

16 September 2019

Hon Aupito William Sio
Associate Minister of Justice
Parliament
Wellington

By email only: a.sio@ministers.govt.nz


Dear Associate Minister

Re: Consultation on proposals to amend the Jury Rules 1990

Thank you for your letter of 21 August 2019, inviting feedback on minor and technical amendments to the Jury Rules 1990, in accordance with section 35(2) of the Juries Act 1981.

The New Zealand Law Society has no objection to the proposed draft Jury Amendment Rules 2019. In particular, the Law Society agrees that the amendment to the juror's oath, requiring jurors to expressly agree to decide the case according to the evidence presented in court, and not to undertake their own investigations or research, is appropriate. That amendment is consistent with the changes recently introduced by section 13 of the Contempt of Court Act 2019.

Yours sincerely



Tiana Epati
President