

Jean Etienne Attala

CALL/INN: Called to the Bar by Gray's Inn, May 1994

TYPE OF HEARING: 5 Person Disciplinary Tribunal

DATE OF DECISION: 21st January 2016

In breach of

Contrary to Core Duty 3 and/or 5 and rC65 of the Conduct Rules of the Bar Standards Board Handbook – [1st Edition].

Jean Attala, between 20 September 2011 and 9 August 2013, whilst acting as a senior executive for a firm of solicitors and during the conduct of a claim being made on behalf of clients of that firm (“the claim”), failed to act in those clients’ best interests and acted dishonestly by:

- a) failing to comply with orders and correspondence from the Employment Tribunal (ET”) in respect of the claim, resulting in the proceedings being struck out (on 30 November 2011);
- b) deliberately misleading the ET, prior to the proceedings being struck out, by indicating that he was taking instructions from his clients and/or gathering evidence in respect of quantum when he was not taking those steps;
- c) deliberately misleading the clients and officials of the union, which was funding the claim, by telling them:
 - (1) that the proceedings were continuing,
 - (2) that he was trying to arrange and was expecting to receive a hearing date shortly
 - (3) that the Tribunal was about to rule upon a legal interpretation point after a hearing when such information was false because the proceedings had been struck out;
- d) deliberately misleading his employers, when an enquiry was made by some of the clients in July 2013, by falsely telling his employers:
 - (1) that the proceedings had been withdrawn and then saying
 - (2) that the claim had been successfully reviewed but had then been withdrawn by the clients.

Jean Attala, between 8 September 2014 and 19 March 2015, failed to inform the Bar Standards Board that you were subject to disciplinary action by another approved regulator, namely the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

SENTENCE: Disbarred.

STATUS: Final.