

## **The Professional Regulation Division**

**Quarterly Report** 

January - March 2013

#### The Quarterly Report

The Quarterly Report provides a summary of the Professional Regulation Division's activities and achievements during the past quarter, January 1 to March 31, 2013. The purpose of the Quarterly Report is to provide information on the production and work of the Division during the quarter, to explain the factors that may have influenced the Division's performance, and to provide a description of exceptional or unusual projects or events in the period.

#### **The Professional Regulation Division**

Professional Regulation is responsible for responding to complaints against licensees, including the resolution, investigation and prosecution of complaints which are within the jurisdiction provided under the *Law Society Act*. In addition the Professional Regulation provides trusteeship services for the practices of licensees who are incapacitated by legal or health reasons. Professional Regulation also includes the Compensation Fund which compensates clients for losses suffered as a result of the wrongful acts of licensees.

See Appendices for a case flow chart describing the complaints process as well as a description of the Professional Regulation division processes and organization.

#### **INDEX**

| Pa   | age         |
|--|-------------|
| Section 1 – Report Highlights  | 5           |
| Highlights of Quarterly Performance  | 6           |
| The Division   | 6           |
| Complaints Resolution  | 6           |
| Investigations   | 6           |
| Discipline and Hearings  | 6           |
| Section 2 – Divisional Performance During the Quarter  | 7           |
| PERFORMANCE IN THE PROFESSIONAL REULGATION DIVISION  | 8           |
| Graph 2A: Complaints Received in the Division  | 8           |
| Graph 2B: Complaints Closed in the Division  | 9           |
| Graph 2C: Total Inventory  | 10          |
| SECTION 3 – DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE DURING THE QUARTER  | 11          |
| 3.1 – Intake   | 12          |
| Graph 3.1A: Input  | 12          |
| Graph 3.1B: Complaints Closed and Transferred Out  | 13          |
| Graph 3.1C: Department Inventory   | 14          |
| Graph 3.1D: Median Age of Complaints   | 15          |
| 3.2 – Complaints Resolution  | 16          |
| Graph 3.2A: Input  | 16          |
| Graph 3.2B: Complaints Closed and Transferred Out  | 17          |
| Graph 3.2C: Department Inventory   | 18          |
| Graph 3.2D: Median Age of Complaints   | 19          |
| Graph 3.2E: Aging of Complaints  | 20          |
| 3.3 - Investigations   | 21          |
| Graph 3.3A: Input  | 21          |
| Graph 3.3B: Complaints Closed and Transferred Out  | 22          |
| Graph 3.3C: Department Inventory   | 23          |
| Graph 3.3D: Median Age of Complaints   | 24          |
| Graph 3.3E: Aging of Complaints – Core Cases and Mortgage Fraud Cases  | 25          |
| 3.4 - Unauthorized Practice (UAP)  | 27          |
| Graph 3.4A: Unauthorized Practice Complaints in Intake   | 27          |
| Graph 3.4B: Unauthorized Practice Investigations (in Complaints Resolution & Investigation Graph 3.4C: UAP Enforcement Actions | s) 28<br>28 |

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| 3.5 – Complaints Review Commissioner                            | 29   |
| Graph 3.5A: Reviews Requested and Files Reviewed (by Quarter)   | 29   |
| Graph 3.5B: Status of Files Reviewed in each Quarter            | 29   |
| Graph 3.5C: Decisions Rendered, by Quarter and Active Inventory | 30   |
| 3.6 - Discipline  | 31   |
| Graph 3.6A: Input   | 31   |
| Graph 3.6B: Department Inventory                                | 32   |
| Graph 3.6C: Notices Issued                                      | 33   |
| Graph 3.6D: Completed Matters                                   | 34   |
| Graph 3.6E: Appeals   | 35   |
| Section 5 – Appendices  | 36   |
| The Professional Regulation Complaint Process                   | 37   |
| Professional Regulation Organization Chart                      | 38   |

# SECTION 1 REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Highlights of Quarterly Performance**

#### The Division

During the first three months of 2013, Professional Regulation received 1287 new complaints. This was a 6% increase when compared with the same period in 2012 and a 12% increase from the fourth quarter of 2012.

In the same period, Professional Regulation closed 1177 complaint files. As the division received more complaints than were closed, the inventory increased by 217 complaints during the period to 3391 cases.

#### **Complaints Resolution**

The input of complaints into this department is increasing overall. The department's intake of new cases was unusually high in the last quarter of 2012, based on an internal revision of the case transfer process, however in the first quarter of 2013, intake of new cases has continued to be higher than the yearly trend in 2012. As a result of the increased intake, the department's inventory has increased to 1045 cases. The median age of the inventory continues to be within the targeted range at 151 days.

#### Investigations Department

Investigations received 400 new cases in the first quarter of 2013, 32% more than in the same period in 2012. While the department also completed more cases than in the same period in 2012, the high number of new cases resulted in a 6.7% increase in inventory. The median age of the inventory continues to be lower than target at 229 days.

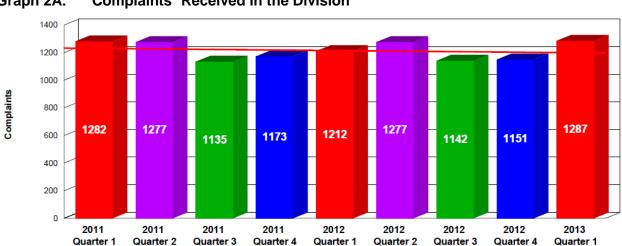
#### Discipline and Hearings

The inventory of cases for prosecution in the Discipline department continues to be high at 595 cases relating to 211 licensees or applicants at the end of Q1 2013. There were 41 notices issued to commence proceedings in the first quarter, with 27 hearings completed, and 7 new appeals launched.

## **SECTION 2**

## **DIVISIONAL PERFORMANCE DURING THE QUARTER**

#### PERFORMANCE IN THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION DIVISION



Complaints<sup>1</sup> Received in the Division Graph 2A:

The number of new complaints received in the first quarter of 2013 increased by approximately 12% when compared to the number received in Q4 2012 (1287 vs. 1151); the number was approximately the same as the number of new complaints received in the first quarter of 2011. The analysis of new complaints received (below) shows that, in Q1 2013, complaints against lawyers and licensed paralegals increased while the number of complaints against nonlicensees/non-applicants decreased from the number received in Q4 2012.

