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**CHIEF JUSTICE'S
WORKING PARTY ON
SOLICITORS' RIGHTS OF AUDIENCE**

7 December 2006

Mrs Percy Ma
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Secretariat
Council Business Division 2
3rd floor Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Ma,

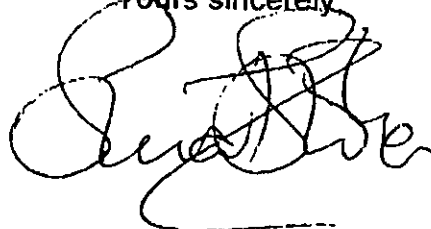
**Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Solicitors' Rights of Audience**

I refer to your letter of 28 November 2006 to the Judiciary Administrator, who has asked me to reply on her behalf.

The original deadline for responses to the Working Party's consultation paper was 31 August 2006, but this was extended at the request of, *inter alia*, the Bar Association and the Law Society until the end of September. The final submission was not received until 23 October 2006. In all, there were some 260 responses, with a large proportion being submitted on one of four different pro-formas which were circulated within the legal profession.

It will obviously take some time for the members of the Working Party to consider such a large number of responses, some of which have made detailed comments on the various issues raised. The Working Party has not yet decided on its methodology for the next stage of the project and it is too early to predict when the Working Party will be in a position to formulate its final recommendations.

Yours sincerely



(Stuart M I Stoker)
Secretary
Working Party on
Solicitors' Rights of Audience

c.c. Judiciary Administrator