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## BALANCE IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM TIPPING WRONG WAY, SAYS APIL PRESIDENT

APIL president John McQuater will this week voice his concern about balance in the personal injury legal system “tipping the wrong way” in favour of big business.

Addressing guests at the annual President’s Lunch event at the Armourer’s Hall in London, McQuater will say that while the focus of the justice system should be on the injured person, the “balance essential to the integrity of our legal system is tipping the wrong way and it is time to both recognise and address that.”

McQuater will urge against further “dilution of our civil justice system”. “I urge the Government not to create a monolithic litigation system which allows the interests of big business to trample on injured people,” he will say.

Speaking about his involvement in the new claims process negotiations, McQuater will again call for balance within the system. “I noticed (during the negotiations) that defendants sometimes commented with passion that they had a right to contest claims they believed to be unmeritorious. Quite so. It must follow, however, that those needlessly injured must be able to seek justice with the support of independent, professional legal advice... that balance must be maintained and APIL is implacably opposed to measures which would alter that balance in favour of the better resourced party.”

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Note to editors:

- The President’s Lunch will take place at the Armourer’s Hall, London, on Thursday, 11 February.
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