



# Law Society of Saskatchewan

## ADMINISTRATION

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March 27, 2012

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. George Laliberte  
211 Avenue R South  
Saskatoon SK S7M 2Y9

Dear Mr. Laliberte:

**Re: Complaint against Timothy Wayne Froese**  
**Our File: 80-11818**

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 28, 2012. We have forwarded a copy of your letter to Timothy Wayne Froese requesting a written response and shall contact you again in due course.

I advise that we have forwarded the file contents to the Designate Complaints Counsel for his review.

In situations where a complaint is made against a Benchers, member of a Benchers' firm, or a member of the Law Society staff, the Law Society appoints Designate Complaint Officers pursuant to section 40 of *The Legal Profession Act 1990*. As Timothy Froese is a member of a Benchers' law firm, I am referring this matter out of our office.

As such, John McIntosh, Q.C., is acting as Designate Complaints Officer in this matter, and I have forwarded a copy of your letter to Mr. McIntosh for his review in his capacity as Designate Complaints Officer. John McIntosh is a lawyer in private practice in Swift Current. In his role as Designate Complaints Officer for the Law Society, Mr. McIntosh will handle your complaint as a confidential Law Society matter, and will contact you directly if he requires further information.

Please find enclosed a Complaints Process handout to assist you in understanding the Law Society's complaints process.

Yours truly,



**DONNA SIGMETH, Q.C.**  
**Complaints Counsel**

DRS/dlh  
Enclosure



# The Law Society of Saskatchewan

*MISSION STATEMENT: To govern the legal profession by upholding high standards, competence and integrity; ensuring the independence of the profession; advancing the administration of justice, the profession and the rule of law, all in the public interest.*

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## COMPLAINTS PROCESS

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is the governing body of the legal profession in Saskatchewan. Among its responsibilities are the investigation and determination of complaints regarding the conduct of lawyers practising in the Province.

Inquiries received about the conduct of lawyers are reviewed by the Complaints Counsel. Although a wide variety of concerns are investigated, the Law Society of Saskatchewan does not have the jurisdiction to:

- (i) Deal with fee disputes between you and your lawyer. You will be advised of the taxation process through the Courts.
- (ii) Obtain compensation from your lawyer as a result of a financial loss you have suffered. You will be advised that you may have a civil claim against the lawyer.
- (iii) Give legal advice or provide you with a lawyer.

If the Law Society does have jurisdiction, we will require details of your complaint in writing. A copy of your letter of complaint will be forwarded to the lawyer, who will be asked to respond within 10 days to the Law Society to explain the circumstances which resulted in the complaint. If a response from the lawyer is not forthcoming, the Law Society may initiate disciplinary proceedings on the lawyer's failure to reply.

Once the lawyer's response is received, it will be evaluated by the Complaints Counsel and, in most cases, a copy will be forwarded to you for further comment. We appreciate receiving your response within 14 days to avoid delays in the handling of the

complaint. After this exchange of correspondence has been completed, the Complaints Counsel will review the file material and determine what, if any, further steps are required. In some cases, the complaint may involve some unfulfilled task or other problem that can be readily dealt with by the lawyer. In these circumstances, the Law Society may attempt to resolve the problem through mediation.

After the necessary information has been obtained and considered, the Complaints Counsel will take one of the following courses of action:

- (i) Your complaint will be forwarded to the Discipline, Professional Standards or Ethics for further review and directions.
- (ii) Close the file for lack of evidence of unprofessional or unethical conduct.

You will be given the opportunity to apply for a review of the Complaints Counsel's decision not to take further action, in which case your file will be forwarded to the Complainants' Review Committee for their further review and directions.

We take all complaints seriously and attempt to deal with them as expeditiously as possible. We would advise that the discipline process of the Law Society is not confidential. Hearings are open to the public and materials received by the Law Society will be forwarded to the lawyer. If you have any concerns about the subsequent use of these materials, please contact the Law Society to determine whether privilege or confidentiality requirements may apply.

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