



# The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

## Disciplinary Tribunal

### ROBERT KEARNEY

Called to the Bar by: Inner Temple, November 1996

Type of hearing: 3 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 20 November 2018

#### In breach of:

Core Duty 5 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook.

#### Details of offence:

Robert Kearney, a practising barrister, behaved in a way which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in a barrister or in the profession, in that on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017, he attended an informal Bar Mess event in a restaurant, and at that event, Mr Kearney i] in a clearly drunken state, sat uncomfortably close to one of the pupils, whom he had never met before, put an arm around him, engaging in excessively physical and unwanted contact; ii] made uncomfortable, hostile and intimidating statements including that he, Mr Kearney, had “buttfucked another chambers dry”; and iii] directed an uncomfortable, hostile and intimidating question to the pupil, after first asking his age, namely whether he had, “ever taken a woman from behind”.

**Sanction:** Reprimanded. Fined £1000.00

**Status:** Open to Appeal.

#### The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

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