

AG not decided yet whether to testify at committal proceedings

THE SUN DAILY | 07 OCT 2019 / 18:36 H.

SHAH ALAM: Attorney-General Tan Sri Tommy Thomas (*pix*) has not stated whether he would testify at the committal proceedings (contempt of court) in connection with the inquest into the death of fireman Muhammad Adib Mohd Kassim.

Counsel Mohamed Haniff Khatri Abdulla, who is representing the deceased's family, said, however, the Attorney-General can decide to testify before or on the first day of the committal proceedings.

“Until today, the Attorney-General has not decided on whether he will use both filed affidavits or he will testify under oath from the witness box or a combination of both,” he told reporters after the case management before Coroner Rofiah Mohamad here today.

In addition, Mohamed Haniff Khatri said an affidavit in reply to the application by senior federal counsel S. Narunavathy for a stay of proceedings was filed this morning.

Earlier, Narkunavathy told the court that she had received instructions to use the two affidavits filed by the Attorney-General and former inquest handling officer Hamdan Hamzah prior to this.

“In regard to the substantive application (in relation to committal), we sent a letter on Sept 30 to Tetuan Mohd Zubir Embong & Associate to inform (them that) the respondent (would) use both previous affidavits,” she said.

“We are requesting a brief date for the suspension of the (committal) proceedings,” she said.

Coroner Rofiah then set Oct 21 to hear the application for a stay of proceedings.

The firefighter's father Mohd Kassim Abdul Hamid filed the ex-parte committal application through Messrs Mohd Zubir Embong & Associates against Thomas on July 16. He claimed that the AG had committed contempt through an affidavit that was filed by the AGC last April 3.

Muhammad Adib, 24, who was a member of the emergency medical rescue services (EMRS) at the Subang Jaya Fire and Rescue station, was seriously injured in a riot at the Sri Maha Mariamman Temple, USJ 25, on Nov 27, 2018.

He died on Dec 17 after 21 days at the National Heart Institute. — *Bernama*