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OFFICIAL RECEIVER  
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Our ref.: GA/27/8/1 II

18 January 2002

**BY FAX & POST**  
**[2845 0387]**

Mr. Patrick Moss  
Secretary General  
The Law Society of Hong Kong  
3/F, Wing On House  
71 Des Voeux Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Patrick,

**Re: Call Over Hearings for Winding Up and  
Bankruptcy Petitions**

As you may know, it has been the long standing practice of the Official Receiver's Office (ORO) to have its lawyers in attendance at the call over hearings for the Winding up and Bankruptcy petitions.

The past few years have witnessed a tremendous surge in the numbers of people declaring themselves bankrupt. This has resulted in a significant rise in the number of call over hearings and this has stretched the resources of the ORO to the limit.

Following discussions with the Registrar of the Court of First Instance, it has been agreed that solicitors from the ORO will be excused from attending the call over hearings save for those cases which are adjourned to the Companies and Bankruptcy judges for further argument and are usually scheduled for the Monday of each week. Solicitors from the ORO will continue to attend these hearings.

Solicitors from this office will also attend those cases on the Wednesday and Thursday lists which are adjourned to 11:30 a.m. on the same day because the court requires further argument from the parties concerned and legal input from the ORO is necessary.

I would be grateful if you could circulate details of the new arrangements to your colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

(Eamonn O'Connell)  
Official Receiver