Why a map of institutions is needed

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The civil-law reader who has absorbed Chapters I to V knows that Singapore regulates through one legislature, one regulator and one court hierarchy. That knowledge can mislead, because a digital-asset matter still passes through a dozen public bodies and several private ones, each with its own statute, its own habits and its own view of the client. A founder incorporating a token company meets ACRA before MAS. A family office meets IRAS and MAS at once. A fraud victim meets the Commercial Affairs Department, the Attorney-General's Chambers and the General Division of the High Court in that order. A lawyer admitted elsewhere meets the Singapore Academy of Law before anything else. This chapter names those bodies, states what each does in a digital-asset matter and explains how to approach it. It is a map for the first year of a Singapore practice, which the later Parts assume.

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