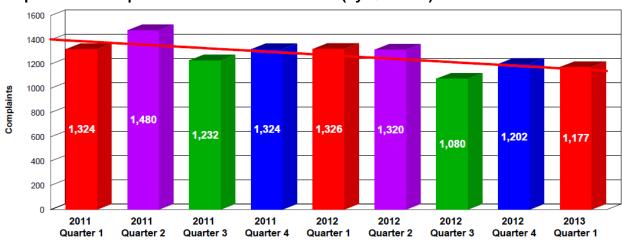
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaints Received in the Division**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                       | 997     | 944     | 942     | 937     | 1013    |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                          | 5       | 59      | 27      | 8       | 18      |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals           | 110     | 143     | 118     | 109     | 160     |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                       | 29      | 80      | 20      | 26      | 29      |
| Complaints against Non-Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 71      | 51      | 35      | 71      | 65      |
| TOTAL  | 1212    | 1277    | 1142    | 1151    | 1287    |

Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes all complaints received in PRD from Complaints Services.



**Graph 2B:** Complaints Closed<sup>2</sup> in the Division (by Quarters)

The number of cases closed in the Division in Q1 2013 decreased by 2% from the number of cases closed in Q4 2012.

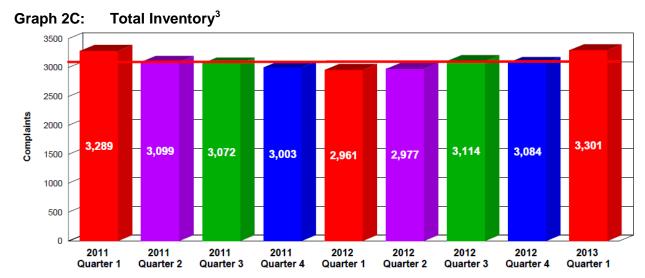
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaints Closed in the Division**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                       | 1109    | 1015    | 827     | 981     | 946     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                          | 5       | 56      | 16      | 11      | 13      |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals           | 118     | 113     | 139     | 116     | 105     |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                       | 36      | 56      | 39      | 32      | 37      |
| Complaints against Non-Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 58      | 80      | 59      | 62      | 76      |
| TOTAL  | 1326    | 1320    | 1080    | 1202    | 1177    |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP ccomplaints see section 3.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This graph includes all complaints closed in Intake, Complaints Resolution, Investigations and Discipline.



The value in each bar represents the Inventory at the end of the period

The inventory in the Division at the end of Q1 2013 was approximately 7% higher than at the end of 2012 but comparable to the inventory in the Division at the end of Q1 2011. The breakdown of the inventory in the chart below demonstrates that increases have occurred in the inventory of complaints against lawyers, licensed paralegals and cases involving lawyer applicants.

#### **Detailed Analysis of Division Inventory**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                       | 2419    | 2400    | 2571    | 2546    | 2711    |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                          | 18      | 21      | 34      | 31      | 37      |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals           | 303     | 337     | 331     | 322     | 378     |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                       | 64      | 86      | 66      | 60      | 55      |
| Complaints against Non-Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 157     | 133     | 112     | 125     | 120     |
| TOTAL  | 2961    | 2977    | 3114    | 3084    | 3301    |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

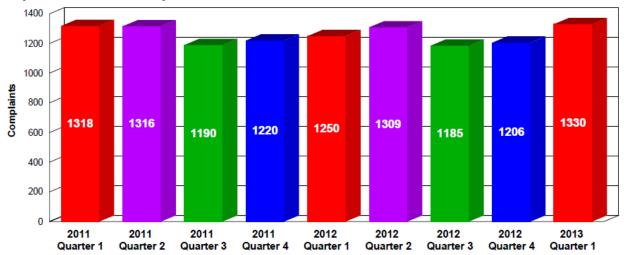
<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP ccomplaints see section 3.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This graph does not include active complaints in the Monitoring & Enforcement Department.

## **SECTION 3**

## DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE DURING THE QUARTER

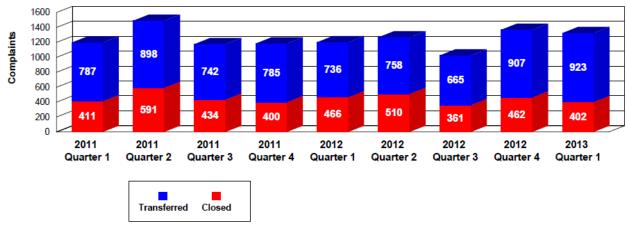
Graph 3.1A: Intake - Input<sup>4</sup>



The Intake department processes all new regulatory complaints. In Q1 2013, in addition to the 1287 new cases, Intake re-opened 43 complaints which met the threshold for re-opening a closed matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes new complaints received and re-opened complaints

**Graph 3.1B: Intake - Complaints Closed and Transferred Out** 



In Q1 2013, Intake completed 1325 cases, which represents a 3% decrease over the number of cases completed by the department in Q4 2012 (1369).

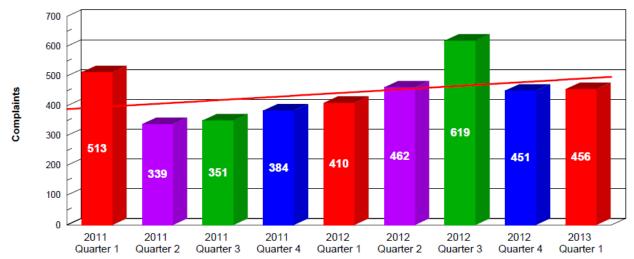
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaints Closed and Transferred From Intake**

|                                   |             | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 407     | 360     | 278     | 386     | 327     |
| Lawyers                           | Transferred | 598     | 583     | 549     | 734     | 737     |
| Lawyer Applicant                  | Closed      | 1       | 47      | 10      | 3       | 2       |
| Cases★                            | Transferred | 3       | 11      | 19      | 4       | 17      |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 26      | 38      | 42      | 32      | 28      |
| Licensed Paralegals               | Transferred | 70      | 97      | 62      | 116     | 108     |
| Paralegal Applicant               | Closed      | 18      | 40      | 14      | 8       | 13      |
| Cases ★                           | Transferred | 11      | 29      | 19      | 18      | 15      |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 14      | 25      | 17      | 33      | 32      |
| Non-Licensees/Non-<br>Applicants* | Transferred | 54      | 38      | 16      | 35      | 46      |
| TOTAL                             | Closed      | 466     | 510     | 361     | 462     | 402     |
| 101712                            | Transferred | 736     | 758     | 665     | 907     | 923     |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP ccomplaints see section 3.4.

