



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

Mr Wayne Lewis

Called to the Bar by: Lincoln's Inn, November 1982.

Type of hearing: 5 Person Disciplinary Tribunal.

Date of decision: 15 February 2024.

In breach of:

Core Duty 5 and/or Core Duty 2 and/or Core Duty 3 and/or RC125.1 and/or rC8 and/or rC73
and/or rC9.1.

Details of offence:

Charge 1

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 5 and/or Core Duty 2 and/or RC125.1 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (9th Edition)

Particulars of Offence

Mr Wayne Lewis, a barrister instructed on a direct access basis acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him or in the profession, and/or failed to act in the best interests of his client in that he failed to provide to his direct access client, KW, a suitable client care letter setting out the work which he had agreed to perform and neither had Mr Lewis updated the letter or informed KW formally of this change of agreed work to be done.

The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

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Charity Number: 1155640
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Charge 2

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 2 and/or Core Duty 3, and/or Core Duty 5, and/or rC8 and/or rC73 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (9th Edition)

Particulars of Offence

Mr Lewis, failed to act in the best interests of his client, and/or failed to act with integrity and/or acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him or in the profession when Mr Lewis received, controlled or handled client money apart from what KW paid him for services provided.

Mr Lewis, Received, held, and controlled and/or handled client money

- I. In the sum of £322,989.18.
- II. Paid £322,989.18 into a bank account held in the name of Wayne Lewis t/a Access Lawyers an account for which Mr Lewis had control
- III. Used client money to make payments which were not agreed by the client and were not made on behalf of the client.

Charge 3

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 2 and/or Core Duty 3, and/or Core Duty 5, and/or rC8 and/or rC73 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (9th Edition)

Particulars of Offence

Mr Lewis, failed to act in the best interests of his client, and/or failed to act with honesty and integrity and/or acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him or in the profession, in that Mr Lewis received, controlled or handled client money apart from what the client paid for in terms of services provided by Mr Lewis. Namely on 17 October 2019, Mr Lewis, held and/or handled client money in the sum of £250,000 by transferring it into a personal account held in his personal name.

Charge 4

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 2 and/or Core Duty 3, and/or Core Duty 5, and/or rC8 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (9th Edition)

Particulars of Offence

Mr Lewis, failed to act in the best interests of his client, and/or failed to act with honesty and/or integrity and/or acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him or in the profession, and/or acted in a way which could be seen by the public to undermine his integrity in that Mr Lewis failed to repay client money to his direct access client.

Charge 5

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct, contrary to Core Duty 3, and/or Core Duty 5, and/or rC8 and or rC9.1 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (9th Edition)

Particulars of Offence

Mr Lewis, failed to act in the best interests of his client, and/or failed to act with honesty and/or integrity and/or acted in a manner which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him and/or acted in a way which could be seen by the public to undermine his integrity in that on various dates, namely 16 March 2021, 22 June 2021, 15 July 2021, 28 July 2021 Mr Lewis misled the Legal Services Ombudsman when he informed it that he would repay his former direct access client the sum of £14,000, when Mr Lewis knew or ought to have known that he was unable to, or would not, pay this amount.

Findings:

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

Sanction:

18 months suspension which comes into effect 14 March 2024. At the end of the suspension, Mr Lewis is subject to a prohibition on accepting or carrying out any public access instructions until

he provides the BSB with satisfactory proof that he has taken the mandatory training required to undertake public access work.

Costs to be paid by Mr Lewis in the sum of £5,443 (inc VAT) within 28 days or as agreed with the BSB.