

## **MSP's Alex Neil and Phil Gallie challenge the Minister for Justice**

MSP's **Alex Neil** and **Phil Gallie** challenged the **Minister for Justice Cathy Jamieson** in the Scottish Parliament this week. Unfortunately she completely failed to answer the questions raised. The basic thrust of Alex Neil's enquiry was to find out what the Minister is doing to resolve the ongoing dispute between **Grampian Police experts** and **SCRO experts** as to what constitutes an identification. He asserted that failure to find a resolution constituted a danger to persons appearing in Scottish courts on fingerprint evidence and asked for the identifications coming out of these agencies to be independently checked. The minister completely ignored this issue in her answer. The spectre of 'sub judice' was always haunting the chamber and when Phil Gallie tried to obliquely raise Shirley's case he was over ruled by the Presiding Officer. How much longer is the Scottish Executive going to mis-use sub judice to protect SCRO and the Scottish Fingerprint Service heads?

### **Watch the Debate**

<http://www.holyrood.tv/library.asp?title=Themed%20Question%20Time&section=53>

Click on: '*Themed question time 24.11.05*'

Questions asked **7 minutes and 20 seconds** into the session.