**Graph 3.1 C: Intake - Department Inventory** 



The value in each bar represents the Inventory at the end of the period

While the department's inventory remained stable over the past quarter, the graph demonstrates an increase in inventory over the past two years. As noted in the chart below, Intake's inventory at the end of the quarter consisted mostly of complaints against lawyers.

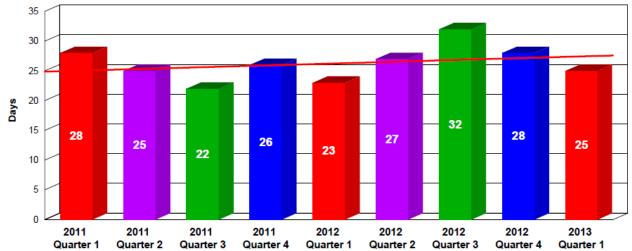
#### **Detailed Analysis of Intake Inventory**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                           | 347     | 389     | 541     | 399     | 387     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                              | 1       | 2       | 1       | 2       | 1       |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals               | 40      | 52      | 66      | 32      | 56      |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                           | 2       | 13      | 0       | 0       | 1       |
| Complaints against Non-<br>Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 20      | 6       | 11      | 18      | 11      |
| TOTAL  | 410     | 462     | 619     | 451     | 456     |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

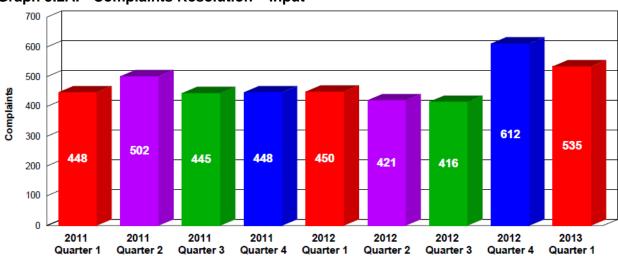
<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

**Graph 3.1D: Intake - Median Age of Complaints** 



The value in each bar represents the Median Age at the end of the period

Intake's median age is below the department's 30-day target, indicating a timely case process.



**Graph 3.2A:** Complaints Resolution – Input<sup>5</sup>

The input of cases into Complaints Resolution in Q1 2013 decreased by approximately 13% from the number received in Q4 2012 (612) however, it increased by 19% from the number received in the same period last year (450 in Q1 2012).

#### **Detailed Analysis of New and Re-opened Complaints in Complaints Resolution**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                           | 418     | 393     | 377     | 548     | 492     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                              | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals               | 32      | 28      | 39      | 64      | 43      |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                           | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against Non-<br>Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| TOTAL  | 450     | 421     | 416     | 612     | 535     |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes new complaints received into the department as well as complaints re-opened during the Quarter.

600 500 Complaints 400 13 300 528 512 496 468 460 438 421 418 200 384 100 2011 2011 2011 2011 2012 2012 2012 2012 2013 Quarter 1 Quarter 2 Quarter 3 Quarter 4 Quarter 1 Quarter 2 Quarter 3 Quarter 4 Quarter 1

**Graph 3.2B: Complaints Resolution - Complaints Closed and Transferred Out** 



The number of cases completed in Q1 2013 by Complaints Resolution (445) decreased by 2% over the number of cases completed in Q4 2012 (455).

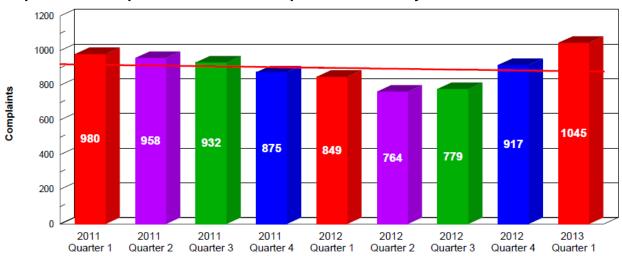
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaints Closed and Transferred From Complaints Resolution**

|                                   |             | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 423     | 465     | 357     | 378     | 379     |
| Lawyers                           | Transferred | 16      | 15      | 13      | 31      | 24      |
| Lawyer Applicant                  | Closed      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Cases★                            | Transferred | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 45      | 31      | 27      | 43      | 39      |
| Licensed Paralegals               | Transferred | 1       | 4       | 0       | 3       | 3       |
| Paralegal Applicant               | Closed      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Cases★                            | Transferred | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Non-Licensees/Non-<br>Applicants* | Transferred | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| TOTAL                             | Closed      | 468     | 496     | 384     | 421     | 418     |
| . O.AL                            | Transferred | 17      | 19      | 13      | 34      | 27      |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

**Graph 3.2C: Complaints Resolution – Department Inventory** 



The value in each bar represents the Inventory at the end of the period

At the end of Q1 2013, the department's inventory was 14% higher than at the end of Q4 2012. The inventory continues to consist mostly of complaints against lawyers.

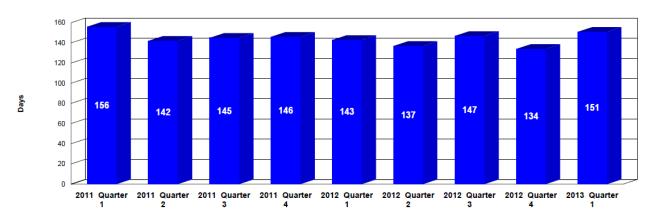
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaint Resolution's Inventory**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                           | 786     | 708     | 709     | 830     | 957     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                              | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals               | 63      | 56      | 70      | 87      | 88      |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                           | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Complaints against Non-<br>Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| TOTAL  | 849     | 764     | 779     | 917     | 1045    |

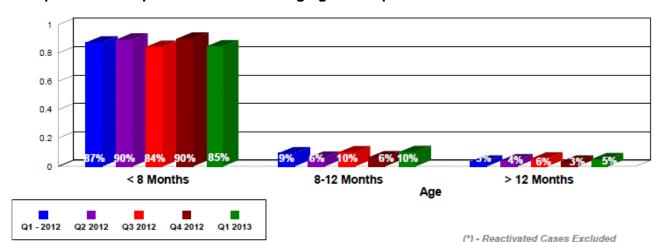
<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP ccomplaints see section 3.4.

