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7 December 2016

His Hon Judge Powell Auckland District Court Judge's Chambers CX10024 Auckland

By email: Vicki.Reddick@justice.govt.nz

Dear Judge

Guidelines to Practice and Procedure for Accident Compensation Appeals

The Law Society's ACC Committee appreciates the opportunity to consider the revised draft Guidelines to Practice and Procedure for ACC Appeals (draft Guidelines).

We have not identified any issues of concern in the draft Guidelines, but it has been suggested that consideration of whether mediation is appropriate should become part of the appeals procedure (perhaps at the Initial Case Management Conference stage). Currently, mediation and settlement occur after submissions have been filed, and a good deal of client cost and court time could be saved if this occurred earlier in the piece.

With regard to a representative for the informal rules committee, Phil Schmidt of the ACC Committee has volunteered for this role. His email address is phil@schmidtpeart.co.nz.

Yours sincerely

Don Rennie

Convenor, ACC Committee