Statement by Department of Justice

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government will not tolerate any illegal or violent acts. The arsons outside the Court of Final Appeal and High Court Building today (December 8) not only disrupted social peace, but also undermined Hong Kong's reputation as a city governed by the rule of law. Arson is a serious offence which poses a threat to the lives and properties of the public. The maximum penalty upon conviction is life imprisonment. Members of the public are urged not to break the law.

The Department of Justice appeals to the public to respect the rule of law. The Government will not condone any acts of sabotage against the Judiciary or damage to the rule of law.