

**Ex-Members' Judicial Review Application Withdrawal A Vindication For SUPP - Party Sec-Gen**  
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KUCHING, July 26 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) has described the move by seven former members to withdraw their application for a judicial review of the Registrar of Societies (ROS) decision not to de-register the party as a vindication.

SUPP secretary-general, Datuk Dr Sim Kui Hian in a statement received by Bernama tonight, said the withdrawal did not surprise them and they were not convinced by the reasons given by the former members to make such move.

"We are therefore not surprised that the seven applicants decided to withdraw their court action. This withdrawal is a vindication to our party," he said.

According to him, the claim by the seven ex-members - Datuk Dr Jerip Susil, Ranum Mina, Dr Johnical Rayong, Shilling Banggit, Datuk Tiong Thai King, Suzanne Lee and Mr. Sia Jii Ming - that their action was "a show of magnanimity" to let "bygones be bygones", was amusing.

"Having said so many bad things about SUPP and its leadership, we do not think such a statement is convincing at all," he said.

In the application to the Kuala Lumpur High Court, the applicants claimed that in November 2011, prior to the party holding its 22nd Triennial Delegates Conference (TDC 2011), there had been complaints of alleged irregularities and cheating in the party election.

They claimed that they had brought the dispute to ROS but there was a delay by ROS in taking the necessary action.

The applicants had sought, among others, a declaration that the decision made by ROS last April 30 in not de-registering SUPP be revoked with immediate effect.

However, the seven decided to withdraw the application earlier today and in a statement made available by their counsel, they said it was best to discontinue the action as they had joined a new party, namely the United People's Party (UPP).

"Let bygones be bygones and hope that together we all can move on to provide political stability and harmony in Sarawak," they added.

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