



# The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

## Disciplinary Tribunal

### GODWIN OKRI

**Called to the Bar by: Lincoln's Inn, November 1995**

**Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal**

**Date of decision: 21 February 2018**

#### **In breach of:**

Paragraphs 301(a)(i) and 095(b)(v) and pursuant to paragraphs 901 and 901.7 of the Code of Conduct of the Bar of England and Wales [7<sup>th</sup> Edition] and Core Duty 9 and/or Rule rC65.3 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook [9<sup>th</sup> Edition].

#### **Details of offence:**

Godwin Okri engaged in conduct that was dishonest or otherwise discreditable to a barrister, in breach of paragraph 301(a)(i) of the Code of Conduct in that he acted in a conveyancing transaction between around 19 August 2004 and around 10 September 2004 which he:

- (a) Acted for a seller and buyer without the written consent of both parties, contrary to rule 6(a)(i) of the Solicitors Practice Rules 1990; and/or
- (b) Acted for a seller and buyer where a conflict of interest existed, contrary to rule 6(a)(ii) of the Solicitors Practice Rules 1990; and/or
- (c) Dishonestly proceeded with a transaction knowing that the consideration passing was at an undervalue; and/or
- (d) Dishonestly ignored the Solicitors Regulation Authority's green card warning on property fraud; and/or
- (e) Breached the Money Laundering Regulations 2003 by failing properly to ascertain the identity of his client; and/or

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- (f) Dishonestly failed to ensure that his client gave her instructions freely and without undue influence from others; and/or
- (g) Dishonestly assisted a third party in securing a property at a substantial undervalue;

For which conduct, on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008 he was ordered to be struck off the Roll of Solicitors pursuant to a finding of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal that he was guilty of conduct unbecoming a solicitor.

Godwin Okri failed to report to the Bar Standards Board the findings of professional misconduct made against him by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its decision dated the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 promptly or at all from the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 to the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

Godwin Okri failed to co-operate with the Bar Standards Board and/or failed to report to it the findings of of professional misconduct made against him by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal in its decision dated the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009 promptly or at all from the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014 to November 2016.

**Sanction:** Disbarred.

**Status:** Open to Appeal.