



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

JOHN GUESS ESQ

Called to the Bar by: Middle Temple, October 2000

Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 19 March 2019

In breach of:

Core Duty 5 and Rule rC8 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook.

Details of offence:

John Guess engaged in conduct likely to diminish public trust and confidence which the public places in a barrister or in the profession and behaved in a way which could reasonably be seen to undermine his integrity in that between the 15 August 2015 and 6 April 2018, he: i] sexually abused a child under the age of 13; ii] recorded and distributed images of the abuse referred to in [i] above; iii] sexually abused a child under the age of 13 on more than one occasion; iv] recorded and distributed images of the abuse referred to in [iii] above; v] aided another individual in his sexual assault of a child under the age of 13; vi] incited a girl under the age of 18 to expose herself to him in a sexual manner and to send him photographs of the behaviour; vii] made multiple indecent photographs of children; viii] possessed indecent images of Category A, 1000 images of Category B, 10,000 images of category C and multiple images and videos characterised as extreme pornography.

As a result of the conduct summarised above, on the 6 August 2018 was convicted at the Crown Court sitting in Cardiff on his pleas of guilty and sentenced under section 226[a] of the Criminal Justice Act to a total of 20 years imprisonment with an extended licence period of 6 years. He was also made the subject of a Sexual Harm Prevention Order and ordered to register on the Sex Offenders Register indefinitely.

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Sanction: Disbarred.

Status: Open to Appeal.