

## Statement by The Law Society of Hong Kong

The Law Society notes with grave concern the media reports on the criminal damage targeted at court buildings on 8 December 2019.

The task of the courts is to adjudicate impartially on the legal and factual issues involved in a 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 may have the avenue of appeal.

Venting dissatisfaction by throwing petrol bombs at court buildings and vandalising property must be abhorred. Those who committed these criminal acts must stop taking the law into their own hands. These acts will not help resolve any problem.

The rule of law is one of the greatest strengths of Hong Kong. The Law Society is fully committed to upholding the rule of law and we strongly condemn all attempts to undermine respect for judicial integrity and independence.

The Law Society of Hong Kong 9 December 2019