraged to bring their own cups. Court users may also buy drinks from the vending machines within the controlled areas.

The screening checkpoint will be located at the Atrium on the 1/F of the WKL CB. Court users will be directed to follow a designated route from the main entrance to the checkpoint via the escalator or a designated public lift. Court users should follow the instructions of the Judiciary staff and security personnel when they attend the WKL CB for court business.

In implementing security screening at the WKL CB, the Judiciary will make every effort to enable the smooth and orderly access of court users. However, the screening procedures will inevitably take time to complete. The Judiciary urges all court users to arrive at the WKL CB earlier, in particular during peak hours in the morning or after lunch break.

Ends/Wednesday, December 8, 2021
Issued at HKT 10:30

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