

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024

HMCTS

# lccsa

London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association

Dear HMCTS

We understand there was a serious incident involving court security officers and a solicitor acting as duty at Stratford Magistrates' Court yesterday, as a result of which the solicitor was injured. We also understand that police officers present in the building were called upon to intervene. Based on the reports we have received, we are seriously concerned and appalled at the alleged behaviour of the security officers involved. Given the seriousness of the alleged incident and the already documented history of complaints against security staff at Stratford Magistrates' Court (which are already the subject of an official complaint by this association), we have no confidence at the moment that those tasked with ensuring the safety of our members and colleagues at this court are capable of doing so. We therefore demand the immediate suspension from duty of all the security officers involved in the incident pending a full, independent investigation into the facts.

Should these security officers continue to work at this court, we may recommend to our members that they do not attend Stratford Magistrates' Court until this situation has been resolved.

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