LawSocietyofAlberta

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Media Statement

Correction to Inaccuracies in Media Coverage Regarding Ezra Levant

For Immediate Release
Thursday, February 25, 2016

Calgary, Alberta - The Law Society of Alberta would like to correct inaccurate information reported by the media regarding a disciplinary hearing scheduled for Mr. Ezra Levant next week in Calgary. The media reported that Mr. Levant's application to resign would be the equivalent of being disbarred. This reference is inaccurate.

Under the *Legal Profession Act*, a lawyer can leave the profession in the following ways:

- Resignation (deemed disbarment) under Section 61 of the *Act* – where a lawyer acknowledges that his conduct was so egregious that it warrants disbarment.
- Resignation under Section 32 of the *Act* – where a lawyer is allowed to resign from the profession when there are no outstanding conduct issues, or no outstanding conduct issues that would warrant disbarment.

In this specific situation, Mr. Levant is applying to resign from the profession under Section 32 of the *Act*.

A three-person committee selected from the Law Society's board of directors will consider his request. They will not be acting as adjudicators and will not be making a finding of guilt, or not, on any outstanding conduct issues. This is because this type of resignation is an administrative process and not a conduct related process.

However, because Mr. Levant has outstanding conduct issues, he will be asked by the committee to address them. The committee will then consider whether it is in the best interest of the public to grant Mr. Levant's application.

For further information on our responsibilities as the regulator of the legal profession in Alberta, please view our website.

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Contact:
Ally Taylor, Manager, Communications
403.229.4744
feedback@lawsociety.ab.ca

The Law Society serves the public interest by promoting a high standard of legal services and professional conduct through the regulation of an independent legal profession in Alberta.