

SJ to visit Guangzhou and Shenzhen

The Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, will lead a delegation comprising 20 representatives from the Hong Kong legal sector to depart tomorrow (June 8) for a visit to Guangzhou and Shenzhen, with a view to further promoting Hong Kong-Guangdong and Shenzhen-Hong Kong co-operation on legal matters, and contributing to the building of the rule of law in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA).

This is Mr Lam's first visit to the Mainland cities in the GBA since taking office. Mr Lam and the delegation will call on the People's Government of Guangdong Province, the Guangzhou Intellectual Property Court, the Guangzhou Internet Court, the Nansha International Arbitration Centre, the First International Commercial Court of the Supreme People's Court and the Shenzhen Qianhai Cooperation Zone People's Court. Mr Lam will also meet with senior officials of the High People's Court of Guangdong Province and the Shenzhen Intermediate People's Court, and visit the headquarters of Tencent.

In addition, the delegation will participate in roundtable meetings respectively with the Guangzhou Intellectual Property Court and the Shenzhen Qianhai Cooperation Zone People's Court to exchange views and explore further co-operation on important issues of mutual interest such as the latest developments in the law on intellectual property rights in the Mainland and Hong Kong, the implementation of the initiative of allowing Hong Kong enterprises to adopt Hong Kong law and the practical issues relating to the proof of Hong Kong laws in Hong Kong-related cases.

Mr Lam said that the objective of this visit is to lead the representatives of the Hong Kong legal sector to see for themselves and further understand the latest developments in the Mainland legal system and the role and opportunities of the GBA as the leading area on China's path to modernisation. It is hoped that the relevant visits and thematic exchanges will create favourable conditions for the legal sector to share their practical experience with Mainland stakeholders and to jointly explore how the Hong Kong legal sector can further contribute to the high-quality development of the GBA and the country, so as to achieve mutual benefits through synergised co-operation.

The deputy heads of the delegation are Mr Victor Dawes, SC, Chairman of the Hong Kong Bar Association, and Mr Chan Chak-ming, President of the Law Society of Hong Kong. Members of the delegation are composed of the Deputy Director of Intellectual Property, Mr Thomas Tsang, representatives from the Hong Kong Bar Association, the Law Society of Hong Kong, the Department of Justice and the Intellectual Property Department.

Mr Lam will conclude his visit and return to Hong Kong on June 10. During Mr Lam's absence, the Deputy Secretary for Justice, Mr Cheung Kwok-kwan, will be the Acting Secretary for Justice.