



# The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

## Disciplinary Tribunal

### CHRISTOPHER JOHN WILKINS

Called to the Bar by: Lincoln's Inn, May 1993

Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 3 July 2023

#### In breach of:

Paragraphs 301[a][i], 301[a][iii] and 901.7 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales [8<sup>th</sup> Edition] and Core Duties 3 and /or Rule rC8, 5 and Rules rC65.1 rC65.2 and / or Core Duty 9 of the Bar Standard Board Handbook.

#### Details of Offence:

Christopher John Wilkins, a barrister, engaged in conduct which was dishonest, in that, between 7 March 2012 and 5 January 2014, he was knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of VAT in the sum of £98,732, for which he was convicted of an offence under section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 on 22 November 2021. As a result of his conviction, Mr Wilkins was sentenced to 21 months' imprisonment.

Mr. Christopher John Wilkins, a barrister and BSB regulated person, engaged in conduct which was likely to diminish public confidence in the legal profession or otherwise bring the legal profession into disrepute, in that, between 7 March 2012 and 5 January 2014, he was knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of VAT in the sum of £98,732, for which he was convicted of an offence under section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 on 22 November 2021. As a result of his conviction, Mr Wilkins was sentenced to 21 months' imprisonment.

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Christopher John Wilkins, a practising barrister, failed to act with honesty, in that, between 6 January 2014 and 7 June 2017, he was knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of VAT in the sum of £98,732, for which he was convicted of an offence under section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 on 22 November 2021. As a result of his conviction, Mr Wilkins was sentenced to 21 months' imprisonment.

Christopher John Wilkins, a practising barrister, behaved in a way that is likely to diminish to trust and confidence which the public places in him or the profession, in that, between 6 January 2014 and 7 June 2017, he was knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of VAT in the sum of £98,732, for which he was convicted of an offence under section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994 on 22 November 2021. As a result of his conviction, Mr Wilkins was sentenced to 21 months' imprisonment.

Christopher John Wilkins, a practising barrister, failed to report promptly to the Bar Standards Board that on 10 February 2020 he was charged with an indictable offence, being the fraudulent evasion of VAT contrary to section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

Christopher John Wilkins, a practising barrister, failed to report promptly to the Bar Standards Board that on 22 November 2021 he was convicted of a criminal offence, being the fraudulent evasion of VAT contrary to section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994

**Sanction:** Disbarred.

**Status:** Final.