



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

LEWIS TRESMAN

Called to the Bar by: Gray's Inn [November 1980]

Type of hearing: Five-person Tribunal

Date of decision: 19 February 2024

In breach of:

Professional misconduct contrary to paragraph 301(a)(i) and/or 301(a)(iii) and/or Core Duty 3 and/or rC8 and/or rC9.1 and/or Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook;

Details of offence:

Charge 1

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct contrary to paragraph 301(a)(i) of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (8th Edition).

Particulars of Offence

Lewis Tresman, a practising barrister, engaged in conduct which was dishonest or otherwise discreditable to a barrister, in that, from around June 2007 until 5 January 2014, he knowingly allowed Staple Inn Chambers to invoice his professional fees with added VAT despite knowing that he was not registered for VAT at the time.

The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

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Charge 2

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct contrary to paragraph 301(a)(iii) of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (8th Edition).

Particulars of Offence

Lewis Tresman, a practising barrister, engaged in conduct which was likely to diminish public confidence in the legal profession or otherwise bring the legal profession into disrepute, in that, from around June 2007 until 5 January 2014, he knowingly allowed Staple Inn Chambers to invoice his professional fees with added VAT despite knowing that he was not registered for VAT at the time

Charge 3

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 3, rC8 and rC9.1 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (Versions 1.0-4.6).

Particulars of Offence

Lewis Tresman, a practising barrister, was dishonest, in that, from 6 January 2014 until 23 February 2023, he knowingly allowed Staple Inn Chambers to invoice his professional fees with added VAT despite knowing that he was not registered for VAT at the time.

Charge 4

Statement of Offence

Professional misconduct contrary to Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook (Versions 1.0-4.6).

Particulars of Offence

Lewis Tresman, 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, from 6 January 2014 until 23 February 2023, he knowingly allowed Staple Inn Chambers to invoice his professional fees with added VAT despite knowing that he was not registered for VAT at the time.

Findings:

Charge 1	Proved
Charge 2	Admitted

Charge 3	Proved
Charge 4	Admitted

Sanction:

Disbarred. No costs order.