

**FSCO Oversight of SABS Representatives Ends May 1, 2008
Qs & As**

1. How do the amending regulations affect SABS representatives?

The amending regulations will remove all FSCO filing requirements for SABS representatives and end FSCO's oversight of SABS representatives under the *Insurance Act*. These changes will coincide with the Law Society issuing licences to paralegals and complete the transition for the regulation of SABS representatives by the Law Society. On and after May 1, 2008, any person providing legal services to SABS claimants must be licenced by the Law Society.

2. I am a SABS representative on the FSCO list and did not file an application with the Law Society to provide legal services. If I apply now, will I be given credit for my experience while listed with FSCO?

Special provisions were made for "grandparent" applicants. Those applications were to be submitted to the Law Society no later than October 31, 2007. You can still apply to become a paralegal after this date. See the Law Society website for criteria for applicants applying after October 31, 2007.

3. I am a SABS representative on the FSCO list. I did not file an application for a paralegal licence with the Law Society and do not intend to continue to work as a paralegal. Can I continue to work to close existing SABS claim files after May 1, 2008?

No. In order to continue providing legal services on or after May 1, 2008, a person must be licenced by the Law Society. All ongoing case files must be transferred to lawyers or paralegals in good standing with the Law Society before May 1, 2008.

4. Will there be any changes to the dispute resolution process when FSCO's oversight of SABS representatives ends?

The dispute resolution forms will be amended by May 1, 2008 and require paralegals to provide their Law Society licence number. Only individuals who are licenced to provide legal services or exempt from licencing requirements under the Law Society's By-Laws will be able to represent SABS claimants in the dispute resolution process at FSCO.

5. Will supervised staff at law firms who are not licenced by the Law Society to provide legal services be able to continue representing claimants in the dispute resolution process at FSCO?

Effective May 1, 2008, supervised staff at law firms will require a licence from the Law Society to represent SABS claimants in the dispute resolution process at FSCO. This requirement is in accordance with the Law Society By-Laws.

6. Do I need to be licenced by the Law Society to represent my spouse or children in the dispute resolution process at FSCO?

Generally, a person who acts for a family member, without compensation, may represent a claimant in the dispute resolution process at FSCO. Under the Law Society By-Laws, individuals may be exempt from licencing when providing legal services on behalf of family, friends or neighbours. You may contact the Law Society or visit the Law Society's website to obtain further information regarding these licencing exemptions.

7. Who will handle complaints about a SABS representative for conduct issues that occurred prior to May 1, 2008?

FSCO will continue complaints and enforcement proceedings against SABS representatives for compliance issues that arose before May 1, 2008. All other complaints about the conduct of paralegals or unlicensed persons providing legal services should be directed to the Law Society.