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Cabinet Secretary for Justice  
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The Honourable Lord Drummond Young  
Chairman  
Scottish Law Commission  
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23 May 2012

Dear Lord Drummond Young,

I write to put on record my thanks and appreciation for the Commission's completion of my 2007 reference on Crown Appeals, Double Jeopardy, and Similar Fact Evidence.

As you will recall, the reference was agreed following the collapse of the World's End murder case during a time that many were questioning the effectiveness of several aspects of the Scottish justice system. Your thorough, well thought out, and impartial recommendations have provided a platform that has allowed us to examine and reform these aspects of the system.

The first two parts of the reference have, of course, already been enacted through the Criminal Justice and Licensing Scotland Act (2010) and the Double Jeopardy (Scotland) Act 2011.

My intention now is for the Scottish Government to take time and consider your final report, with a view to legislating for change at an appropriate opportunity.

My thanks once again for undertaking this work.

**KENNY MACASKILL**