

March 24 2013

on

Sunday

*What
to wear
when
you're
looking
to hide*

Hot in the shades

26

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PEOPLE



COURTING CHIC: (From left) Ms Pang Chor Mui from Peter Lim Sin Pang's corruption trial; Serina Wee Gek Yin, former finance chief of City Harvest Church, who was charged in court on July 25 last year with six counts of being involved in a conspiracy to commit criminal breach of trust by an agent; Ms Cecilia Sue Siew Nang from the trial against former Central Narcotics Bureau director Ng Boon Gay; and former engineer Goh Lee Yin, who is facing sentencing after admitting to cheating two victims of designer handbags worth almost

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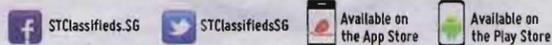
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Classy & low key

If you ever find yourself embroiled in a high-profile court case, here are some tips from image consultants Ms Joanne Lim and Ms Melissa Chor on how to dress with your public image in mind

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SUNGLASSES

Wanting to hide behind them is normal behaviour. After all, dark shades help to shield your eyes from the glare of both camera flashes and curious bystanders.

But Ms Lim advises against them: "By wearing them and trying to hide your face, it may lead people to think that you have something to hide."

OUTFIT

A pant or skirt suit is most appropriate, say both image consultants.

"It's best to ensure that skirt lengths are no shorter than two inches above the knee.

"This gives a good impression to the judge and the public because it shows that the person takes the court appearance seriously," says Ms Lim.

ACCESSORIES

Keep them to a minimum. Subtlety is key.

"If you must wear jewellery, a watch and some simple ear studs would probably do the job," says Ms Chor.

Pairing a black handbag with matching court shoes with a dark-coloured suit will make sure you don't go wrong, adds Ms Lim.

CLEAVAGE

This is a no-brainer. Letting that tantalising valley

show is a bad idea, and probably detrimental to your image.

The experts advise keeping necklines "modest" and "high".

"Wide and frilly necklines are also not appropriate as they are too casual," says Ms Chor.

COLOUR PALETTE

Stick to dark and neutral colours to play it safe.

Some shades to consider are blue, black, grey, and brown, says Ms Chor.

HAIRSTYLE

Keep it simple and steer clear of outlandish or trendy dos.

"Long hair can be tied up or styled into a low bun," suggests Ms Chor.

"A neat hairstyle shows that you have put in the effort to look presentable and that you are taking the appearance seriously.

"Avoid overly-fashionable hairstyles as you want to give the impression that you are able to conform and comply," says Ms Lim.

Wigs could come in handy, depending on the situation.

"They may be a good idea if your hair has attention-grabbing highlights which you wish to hide," says Ms Chor.

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