

The Council of the Inns of Court

# **Disciplinary Tribunal**

# **SHAZIA ANJUM**

Called to the Bar by: Lincoln's Inn, March 2012

Type of hearing: 5-person disciplinary panel

Date of decision: 23 November 2023

#### In breach of:

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 3 and/or Core Duty 5 and/or rC65.7 and/or rC65.3 of the Bar Standard Board's Handbook.

**Details of offence:** 

PC 2018/0371/D5

## Charge 1

## Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 3 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th Edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum acted in a way which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine her honesty and/or integrity in that while she was in practice as a sole director solicitor, Compliance Officer for Legal Practice and the Compliance Officer for Finance and Administration at Premium Law Solicitors Limited ('the Firm') she:

- (a) caused or allowed one or .more improper transfers of money from the Firm's client account and in so doing breached provisions of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Accounts Rules 2011 and principles of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011; and
- (b) between 26 September 2017 and 28 September 2017, knowing that the Firm's account had been frozen attempted to arrange for client funds to be paid into an account other than the fi1'm's office or client account and in so doing breached

## The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

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principles of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011

and in respect of such charges of professional misconduct which were found proved against Shazia Anjum, including findings of dishonesty, by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its written decision dated 10 February 2021, Shazia Anjum was struck off the Roll of Solicitors.

## Charge 2

## **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th Edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum acted in a way which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in her or in the profession in that while she was in practice as a sole director solicitor, Compliance Officer for Legal Practice and the Compliance Officer for Finance and Administration at Premium Law Solicitors Limited ('the Firm') she:

- (a) caused or allowed one or more improper transfers of money from the Firm's client account and in so doing breached provisions of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Accounts Rules 2011 and principles of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011; and
- (b) between 26 September 2017 and 28 September 2017, knowing that the Firm's account had been frozen attempted to arrange for client funds to be paid.into an account other than the Firm's office or client account and in so doing breached principles of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011

and in respect of such charges of professional misconduct which were found proved against Shazia Anjum, including findings of dishonesty, by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its written decision dated 10 February 2021, Shazia Anjum was struck off the Roll of Solicitors.

## Charge 3

#### **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct contrary to rC65.7 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum failed to comply with the obligations under rC65.7 in that she failed to inform the Bar Standards Board promptly. or at all that she had committed serious misconduct in that while she was in practice as a sole director solicitor, Compliance Officer for Legal Practice and the Compliance Officer for Finance and Administration at Premium Law Solicitors Limited ('the Firm') she had:

(a) caused or allowed one or more improper transfers of money from the Firm's client account and in so doing breached Rules 1.2, 14.1 and 20.1 of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Accounts Rules 2011 and principles 2, 4, 6 of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011; and

(b) between 26 September 2017 and 28 September 2017 knowing that the Firm's account had been frozen attempted to arrange for client funds to be paid into an account other than the Firm's office or client account and in so doing breached principles of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's Principles 2011;

and that in respect of such charges of professional misconduct which were found proved against Shazia Anjum (including findings of dishonesty) by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its written decision dated 10 February 2021, Shazia Anjum had been struck off the Roll of Solicitors.

## Charge 4

## **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct contrary to rule rC65.3 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th Edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum, failed to comply with the obligations under rC65,3 in that she failed to inform the Bar Standards Board promptly.or at all that she. was the subject of disciplinary proceedings or other regulatory or enforcement action by another Approved Regulator, the Solicitors Regulation Authority, as set out in the written decision of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal dated 10 February 2021.

## Charge 5

#### **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th Edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum, acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in her or in the profession in that she failed to inform the Bar Standards Board promptly or at all that she was the subject of disciplinary proceedings or other regulatory or enforcement action by another Approved Regulator, the Solicitors Regulation Authority, in relation to the charges against her which formed the subject of the written decision of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal dated 10 February 2021.

## Charge 6

#### **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board's Handbook (9th Edition)

## **Particulars of Offence**

Shazia Anjum acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in her or in the profession in that she failed to inform the Bar Standards Board promptly or at all that she was subject to enforcement action of another Approved Regulator, the Solicitors Regulation Authority, in respect of the disciplinary proceedings before the

Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and/or the consequent order to strike her off the Roll of Solicitors from 20 November 2020.

PC 2020/1590/D5

## Charge 1

#### **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct, contrary to rS8 of the Bar Standards Handbook (9th Edition, Versions 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6)

#### **Particulars of Offence**

In or around May and June 2020 and thereafter, Shazia Anjum, an unregistered barrister, practised as a barrister when she offered to supply legal services, and held herself out as a barrister on one or more of the following social media platforms;

- (i) Facebook,
- (ii) Twitter,
- (iii) LinkedIn,
- (iv) and/or on the website shaziaanjum.com,

as set out in the attached Schedule, when she was not authorised to do so.

## Charge 2

## **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (9th Edition), Bar Standards Handbook (Versions 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6).

# **Particulars of Offence**

In or around May and June 2020 and thereafter, Shazia Anjum, an unregistered barrister, behaved in a way that would diminish the trust and confidence which the public placed in her or in the profession, when she practised as a barrister by offering to supply legal services, and holding herself out as a barrister on one or more of the following social media platforms;

- (i) Facebook,
- (ii) Twitter,
- (iii) LinkedIn,
- (iv)and/or on the website shaziaanjum.com,

as set out in the attached Schedule, when she was not authorised to do so.

## PC 2021/5166/D5

## Charge 1

## **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct, contrary to rS8 of the Bar Standards Handbook (9th Edition, Versions 4.5 and 4.6)

#### **Particulars of Offence**

On or around 5 October 2020 and thereafter, Shazia Anjum, an unregistered barrister, practised as a barrister when she offered to supply legal services, and held herself out as a barrister on the

social media platform, YouTube, and/or on the website shaziaanjum.com, as set out in the attached Schedule, when she was not authorised to do so.

#### Charge 2

#### Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (9th Edition), Bar Standards Handbook (Versions 4.5 and 4.6).

## **Particulars of Offence**

On or around 5 October 2020 and thereafter, Shazia Anjum, an unregistered barrister, behaved in a way that would diminish the trust and confidence which the public placed in her or in the profession, when she practised as a barrister by offering to supply legal services, and holding herself out as a barrister on the social media platform, YouTube, and/or on the website shaziaanjum.com, as set out in the attached Schedule, when she was not authorised to do so.

## Charge 3

#### **Statement of Offence**

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (9th Edition), Bar Standards Handbook (Versions 4.5 and 4.6).

#### **Particulars of Offence**

For conduct between October 2016 to December 2017, Shazia Anjum was struck off the Roll of Solicitors by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its written decision dated 10 February 2021. Thereafter, Shazia Anjum, an unregistered barrister, behaved in a way that would diminish the trust and confidence which the public placed in her or in the profession;

- (a) when she practised as a barrister by offering to supply immigration advice and services, and holding herself out as a barrister on the social media platform, YouTube, and/or on the website shaziaanjum.com, as set out in the attached Schedule, when she was not authorised to do so, and/or
- (b) by offering to supply immigration advice and services, when she was not authorised to do so by the Bar Standards Board (BSB), and/or the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC), and/or the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA).

# **Findings:**

# Case: 2018/037/D5

Charge 1	Proved
Charge 2	Proved
Charge 3	Proved
Charge 4	Proved
Charge 5	Proved
Charge 6	Proved

Case: 2020/1590/D5

Charge 1 Proved Charge 2 Proved

Case:2021/5166/D5

Charge 1: Proved Charge 2: Proved Charge 3: Proved

Sanction: Disbarred and Suspension for 24 months

**Status:** Open to appeal