

# Coroner's court allows stay of committal proceedings against AG

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Attorney-General Tommy Thomas wants a stay of the committal proceedings against him pending the disposal of a related appeal in the High Court.

SHAH ALAM: The Coroner's Court here today allowed an application by Attorney-General Tommy Thomas for a stay of the committal proceedings filed against him over statements he made in connection with the death of firefighter Muhammad Adib Mohd Kassim.

Coroner Rofiah Mohamad made the decision after considering the affidavit and submissions by both parties.

Thomas was represented by senior federal counsel S Narkunavathy, while lawyer Mohamed Haniff Khatri Abdulla appeared for Adib's family.

Thomas had applied for a stay of the committal proceedings pending disposal of a related appeal.

"I do not have concrete information on the appeal by the respondent, which the High Court considered as a criminal appeal," said Rofiah.

However, she said she regarded the proceedings to be substantive because if the higher court allowed the appeal, it would eliminate the basis of the committal application.

"If the committal application is postponed, the embarrassing situation can be avoided as the High Court has set the hearing date for the appeal," she said.

The High Court here had set Nov 25 to hear the appeal against the decision of the Coroner's Court, made on Aug 27, in allowing the committal proceedings against the AG.