



# The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

## Disciplinary Tribunal

### STEPHEN SWEENEY

**Called to the Bar by: Inner Temple, November 2001**

**Type of hearing: 3 Person Tribunal**

**Date of decision: 09 March 2020**

**In breach of:**

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

**Details of offence:**

Stephen Sweeney, a BSB regulated person, 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 27 March 2017, he assaulted X by beating her, for which conduct he was on the 8 March 2018 convicted at the Thames Magistrates Court under section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988. Mr Sweeney was sentenced to a Community Rehabilitation Order with a Rehabilitation Activity Requirement to comply with any instructions of the responsible officer to attend appointments, or to participate in any activity as required by the responsible officer up to a maximum of 25 days. Mr Sweeney was also ordered to pay £250 compensation and £500 costs and made subject to a Restraining Order; not to contact the victim directly or indirectly save for the purposed of arranging contact with the children via email and not to attend the matrimonial home save to collect or drop off the children with agreed prior notice.

Stephen Sweeney, a BSB regulated person, acted without integrity, alternatively behaved in a manner which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine his integrity in that on the 27 March 2017, he assaulted X by beating her, for which conduct he was on the 8 March 2018 convicted at the Thames Magistrates Court under section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988. Mr Sweeney was sentenced to a Community Rehabilitation Order with a Rehabilitation

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Activity Requirement to comply with any instructions of the responsible officer to attend appointments, or to participate in any activity as required by the responsible officer up to a maximum of 25 days. Mr Sweeney was also ordered to pay £250 compensation and £500 costs and made subject to a Restraining Order; not to contact the victim directly or indirectly save for the purposed of arranging contact with the children via email and not to attend the matrimonial home save to collect or drop off the children with agreed prior notice.

Stephen Sweeney, a BSB regulated person, 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 8 March 2018, he failed to surrender to custody at Stratford Magistrates Court, having been released on bail on the 27 February 2018, for which conduct he was convicted on the 8 March 2018 at the Thames Magistrates Court of failing to surrender to custody without reasonable cause under the Bail Act 1976 and fined £50 and ordered to be detained in the courthouse for 1 day [detention deemed served by reason of time already spent in custody].

**Sanction:** Suspended for 4 Months. Reprimanded.

**Status:** Open to Appeal.