

SJ on report of internal investigation into Marine Department in relation to vessel collision incident near Lamma Island in 2012

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Justice, Mr Rimsky Yuen, SC, today (April 25) after attending a seminar on constitutional reform consultation:

Reporter: Can you explain why disclosing the entire report would jeopardise the criminal investigation when no one is even being indicted?

Secretary for Justice: The answer is very simple. We have to bear in mind several aspects. The first aspect is the investigation. Because, as I just said in Cantonese earlier, police are in the course of investigation. So to disclose the report would facilitate people who might be investigated to do something about the testimony eventually that they are going to give. And also, the course of investigation is yet to be completed, we cannot at this stage exclude the possibility that there would be criminal proceedings in court in the future, in which case not only the suspects' evidence might be affected, not only their right to fair trial would be affected, the credibility of the witnesses' testimony would also be affected.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)

Ends/Friday, April 25, 2014