

25 September 2019

**South African Law Reform Commission** 

Attention: Mr Nelson Matibe

Mr Chris Masibulele Mfunzana

Email: reform@justice.gov.za

**Dear Sirs** 

PROPOSAL REQUESTING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

1. We approach the South African Law Reform Commission on a matter which we believe is important for the administration of justice in South Africa, particularly at a time when the effects of the shortcomings of the criminal justice system have become manifestly clear.

2. Our request is that the South African Law Reform Commission conduct a review and investigation into various pieces of legislation which provide for the appointment and removal of the heads of the South African criminal justice system institutions, as well as recommend alternative legal provisions through a comprehensive comparative legal study. We attach our detailed submission to this letter.

3. We believe that in order to restore and ensure confidence in the delivery of criminal justice, a necessary set of pre-conditions should be addressed, namely:

3.1. to ensure that the appointment of heads of criminal justice system institutions are fit to hold office;

3.2. to provide security of tenure in order to retain the independence of those offices; and

3.3. to hold the incumbents accountable for their performance in office.

Yours faithfully

**Francis Antonie** 

Director Director: Francis Antonie

Trustees: Cecily Carmona • Max du Plessis • Cora Hoexter • Nick Jonsson • Daniel Jowell • Temba Nolutshungu • Kalim Rajab • Gary Ralfe • Rosemary Smuts • Richard Steyn • Phila Zulu

Patrons: Prof. Thuli Madonsela • Lord Robin Renwick