

## Statement by The Law Society of Hong Kong

The Law Society of Hong Kong notes with great concern the comments reported in the media criticising the leniency of judges in handling the protest-related cases and demanding the resignation of the Chief Justice.

The task of the courts is to adjudicate impartially on the legal and factual issues involved in the particular case according to the law, whatever the nature of the controversy and whoever the parties may be. Where a court has ruled on the legal issues in a particular way at first instance, a party dissatisfied with the court's judgment has the avenue of appeal.

The Law Society of Hong Kong is committed to upholding the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary as two of the most important pillars of the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong. We strongly condemn unfounded comments that judicial decisions were made or influenced by political considerations, which are unjustified and damaging to our legal system, and to Hong Kong as a whole.

We have full confidence that the courts will continue to adjudicate cases based on the law.

The Law Society of Hong Kong 13 September 2019