

**Najib, Rosmah apply to skip sodomy trial**  
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**By Shannon Teoh**

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 21 — Datuk Seri Najib Razak and his wife applied today to set aside subpoenas to appear in Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's sodomy trial.

The prime minister and Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor were subpoenaed last month to appear as defence witnesses after they refused to take part in closed-door interviews.

Although Najib and Rosmah (picture) had turned up at the High Court during interviews by the opposition leader's lawyers, they said they would keep mum unless the court issued a subpoena instructing them to do otherwise.

"The trial judge will fix a hearing date tomorrow for Najib and his wife's application," said Datuk Salehuddin Saidin, one of the four lawyers representing the couple.

The other three lawyers are M.M. Athimulan, Hisyam Teh Poh Teik, and Datuk Ghazi Ishak.

The application was filed at 3.30pm today.

PKR de facto leader Anwar had opened his defence case by calling the sodomy charge a trumped-up allegation masterminded by PM Najib.

The former deputy prime minister said the Umno president wanted to end his political career and hopes of Pakatan Rakyat (PR) taking over federal government.

His lawyers had named 25 witnesses which included Najib, Rosmah and former Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Musa Hassan.

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