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THE

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20th January 2005

The Hon. Ms. Margaret Ng, c/o 10/F., New Henry House. 10 Ice House Street, Central, Hong Kong.

(fax no. 2801 7134)

Dear Margaret,

## Solicitor Corporation Rules

I received the amended draft Solicitor Corporation Rules from the Department of Justice late on 17th January. Whilst the substance of the rules has not been greatly altered, much of the phraseology has been changed so as to accord with current drafting practice. A number of policy issues have arisen and I must therefore refer this to the Law Society committee before I can take the matter forward and submit a further draft to the Chief Justice. In light of this development it does not seem to be a very useful exercise to provide the new draft to the LegCo Panel at this stage.

Accordingly I would be grateful if you would confirm that this matter might be taken off the agenda for the forthcoming LegCo Panel meeting scheduled for 24th January. I appreciate that this is yet a further delay but it does seem unavoidable in the circumstances and I would anticipate that by the end of February at least the Law Society committee will have resolved the points arising from the latest draft.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Moss Secretary General

c.c. Mrs. Percy Ma (fax no. 2509 9055)

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