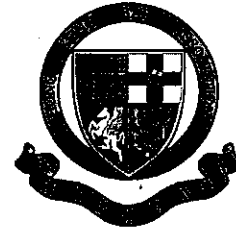




THE
LAW SOCIETY
OF HONG KONG
香港律師會



28 September 2009

Joint Statement by
The Hong Kong Bar Association and The Law Society of Hong Kong

The Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association and the President of the Law Society of Hong Kong have noted the recent sparking of debate about the conviction rate in Hong Kong.

Though the Chairman and the President are disappointed in the way that the debate has been provoked – the matter might, for example, sensibly have been raised within either or both of the professional bodies for barristers and solicitors – the subject of the debate is plainly one worthy of discussion.

Nevertheless, the Chairman and the President agree that any consideration of this topic requires full and proper information (information including but not limited to the correct statistical analysis and comparisons which have so far been unavailable). They have, therefore, requested a specialist committee in each of the Bar Association and the Law Society to consider the matter. It is anticipated that when that process is complete, but not before, the two professional bodies will be able to make an informed and proper contribution to the debate.

Russell Coleman SC
Chairman
Hong Kong Bar Association

Wong Kwai Huen
President
Law Society of Hong Kong