

2.16 Deputy T.M. Pitman of the Solicitor General regarding allegations of fraud against lawyers.

Given that in other walks of life attempting to extract monies by submitting invoices/claims for work not carried out by individuals could be classed as attempted fraud, can allegations of fraud be brought by the public against lawyers or is the only available recourse via a disciplinary hearing with the Law Society?

The Solicitor General:

The deliberate submission of a false invoice in order to dishonestly obtain monies that are in fact not due is, in my view, an attempted fraud. The criminal law applies to lawyers just as much as anyone else.

Deputy T.M. Pitman:

That was an excellent answer and I must thank the Solicitor General for it.