**Graph 3.2D: Complaints Resolution - Median Age of Complaints** 



While the department's median age increased from the previous quarter, it remains within the department's target range of 150-170 days.



**Graph 3.2E: Complaints Resolution – Aging of Complaints** 

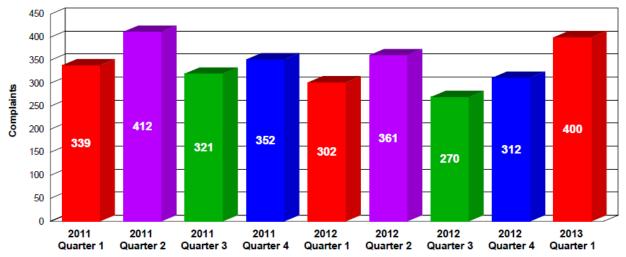
The above graph sets out the spectrum of aging in the department's inventory (excluding reactivated cases) at the end of each of the 5 quarters displayed. Excluding reactivated cases, Complaints Resolution's department inventory was 959 cases involving 834 subjects. The age distribution of those cases was:

Less than 8 months 813 cases involving 723 subjects 8 to 12 months 97 cases involving 86 subjects 49 cases involving 25 subjects

The goal is to reduce the proportion of cases in the older time frames and increase the proportion of cases in the youngest time frame. However, it is recognized that there will always be cases that are older than 12 months in Complaints Resolution for the following reasons:

- Newer complaints against the lawyer/paralegal are received. In some cases existing cases await the completion of younger cases relating to the same licensee;
- Delays on the part of licensees in providing representations and in responding to the investigators' requests. In a number of instances, the Summary Hearing process is required;
- Delays on the part of complainants in responding to licensee's representations and to investigators' requests for additional information; and
- New issues raised by the complainant requiring additional investigation

**Graph 3.3A: Investigations - Input** 



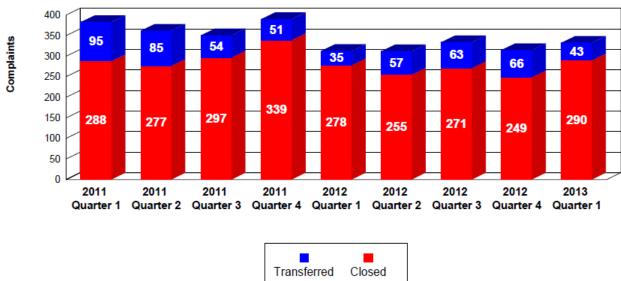
The input of cases into the Investigations department in Q1 2013 increased by 28% from the input in the last quarter (Q4 2012) and by 32% from the input received in the same period last year (i.e. Q1 2012).

#### Detailed Analysis of New and Re-opened Complaints Received in Investigations

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                           | 195     | 209     | 192     | 200     | 254     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases★                              | 3       | 11      | 19      | 4       | 18      |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals               | 40      | 71      | 25      | 54      | 67      |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                           | 11      | 31      | 19      | 19      | 15      |
| Complaints against Non-<br>Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 53      | 39      | 15      | 35      | 46      |
| TOTAL  | 302     | 361     | 270     | 312     | 400     |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.



**Graph 3.3B** Investigations - Complaints Closed and Transferred Out

The number of cases closed/transferred out of the department in Q1 2013 (333 cases) increased by 6% from the number completed in Q4 2012 (315 cases) and by 6% from the number completed in the same period in 2012 (i.e. 313 cases in Q1 2012).

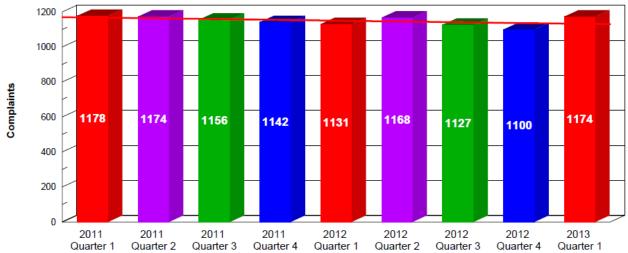
#### **Detailed Analysis of Complaints Closed and Transferred Out of Investigations**

|                                   |             | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 189     | 162     | 146     | 160     | 181     |
| Lawyers                           | Transferred | 24      | 27      | 47      | 60      | 23      |
| Lawyer Applicant                  | Closed      | 3       | 8       | 5       | 8       | 11      |
| Cases★                            | Transferred | 2       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 1       |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 40      | 23      | 62      | 38      | 32      |
| Licensed Paralegals               | Transferred | 6       | 21      | 10      | 6       | 7       |
| Paralegal Applicant               | Closed      | 15      | 15      | 22      | 17      | 23      |
| Cases★                            | Transferred | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 4       |
| Complaints against                | Closed      | 31      | 47      | 36      | 26      | 43      |
| Non-Licensees/Non-<br>Applicants* | Transferred | 3       | 8       | 6       | 0       | 8       |
| TOTAL                             | Closed      | 278     | 255     | 271     | 249     | 290     |
| Applicant coace include or        | Transferred | 35      | 57      | 63      | 66      | 43      |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

**Graph 3.3C: Investigations – Department Inventory** 



The value in each bar represents the Inventory at the end of the period

The number of cases received by the department in Q1 2013 (400) exceeded the number of cases completed in the department (333). Consequently, Investigations' inventory increased by 6.7% during the first quarter of 2013.

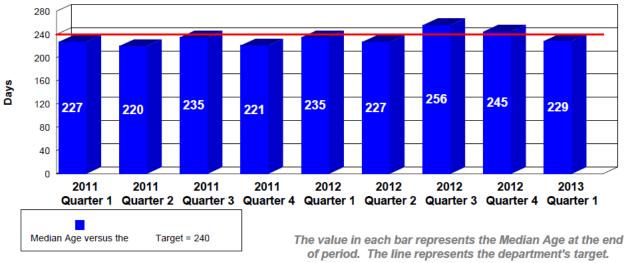
#### **Detailed Analysis of Investigations Inventory**

|  | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Complaints against Lawyers                           | 802     | 816     | 831     | 796     | 851     |
| Lawyer Applicant Cases ★                             | 12      | 14      | 29      | 25      | 31      |
| Complaints against Licensed Paralegals               | 159     | 182     | 142     | 145     | 174     |
| Paralegal Applicant Cases★                           | 32      | 47      | 43      | 43      | 32      |
| Complaints against Non-<br>Licensees/Non-Applicants* | 126     | 109     | 82      | 91      | 86      |
| TOTAL  | 1131    | 1168    | 1127    | 1100    | 1174    |

<sup>★</sup> Applicant cases include good character cases and UAP complaints

<sup>\*</sup> For a complete analysis of UAP complaints see section 3.4.

