



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

LEE SOWDEN

**CALLED TO THE BAR BY: MIDDLE TEMPLE,
NOVEMBER 2015**

Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 11 November 2019

In breach of:

Core Duties 5 and 9 and/or rC65.1 and/or rC65.2 and rC8 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook.

Details of offence:

Lee Sowden, a barrister, engaged in conduct likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in a barrister or in the profession, and which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine the barrister's honesty and integrity, in that between 10 January 2011 and 8 December 2016, he made indecent photographs of children, contrary to section 1[1][a] of the Protection of Children Act 1978 and between 22 November 2017 and 26 November 2017 failed to comply with a notice issued under s.49 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, for which conduct he was, on 1 November 2018, convicted after trial at the Crown Court sitting at Leicester and on 2 November 2018 was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment and a 10 year sexual harm prevention order.

Lee Sowden, a barrister, engaged in conduct likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in a barrister or in the profession, and which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine the barrister's honesty and integrity, in that between 10 January 2011

The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

9 Gray's Inn Square,
London
WC1R 5JD
T: 020 3432 7350
E: info@tbta.org.uk

The Council of the Inns of Court. Limited by Guarantee
Company Number: 8804708
Charity Number: 1155640
Registered Office:
9 Gray's Inn Square, London WC1R 5JD

and 8 December 2016, he made indecent photographs of children, contrary to section 1[1][a] of the Protection of Children Act 1978 and between 22 November 2017 and 26 November 2017 failed to comply with a notice issued under s.49 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, for which conduct he was, on 1 November 2018, convicted after trial at the Crown Court sitting at Leicester and on 2 November 2018 was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment and a 10 year sexual harm prevention order.

Lee Sowden, a barrister, failed to report promptly, or at all, to the Bar Standards Board as required by CD9 and rC65.1 and/or failed to be open and co-operative with his regulator in that on 7 May 2018, he had been charged with seven indictable offences, namely six charges of making indecent photographs of children, contrary to section 1[1][a] of the Protection of Children Act 1978; and one charge of failing to comply with a Notice issued under s.49 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Lee Sowden, a barrister, failed to report promptly, or at all, to the Bar Standards Board as required by CD9 and rC65.2 and/or failed to be open and co-operative with his regulator in that on 1 November 2018, he had been found guilty d with seven indictable offences, namely six charges at the Crown Court sitting at Leicester of six counts of making indecent photographs of children, contrary to section 1[1][a] of the Protection of Children Act 1978; and one count of failing to comply with a Notice issued under s.49 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

Sanction: Disbarred.

Status: Open to Appeal.