

Profile of Mr Wong Kok Weng, Chief Public Defender, Public Defender's Office

Prior to joining the Ministry of Law, Mr Wong Kok Weng (黄国荣) was a Deputy Public Prosecutor in the Crime Division of the Attorney-General's Chambers from 2000 to 2022. As a Senior Director, he led a team of Deputy Public Prosecutors prosecuting diverse criminal offences. He was a legal counsel with the Legal Services Division at the Ministry of Defence from 1991 to 2000, and a Magistrate at the then-Subordinate Courts from 1988 to 1991.

In 2013, Mr Wong chaired an inter-agency committee that looked into providing support for accused persons with mental disorders or intellectual disabilities during the criminal investigation process. The findings of this committee, comprising representatives from the Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore, the Singapore Police Force, the Law Society of Singapore, the Ministry of Social and Family Development, and the National Council for Social Services, led to the introduction of the Appropriate Adult Scheme in 2015. The scheme provides for the presence of an Appropriate Adult during police interviews of accused persons with mental disorders or intellectual disabilities. This scheme was subsequently extended to young suspects below 16 years of age under Mr Wong's chairmanship.

Mr Wong obtained the Public Administration Medal (Bronze) in 1999 and the Long Service Award for 35 years of service in 2021.