



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

STEPHEN SWEENEY

Called to the Bar by: Inner Temple, November 2001

Type of hearing: 3 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 24 April 2023

In breach of:

Core Duty 5 and Rule rC8 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook

Details of Offence:

Stephen Sweeney, a practising barrister, behaved in a way which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him or in the profession, in that, on 26 September 2021, he drove a motor vehicle on a road after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion of it in his breath, namely 85 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, exceeded the prescribed limit of 35 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, for which he was convicted of an offence contrary to section 5(1)(a) Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 at Willesden Magistrates' Court on 11 October 2021. As a result of the conviction, Mr Sweeney was sentenced to a fine of £440 and ordered to be disqualified from driving for 21 months.

Stephen Sweeney, a practising barrister, acted in a way which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine his integrity, in that, on 26 September 2021, he drove a motor vehicle on a road after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion of it in his breath, namely 85 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, exceeded the prescribed limit of 35 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath, for which he was convicted of an offence contrary to section 5(1)(a) Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988 at Willesden Magistrates' Court on 11 October 2021. As a result of the

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conviction, Mr Sweeney was sentenced to a fine of £440 and ordered to be disqualified from driving for 21 months.

Sanction: Fined £2,750 on each charge [total £5, 500]. Costs of £1,560 to be paid to the BSB. All sums to be paid within six months of the expiry of the appeal period

Status: Final.