Letterhead of THE LAWSOCIETY OF HONG KONG

香港律師會的信頭

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Our Ref : Criminal

Your Ref : CB2/BC/10/98

Direct Line

5 March 1999

BY FAX (25099055) AND BY HAND

Mrs. Percy Ma Clerk to Bills Committee Legislative Council Legislative Council Building, 8 Jackson Road, Central, Hong Kong.

Dear Mrs. Ma,

THIEF (AMENDMENT BILL) 1998

Thank you for your letter dated 13 February 1999 to Mr. Patrick Moss, our Secretary General.

The Society's Criminal Law & Procedure Committee has considered your said letter together with the various enclosed documents sent forward. The Committee notes that 3 options have been put forward by the Bills Committee for the consideration of the Administration. On the reasons as previously set forth in the Committee's submissions to the LegCo Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services on 17 November 1998, the Committee supports the adoption of option (a), i.e., to restrict the proposed new offence of fraud to circumstances in which there is financial or proprietary loss or gain and to abolish the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud.

Yours sincerely

Christine W. S. Chu Assistant Director of Practitioners Affairs