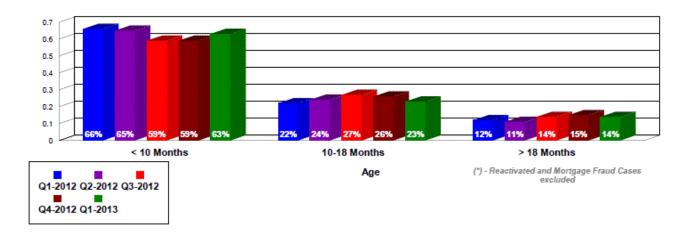
**Graph 3.3D: Investigations - Median Age of All Complaints** 



The department's median age decreased in the past quarter to 229 days which is below the target of 240 days.

#### **Graph 3.3E: Investigations – Aging of Complaints**

#### (a) Core Cases



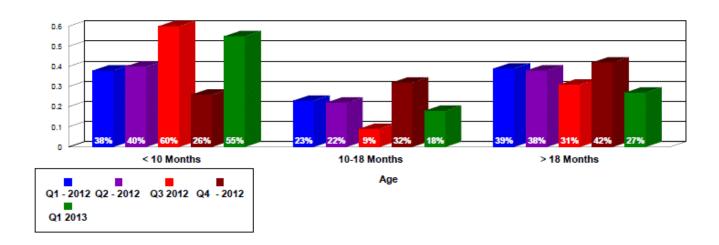
The above graph sets out the spectrum of aging in the department's inventory (excluding reactivated and mortgage fraud cases) at the end of each of the 5 quarters displayed. The inventory of Investigations at the end of Q1 2013, excluding reactivated and mortgage fraud cases, was 979 cases involving 784 subjects. The distribution of those cases was:

Less than 10 months
10 to 18 months
More than 18 months
616 cases involving 476 subjects
225 cases involving 198 subjects
138 cases involving 110 subjects

While the department strives to reduce the proportion of cases in the older time frame and to increase the proportion of cases in the youngest time frame, it is recognized that there are cases that are older than 18 months in Investigations for the following reasons:

- The investigator has to wait for evidence from a third party (i.e. not the complainant or the licensee/subject), for example psychiatric evaluation, court transcripts, or a key witness;
- Newer complaints are received against the licensee/subject. In order to move forward together to the Proceedings Authorization Committee, the older cases await the completion of younger cases;
- A need to coordinate investigations between different licensees/subject where the issues
  arise out of the same set of circumstances (e.g. a complainant complains about 2 lawyers in
  relation to the same matter);
- Multiple cases involve one lawyer. These investigations are complex and time consuming;
- Where capacity issues are raised during a conduct investigation.

#### (b) Mortgage Fraud Cases



The above graph sets out the spectrum of aging in the department's mortgage fraud case inventory at the end of each of the 5 quarters displayed. The inventory of mortgage fraud cases at the end of Q1 2013 was 88 cases involving 76 subjects. The distribution of those cases was:

Less than 10 months 48 cases involving 41 subjects 10 to 18 months 16 cases involving 16 subjects 24 cases involving 19 subjects

As noted above, the department strives to reduce the proportion of mortgage fraud cases in the older time frame and to increase the proportion of cases in the youngest time frame. However, it is recognized that there will always be mortgage fraud cases that are older than 18 months in Investigations for the reasons cited above, particularly:

- When newer complaints against the licensee/subject are received, existing investigations
  may have to await their completion in order that all the cases can be taken to Proceedings
  Authorization Committee together.
- There is a need to coordinate investigations between different licensees/subject where the issues arise out of the same set of circumstances (e.g. a complainant complains about 2 lawyers in relation to the same matter).
- There are multiple cases involve one lawyer resulting in greater complexity.

#### 3.4 – Unauthorized Practice (UAP)

**Graph 3.4A: Unauthorized Practice Complaints in Intake** 

| Quarter                 | New          | Closed/Transferred |             |             | Active at end of Quarter |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|
|                         |              | Closed             | Transfer to | Transfer to |                          |
|                         |              |                    | CR          | Inv         |                          |
| Totals: 2008            | 337          | 122                | 50          | 168         |                          |
| Totals: 2009            | 445          | 165                | 86          | 192         |                          |
| Q1 2010                 | 94           | 42                 | 0           | 76          | 36                       |
| Q2 2010                 | 89           | 32                 | 0           | 69          | 32                       |
| Q3 2010                 | 67           | 32                 | 1           | 50          | 29                       |
| Q4 2010                 | 80           | 45                 | 0           | 54          | 18                       |
| Totals - 2010           | 330*         | 151                | 1           | 249         |                          |
| (+ POL)                 | (398)        | 131                | '           | 249         |                          |
| Q1 2011 (+ POL)         | 61 (74)      | 24                 | 0           | 41          | 20                       |
| Q2 2011 (+ POL)         | 61 (84)      | 20                 | 1           | 54          | 12                       |
| Q3 2011 (+ POL)         | 70 (80)      | 27                 | 0           | 49          | 28                       |
| Q4 2011 (+ POL)         | 63 (83)      | 16                 | 1           | 62          | 15                       |
| Totals - 2011<br>(+POL) | 255<br>(321) | 87                 | 2           | 206         |                          |
| Q1 2012 (+ POL)         | 77(91)       | 16                 | 0           | 61          | 17                       |
| Q2 2012 (+POL)          | 58 (80)      | 22                 | 0           | 49          | 6                        |
| Q3 2012 (+POL)          | 41 (44)      | 16                 | 0           | 27          | 11                       |
| Q4 2012 (+POL)          | 80 (84)      | 32                 | 0           | 45          | 19                       |
| Totals - 2012<br>(+POL) | 256<br>(299) | 86                 | 0           | 182         |                          |
| Q1 2013 (+POL)          | 71(93)       | 29                 | 0           | 59          | 11                       |

<sup>\*</sup> UAP complaints not including allegations of "Practising Outside the Scope of Licence" ("POL"). Prior to Q1 2010, these allegations were included in the UAP figures.

