



郭榮鏗立法會議員辦事處

Legislative Council Office of the Hon. Dennis Kwok

Dr. Hon Priscilla LEUNG
Chairperson
Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
Legislative Council

By EMAIL only

9 September 2020

Dear Priscilla,

Judicial Independence and recent attacks

The legal profession and fellow citizens have expressed deep concerns over the recent unfounded attacks on the impartiality of various judges and certain internal matters which are within the purview of the Judiciary. Whilst courts are not above challenge or criticism, any such challenge or criticism should be based on objective analysis and facts. To avoid insinuating pressure on judges in the exercise of their judicial functions, government officials of Hong Kong and the Central People's Government should refrain from criticizing judicial decisions. The recent accusations made by state-controlled media and certain Legislative Councillors on members of the judiciary are politically biased and unfounded. These systematic and orchestrated attacks may have significant impact on public confidence in the administration of justice.

In view of the gravity of the matter, I would like to request an urgent meeting of the Panel to address and discuss these issues and its impact on the

rule of law. For a meaningful discussion, I propose inviting the Judiciary Administrator, the Law Society of Hong Kong, and the Bar Association to attend. They are copied herein.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Kwok." The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Dennis Kwok

Member of the Legislative Council

Deputy Chairperson of AJLS

cc: Esther Leung Yuet-yin, Judiciary Administrator
Philip Dykes, SC, Chairman of the Bar Council, Hong Kong Bar
Association
Melissa Pang, President, Law Society of Hong Kong