

**Sodomy II: Anwar tells PM, wife, to explain meeting with Saiful**  
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**By Debra Chong**

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 28 — Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's defence team insisted today the prime minister and his wife are relevant witnesses for the opposition leader's ongoing Sodomy II trial.

In his affidavit-in-reply to Datuk Seri Najib Razak filed today, Anwar said he needed the PM to come to court not to show he was involved in a "conspiracy, but to get clarification" on the latter's meeting with Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan on June 24, 2008, just two days before the alleged sodomy act took place.

Anwar (picture) raised similar points in a separate affidavit-in-reply to Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, saying he wanted her to explain because she had given a witness statement to the police officer in charge of the ongoing sodomy case, DSP Jude Pereira.

The High Court is set to hear tomorrow, Najib's and Rosmah's twin applications to skip the trial, which resumes on October 3.

"Datuk Seri Najib has said, 'subpoena, I'll come'," Anwar told reporters at court this afternoon.

He repeated he was disappointed the PM was reneging on his word.

"They have said they are not relevant witnesses and their evidence is not material to the case," Anwar's lawyer, Sankara Nair said, referring to the PM's and Rosmah's affidavits.

"We are saying it is," Sankara added.

Both Najib and Rosmah were subpoenaed last month after they refused to take part in closed-door interviews.

Although Najib and Rosmah 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 lawyers representing the couple are Datuk Sallehuddin Saidin, M.M. Athimulan, Hisyam Teh Poh Teik, and Datuk Ghazi Ishak.

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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