



House of Commons
London W1A 0AA,
28th April 2016

Dear David Lammy, M.P.

Re: Review of racial discrimination and bias in the Criminal Justice System.

As BAME organisations concerned with the equality of opportunity and the treatment of our members and communities, we request that you call an urgent meeting of BAME Judges and separately a meeting for BAME Magistrates to discuss the existence and solutions to judicial discrimination and bias. This is as we understand within the terms of reference of your review. (see press release attached).

This meeting should be conducted under the "Chatham House Rules" to ensure complete confidentiality, as members may feel unwilling to disclose their personal thoughts and experiences. It is anticipated that all BAME legal groups and other BAME groups will have an opportunity to express a view and put forward a joint position on the solutions.

The meeting should be able to accommodate up to 75 people and permit those from outside of London to make the journey. We are confident that it should also include our personal experience of conduct, recruitment, retention and promotion. It is our understanding that this is a cross party initiative that will report sometime next year.

The various BAME legal groups and other BAME organisations that are listed here will use their best endeavours to promote and advertise the meeting. We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Kind regards,

D Peter Herbert O.B.E.

On behalf of the Society of Black Lawyers and the undersigned organisations

Cc: BLAKSOX
Operation Black Vote (OBV)
The Association of Muslim Lawyers (AML)
The Nigerian Lawyers Forum (NLF)
Black Activists Rising Against Cuts (BARAC)
Association of Black Probation Officers (ABPO)
National Black Police Association (NBPA)
BTA
YOUTH JUSTICE CONSORTIUM