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20 May 2009

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I: No.114854

Ms. Flora Tai,  
 Clerk to LegCo Panel  
 on Administration of Justice & Legal Services,  
 Legislative Council Building,  
 8 Jackson Road,  
 Central,  
 Hong Kong.

Dear Ms. Tai,

**PANEL ON ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL SERVICES  
 MEETING ON 25 MAY 2009 - AGENDA ITEM V: LEGAL AID IN  
 CRIMINAL CASES RULES**

Thank you for your letter dated 29 April 2009 to our Secretary General on the above subject.

The Society's Criminal Law & Procedure Committee noted the concern raised by the Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor and welcomes the Government's proposal to review the existing legislation to consider extending the scope of legal aid to cover cases going to the Court of Final Appeal "not" involving a conviction.

We would like to reserve our comments on the draft legislation to be introduced. Having expressed our view, we will not be sending any representative to the 25 May Panel meeting on Agenda Item V.

Yours sincerely,

Christine W. S. Chu  
 Assistant Director of Practitioners Affairs