The following is a statement by the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, Mr Geoffrey Ma Tao-li, today (March 4):

"I am deeply saddened to learn that a retired Judge of the High Court, Mr John James Rhind, has passed away. The news of the death was received by all in the Judiciary with much sadness. He was one of Hong Kong's best judges, possessing a fine legal mind and capable of handling the most complex of cases.

"On behalf of the Judiciary, I offer our deepest condolences to Mrs Rhind and his daughter."

Mr Justice Rhind joined the Judiciary as a Magistrate in 1965, and became a Senior Magistrate in 1969, a judge of the District Court in 1976 before his elevation to the High Court in 1980. He retired in 1995.

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