



THE SCOTTISH LEGAL AID BOARD

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Criminal Legal Assistance

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Please quote the department above and
Our reference: OM/lw

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14 January 2010

Dear Sir

GUIDANCE ON SANCTION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF COUNSEL IN CRIMINAL APPLICATIONS

Regulation 14 of the Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) Regulations 1996 details the situations where the prior approval of the Board is required for the employment of senior and junior counsel. The regulation does not set out any criteria for approval.

The current guidance on sanction for employment of counsel was issued to the profession in December 2005 following external consultation. It is appropriate that this guidance is reviewed and updated.

To this end, we have drafted the enclosed "Guidance on Sanction for Employment of Counsel in Criminal Applications". Before we begin to implement this guidance, we would welcome any views that you may have in this connection. We will take your views into account before we finalise and publish the guidance.

Written comments should be sent to the following address by [insert 8 week date] 2010:

Response to Sanction Guidance
Criminal Legal Assistance Department
The Scottish Legal Aid Board
44 Drumsheugh Gardens
Edinburgh
EH3 7SW

Alternatively, you can send your response
by:

Legal Post to: LP2 Edinburgh 7
Hays DX to: DX ED555250 Edinburgh 30
Email to: mullanow@slab.org.uk

Copies of the consultation paper are also available on the Board's website at www.slab.org.uk. If you have any queries on the paper, please contact: Owen Mullan, Head of Criminal Legal Services, direct telephone 0131 240 1898 or email mullanow@slab.org.uk.

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