

Donal McGuire

CALL/INN: Called to the Bar by Gray's Inn, July 1983

TYPE OF HEARING: 5 Person Disciplinary Tribunal

DATE OF DECISION: 14 October 2013

In breach of

Contrary to paragraphs 202(b) and 905(d) and pursuant to paragraphs 901.6 and 901.5 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales (8th Edition).

Details of Offence

Donal McGuire, having held a practising certificate for 2011, failed to complete the CPD hours required for the year 2011, contrary to the requirements of paragraph 202(b) of the Bar's Code of Conduct and Regulation 5(a) of the Continuing Professional Development Regulations (Annex C to the Code of Conduct). This failure constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to paragraph 901.6; Mr McGuire having been given two previous separate automatic financial penalties by the Bar Standards Board for failures to comply with the Code, namely on the 1st July 2009 and 6th January 2012.

Donal McGuire, having held having held a practising certificate for 2011, failed to submit details of the CPD undertaken by him in 2011 in the prescribed form by the extended due date of the 9th November 2012, contrary to the requirements of paragraph 202(b) of the Bar's Code of Conduct and Regulation 7 of the Continuing Professional Development Regulations (Annex C to the Code of Conduct). This failure constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to paragraph 901.6; Mr McGuire having been given two previous separate automatic financial penalties by the Bar Standards Board for failures to comply with the Code, namely on the 1st July 2009 and 6th January 2012.

Donal McGuire, having been asked to provide comments or information on a complaint by the Bar Standards Board in a letter dated the 20th December 2012 and having been reminded of his duty to respond by a letter dated the 4th January 2013, failed to respond promptly to the said request. Such failure to provide comments and/or information as requested, by virtue of its nature and in combination with other failures to comply with the Code of Conduct (being the failures set out above), being so serious as to constitute professional misconduct.

SENTENCE: Suspended for 4 months.

STATUS: Final.