As noted in the chart above, the Division received 9 fewer UAP complaints in Q1 2013 than in Q4 2012 (71 vs. 80).

#### 3.4 - Unauthorized Practice (UAP)

Graph 3.4B: Unauthorized Practice investigations (in Complaints Resolution and Investigations)

|              | New |     | Clos | sed <sup>6</sup> | Inve | ntory |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|------------------|------|-------|
|              | CR  | Inv | CR   | Inv              | CR   | Inv   |
| Totals: 2008 | 52  | 171 | 64   | 126              | 106  |       |
| Totals: 2009 | 77  | 187 | 48   | 138              | 1    | 68    |
| Q1 2010      | 0   | 76  | 12   | 73               | 17   | 79    |
| Q2 2010      | 0   | 69  | 6    | 54               | 10   | 90    |
| Q3 2010      | 1   | 50  | 2    | 31               | 8    | 108   |
| Q4 2010      | 0   | 54  | 8    | 32               | 0    | 124   |
| Totals: 2010 | 1   | 249 | 28   | 190              | 124  |       |
| Q1 2011      | 0   | 41  | 0    | 61               | 0    | 104   |
| Q2 2011      | 1   | 54  | 0    | 56               | 1    | 102   |
| Q3 2011      | 0   | 49  | 0    | 45               | 1    | 106   |
| Q4 2011      | 1   | 62  | 0    | 26               | 1    | 139   |
| Totals: 2011 | 2   | 206 | 0    | 188              | 1    | 40    |
| Q1 2012      | 0   | 61  | 1    | 45               | 0    | 156   |
| Q2 2012      | 0   | 49  | 0    | 65               | 0    | 140   |
| Q3 2012      | 0   | 27  | 0    | 41               | 0    | 120   |
| Q4 2012      | 0   | 45  | 0    | 34               | 0    | 131   |
| Totals: 2012 | 0   | 182 | 1    | 185              | 131  |       |
| Q1 2013      | 0   | 59  | 0    | 62               | 0    | 128   |

As more UAP investigations were completed in Q1 2013 (62) than were received (59), the inventory of UAP cases in Investigations was reduced from 131 cases at the end of Q4 2012 to 128 cases at the end of Q1 2013.

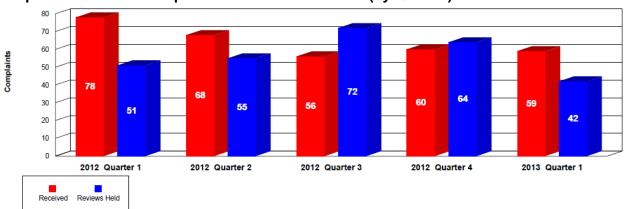
#### **Graph 3.4C: UAP Enforcement Actions**

In the first quarter of 2013, orders were obtained prohibiting the respondents from further contravening the provisions of s. 26.1 of the *Law Society Act* in 2 matters.

As at March 31, 2013, there were 2 open UAP matters in which permanent injunctions are being sought.

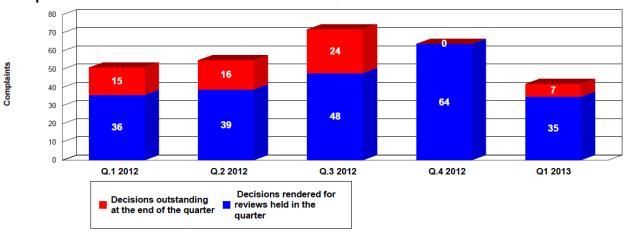
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "Closed" refers to completed investigations and therefore consists of both those investigations that were closed by the Law Society and those that were referred for prosecution/injunctive relief.

#### 3.5 – Complaints Resolution Commissioner



Graph 3.5A: Reviews Requested and Files Reviewed (by Quarter)

In the first quarter of 2013, the Complaints Resolution Commissioner received 59 requests for reviews of cases closed in either Complaints Resolution or Investigations and reviewed 42 cases. Fifteen of the cases reviewed were conducted in writing.



Graph 3.5B: Status of Files Reviewed in each Quarter

While the files may be reviewed in one quarter, the final decision by the Commissioner may not be rendered in the same quarter. In the first quarter of 2013, the Commissioner rendered decisions in 35 of the 42 cases reviewed in that quarter. As at March 31, 2013, there were 7 decisions outstanding.

#### 3.5 – Complaints Resolution Commissioner

Graph 3.5C: Decisions Rendered, by Quarter

| Quarter           | Decisions Rendered                                   | Files to Remain | Files Referred Back |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|                   | (# of decisions where review in previous quarter(s)) | Closed          | to PRD              |
| <b>Total 2009</b> | 194  | 174 (90%)       | 20 (10%)            |
| Total 2010        | 193  | 160 (83%)       | 33 (17%)            |
| Q1 2011           | 85   | 79 (93%)        | 6 (7%)              |
| Q2 2011           | 60   | 58 (96%)        | 2 (4%)              |
| Q3 2011           | 53   | 50 (94%)        | 3 (6%)              |
| Q4 2011           | 62   | 61 (98%)        | 1 (2%)              |
| <b>Total 2011</b> | 260  | 248 (95%)       | 12 (5%)             |
| Q1 2012           | 36   | 32 (89%)        | 4 (11%)             |
| Q2 2012           | 50   | 48 (96%)        | 2 (4%)              |
| Q3 2012           | 67   | 63 (94%)        | 4 (6%)              |
| Q4 2012           | 89   | 81 (91%)        | 8(9%)               |
| <b>Total 2012</b> | 242  | 224 (93%)       | 18 (7%)             |
| Q1 2013           | 35   | 33 (94 %)       | 2 (6 %)             |

Of the 35 decisions rendered in Q1 2013, the Commissioner sent 2 files back to Professional Regulation.

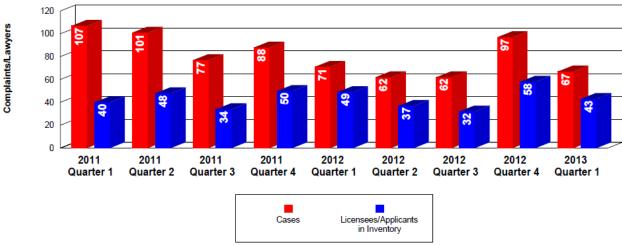
- In one case, the Commissioner found the Law Society's decision to close the case to be reasonable but referred the case back for other considerations (e.g. to consider new information provided by the Complainant during the review; to consider an investigation of another licensee; practice issues, etc.).
- In the other case, the Commissioner was not satisfied that the decision to close was
  reasonable and referred the cases back with a recommendation for further investigation.
  As of the date of this Quarterly Report, the Director's decision concerning the
  Commissioner's recommendation remains outstanding.

