



Press release: 26 September 2008: For immediate release

**LAW SOCIETY WELCOMES APPOINTMENT OF NEW
MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) – which represents South Africa’s 18 200 attorneys – welcomes the appointment of the new Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Enver Surty.

‘The LSSA looks forward to meeting the new Minister at his earliest convenience so as to bring him up to date with developments in the attorneys’ profession, particularly issues of seminal importance such as the Legal Practice Bill,’ say LSSA Co-Chairpersons, Max Boqwana and CP Fourie.

The LSSA envisages cooperating with the Minister in ensuring that the Bill will transform the governance and regulation of the profession by promoting, on a national basis, a unified regulatory regime for both attorneys and advocates. The aim is to secure, in so far as it is practicable, uniformity, simplicity and efficiency in the practice of law, in the governance of the legal profession as a whole and in the administration of justice.

‘A strong, unified legal profession is imperative to protect South Africa’s constitutional democracy, as well as the independence of both the judiciary and the legal profession; in promoting greater access to justice for the public and to the profession by more practitioners, particularly previously disadvantaged practitioners; and in promoting transparency so as to enhance greater public confidence in the legal profession,’ say the Co-Chairpersons.

***ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH
AFRICA***

by Barbara Whittle, Communication Manager, Law Society of South Africa

Tel: Barbara Whittle (012) 366 8800 or 083 380 1307

E-mail: barbara@lssa.org.za Website: www.lssa.org.za

Editor’s note:

The Law Society of South Africa brings together its six constituent members – the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces, the Black Lawyers Association and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers – in representing South Africa’s 18 200 attorneys and 4 700 candidate attorneys.

In Afrikaans items, please refer to the ‘Prokureursorde van Suid-Afrika’.