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NOTICE TO:

All Active Members and Students-at-Law,
All Non-Practising Paying Members,
All Secretaries of other Law Societies in Canada,
All Justices of the Court of Appeal and Court of Queen's Bench,
All Judges of the Provincial Court of Alberta,
All Masters in Chambers,
All Clerks of the Court

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

On July 20, 2000, a Hearing Committee found John Shredder, who resides in, and previously practised in Edmonton, Alberta, guilty of conduct deserving of sanction for: (1) misappropriating trust funds in the amount of approximately \$12,500.00; (2) unauthorized withdrawal of trust funds in the amount of approximately \$17,600.00; (3) failing to comply with the accounting rules; (4) practising while incompetent to do so; and (5) failing to serve his clients.

This conduct occurred in 1995 and 1996. Mr. Shredder voluntarily went inactive in March 1996 in the course of the investigation. He remained inactive until the time of the hearing (over four years). He admitted his guilt and made restitution. The Hearing Committee found that his conduct arose from incompetence, arising from a dependency on alcohol.

The Hearing Committee imposed a suspension of a further two years (pursuant to section 70 of the *Legal Profession Act*). On application for reinstatement, Mr. Shredder must meet the requirements of the Practice Review Committee and the Education Committee, which requirements must include, but not be limited to, the following: to cooperate fully with Practice Review; Practice Review must be satisfied that he has been abstinent for two years prior to reinstatement; there must be a second signature requirement on his trust account for a period of time (to be determined by Practice Review); he must satisfy Practice Review that he has an appropriate business plan for finances and accounting. Mr. Shredder will also be required to pay the actual costs, to a maximum of \$2,500.00, prior to reinstatement. The matter was also referred to the Attorney General, pursuant to section 75(4) of the Act.

Peter L. Freeman, Q.C.
Secretary/Executive Director
The Law Society of Alberta