

**IPTO to remove information on annulled bankruptcy orders from its online
information search service**

From 1 April 2010, the Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office (IPTO) will no longer make available information on bankruptcy orders which have been annulled on its online information search service. This will apply with immediate effect to all persons who have had the bankruptcy orders made against them annulled, whether by way of an order of the High Court or a certificate issued by the Official Assignee under section 123A or section 95A of the Bankruptcy Act (Cap. 20).

Background

2. The Bankruptcy Act requires that the bankruptcy orders made by the High Court and any subsequent discharge, rescission or annulment of such orders be maintained in a list by the Official Assignee (OA). The OA may, upon the payment of a prescribed fee, allow any person to inspect or have access to any part of this list.

3. In 1999, IPTO launched its online information search service to make it easier and more convenient to inspect the list of bankruptcy orders made, rescinded, discharged or annulled.

4. In 2006, IPTO ceased to make available the records of bankruptcies from its online information search service for bankrupts who have been discharged from bankruptcy for a period of six years or more¹. This move was in support of the objective of giving bankrupts a chance at financial rehabilitation.

5. With immediate effect from 1 April 2010, IPTO will also remove the records of all cases where the bankruptcy order has been annulled from its online information search service. This is to recognise that the annulment of a bankruptcy order has the effect in law that the bankruptcy order was never made against the person; and hence there is no issue of public interest in disclosing such information.

¹ The exception is when a person has had multiple bankruptcy orders made against him.

6. More information about the annulment of bankruptcy orders can be found at www.ipto.gov.sg

**ISSUED BY THE INSOLVENCY AND PUBLIC TRUSTEE'S OFFICE
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