#### **Active Inventory**

As at March 31, 2013, the Office of the Complaints Resolution Commissioner had an inventory of 143 files:

| Request received; awaiting preparation of CRC materials | 87 files |
|---|----------|
| Ready for Scheduling                                    | 10 files |
| Review Meeting Scheduled                                | 29 files |
| Files Ready to be reviewed in Writing                   | 1 file   |
| Review Completed Awaiting decision                      | 7 files  |
| Cases in Abeyance                                       | 9 Files  |





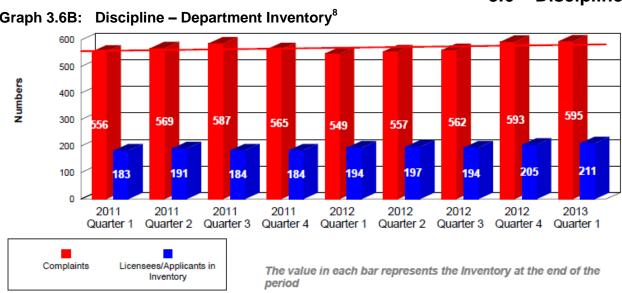
As noted in the chart below, in Q1 2013, the department received complaints from various departments involving 29 lawyers (relating to 47 cases), 7 licensed paralegals (relating to 9 cases), 1 lawyer applicant and 6 paralegal applicants.

#### **Detailed Analysis of New Cases Received in Discipline**

|                      |                           | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Lawyers              | Cases                     | 60      | 31      | 48      | 89      | 47      |
|                      | Lawyers                   | 39*     | 26*     | 27*     | 51*     | 29*     |
| Lawyer Applicants    | Cases                     | 2       | 1       | 0       | 1       | 1       |
|                      | Lawyer Applicants         | 2*      | 1*      | 0*      | 1*      | 1*      |
| Licensed Paralegals  | Cases                     | 7       | 27      | 14      | 8       | 9       |
|                      | Licensed Paralegals       | 7*      | 9*      | 5*      | 5*      | 7*      |
| Paralegal Applicants | Cases                     | 2       | 3       | 5       | 1       | 10      |
|                      | Paralegal Applicants      | 1*      | 1*      | 1*      | 1*      | 6*      |
| TOTAL                | Cases                     | 71      | 62      | 62      | 99      | 67      |
|                      | Licensees &<br>Applicants | 49*     | 37*     | 32*     | 58*     | 43*     |

<sup>\*</sup> The number of new Lawyers and Paralegals cited represents the number coming into the department each quarter. However, there may, in fact, already be cases involving the licensee/applicant in the department.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Input" refers to complaints that were transferred into Discipline from various other departments during the specific quarter. Includes new complaints/cases received in Discipline and the lawyers/applicants to which the new complaints relate.



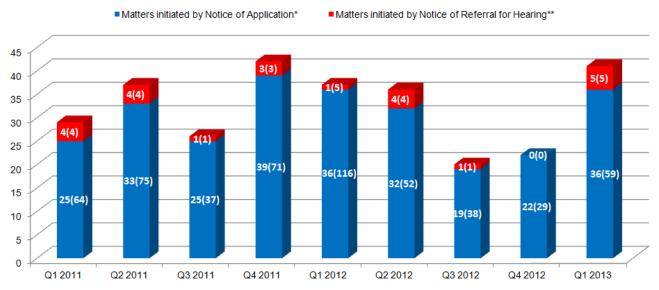
This graph shows the total number of licensees/applicants and related complaints that are in the Discipline process at the end of each of the last 9 quarters. At the end of Q1 2013, the department's inventory of licensee/applicants (211) was approximately 9% higher than at the end of Q1 2012 (194) and 15% higher than at the end of Q1 2011 (183).

#### **Detailed Analysis of Discipline's Inventory**

|                      |                           | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Lawyers              | Cases                     | 476     | 479     | 482     | 514     | 508     |
|                      | Lawyers                   | 159     | 162     | 162     | 171     | 176     |
| Lawyer Applicants    | Cases                     | 5       | 5       | 4       | 4       | 5       |
|                      | Lawyer Applicants         | 5       | 5       | 4       | 4       | 5       |
| Licensed Paralegals  | Cases                     | 41      | 47      | 53      | 58      | 60      |
|                      | Licensed Paralegals       | 18      | 19      | 18      | 21      | 20      |
| Paralegal Applicants | Cases                     | 27      | 23      | 23      | 17      | 22      |
|                      | Paralegal Applicants      | 12      | 11      | 10      | 9       | 10      |
| TOTAL                | Cases                     | 549     | 557     | 562     | 593     | 595     |
|                      | Licensees &<br>Applicants | 194     | 197     | 194     | 205     | 211     |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Consists primarily of complaints and lawyers/applicants that are in scheduling and are with the Hearing Panel or on appeal.

**Graph 3.6C: Discipline - Notices Issued** 



<sup>\*</sup> Matters which are initiated by Notice of Application include conduct, capacity, non-compliance and competency matters. Also included in this category are interlocutory suspension/restriction motions.

The above graph shows the number of notices issued by the Discipline department in the past 9 quarters. The numbers in each bar indicate the number of notices issued and, in brackets, the number of cases relating to those notices. One notice may relate to more than one case. For example, in Q1 2013, 36 Notices of Application were issued (relating to 59 cases) and 5 Notices of Referral for Hearing were issued (relating to 5 cases).

With respect to the 36 Notices of Application<sup>9</sup>/Notices of Motion for Interim Suspension Order which were issued in Q1 2013:

- 21 were issued less than 1 month after PAC authorization;
- 3 were issued between 1 and 2 months after PAC authorization; and
- 7 were issued between 2 and 3 months after PAC authorization; and
- 5 were issued more than 3 months after PAC authorization.

With respect to the 5 matters for which a Notice of Referral for Hearing were issued in Q1 2013, 4 were issued less than a month after PAC authorization. One matter did not require PAC authorization as it related to a reinstatement matter.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Matters which are initiated by Notice of Referral for Hearing (formerly Notice of Hearing) include licensing (including readmission matters), reinstatement and restoration matters.

