

# CRIMINAL BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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## **Notice of NZ CBA Special General Meeting**

Notice is hereby given of the Criminal Bar Association's Special General Meeting (SGM) to be held online via Zoom on Wednesday 4 December 2024 at 1.15pm. This Special General Meeting is being held for members of the Criminal Bar Association to vote on the resolutions below about taking part in industrial action. The Zoom link will be provided to members of the CBA at the email addresses they provided to the CBA when registering as members of the CBA. The Zoom link will be sent to all CBA members on the morning of 4 December 2024. Voting will take place via an online poll between 1.15pm-5.15pm that day. The resolutions are:

### **Resolution 1 – call upon the government**

The Criminal Bar Association of NZ ("CBA") calls upon the Government to address the crisis in the provision of criminal legal aid and duty lawyer services in NZ with urgency. The CBA calls for the following immediate changes to be made:

- 1) Increase the 1999 guideline hourly criminal legal aid rates and duty lawyer rates to their 2024 equivalent on a wage inflation – adjusted basis;
- 2) Commit to inflation – adjust all legal aid rates every second year in accordance with the previous two years' wage inflation.

Vote: For/Against/Abstain

### **Resolution 2- PAL 1 and 2 and Duty Lawyer industrial action**

The CBA calls upon all criminal legal aid and duty lawyers to make themselves unavailable both to receive new PAL 1 and 2 assignments (other than Parole matters) and to be on the duty lawyer roster for the entire week beginning with the first Sunday of every month starting in the first week of April 2025; and authorises the committee of the CBA to assist with the coordination of this withdrawal of services.

Vote: For/Against/Abstain

### **Resolution 3 – no industrial action**

The CBA does not authorise the committee of the CBA to assist with the coordination of any withdrawal of duty lawyer and/or criminal legal aid services. The CBA instructs the CBA committee to continue to lobby Government and engage in a media campaign for increased hourly criminal legal aid and duty lawyer rates.

Vote: For/Against/Abstain