Notices of Application are issued with respect to conduct, competency, capacity and non-compliance matters and require authorization by the Proceedings Authorization Committee (PAC).

**Graph 3.6D: Discipline – Completed Matters** 

|                                     |                      | Q1 2012 | Q2 2012 | Q3 2012 | Q4 2012 | Q1 2013 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Conduct                             | Lawyers              | 17      | 16      | 18      | 31      | 20      |
| Hearings                            | Paralegal Licensees  | 6       | 6       | 5       | 3       | 4       |
| Interlocutory                       | Lawyers              | 2       | 1       | 1       | -       | -       |
| Suspension                          | Paralegal Licensees  |         | 1       |         |         |         |
| Hearings/Orders                     |                      | -       | '       | -       | -       | -       |
| Capacity                            | Lawyers              | -       | -       | 1       | 4       | 1       |
| Hearings                            | Paralegal Licensees  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Competency                          | Lawyers              | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Hearings                            | Paralegal Licensees  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Non-                                | Lawyers              | -       | -       | -       | 1       | -       |
| Compliance Hearings                 | Paralegal Licensees  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Reinstatement                       | Lawyers              | 2       | 1       | -       | -       | 1       |
| Hearings (incl. Term                | Paralegal Licensees  |         |         |         |         |         |
| Disputes)                           |                      | -       | _       | -       | -       | -       |
| Restoration                         | Lawyers              | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
|                                     | Paralegal Licensees  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Licensing                           | Lawyer Applicants    | -       | 1       | 2       | 1       | -       |
| Hearings<br>(including Readmission) | Paralegal Applicants | 3       | 1       | 1       | _       | 1       |
|                                     |                      | 1       |         |         |         | ·       |
| TOTAL                               | Lawyers*             | 21      | 19      | 22      | 37      | 22      |
| NUMBER OF                           | Paralegals*          | 9       | 8       | 6       | 3       | 5       |
| HEARINGS                            | TOTAL                | 30      | 27      | 28      | 40      | 27      |

#### **Graph 3.6E: Discipline – Appeals**

The following chart sets out the number of appeals filed with the Appeal Panel, the Divisional Court or the Court of Appeal in the calendar years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and the first quarter of 2013:

| Quarter/Year                 | Appeal Panel | Divisional Court              | Court of Appeal        |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2008                         | 14           | 8 appeal                      |                        |
| 2009                         | 19           | 1 appeal                      | 3 motions for leave; 2 |
|                              |              |                               | appeals                |
| 2010                         | 27           | 3 appeals; 2 judicial reviews | 4 motions for leave    |
| 2011                         | 18           | 6 appeals, 2 judicial reviews | 2 motions for leave    |
| 2012                         | 23           | 4 appeals; 5 judicial reviews | 2 motions for leave    |
| 2013 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter | 7            | 1 judicial review             |                        |

As of March 31, 2013, there are 19 appeals pending before the Appeal Panel, 1 appeal in which the Appeal Panel has reserved on judgment, 1 appeal before the Appeal Panel that has been adjourned sine die, 1 appeal in which the Appeal Panel has rendered a decision but is still seized on the issue of penalty, 2 appeals in which the Appeal Panel has rendered a decision but is still seized on the issue of costs and 2 appeals in which reasons are outstanding.

With respect to matters before the Divisional Court, there are 3 appeals and 2 judicial review matters pending and 1 judicial review in which the Court has rendered a decision but is seized on the issue of costs. There are no matters pending in the Court of Appeal.

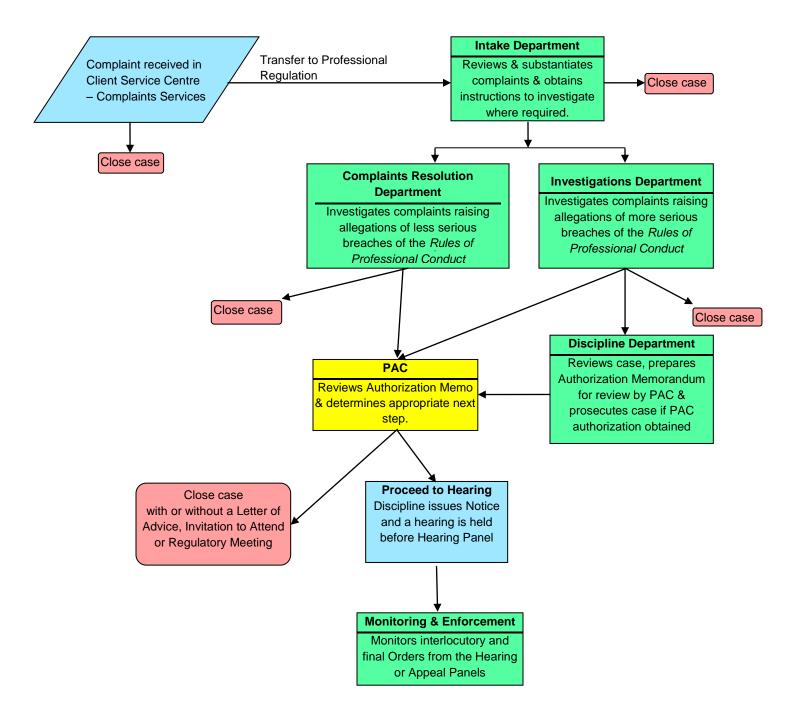
In the first quarter of 2013, decisions were rendered in 6 appeals before the Appeal Panel:

- In 2 appeals, the Law Society's motions to quash the appeals were allowed;
- One appeal, launched by a licensee, was dismissed;
- In 3 appeals, the Appeal Panel set aside the decisions and orders of the Hearing Panel and remitted the matters for a new hearing before a differently constituted Hearing Panel.
  - 1 of the appeals was launched by a paralegal applicant;
  - 1 of the appeals was launched by the Law Society. The Appeal Panel remains seized on the issue of costs of the appeal;
  - In the third appeal, the Appeal Panel allowed the licensee's cross-appeal and determined that, in light of the decision to remit the matter back for a new hearing, it was unnecessary to decide the Law Society's appeal of the penalty that was imposed. The Appeal Panel remains seized on the issue of costs of the appeal.

## **SECTION 4**

## **APPENDICES**

#### **The Professional Regulation Complaint Process**



#### PROFESSIONAL REGULATION ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

