



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

CAROLINE LANGLEY

Called to the Bar by: Lincoln's Inn, November 1989

Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 15 November 2021

In breach of:

Core Duties 3 and 5 of the Bar Standards Board Handbook.

Details of offence:

Caroline Langley, a barrister, acted in a way which undermined her honesty and/or integrity in that she communicated with Person A regarding her client, Person B's contact with Children X and Y, which was inappropriate and/or designed or had the effect of placing undue pressure on Person A to comply with the request for contact by stating the following:

- a] On 15 June 2019, in an email to Person A copying in Person B and other third parties *"There are various ways to retrospectively enforce the orders for this weekend. However, I would prefer to see the adults reach a compromise for the sake of the boys"*.
- b] On 15 June 2019 in an Instant Message to Person A copying in Person B and other third parties *"To be absolutely clear, the children must be taken to the Father now. You have no legal rights over the children, nor even legal guardianship. I will enforce this order if I have to."*
- c] On 15 June 2019 in an email to Person A copying in Person B and other third parties *"I appreciate that you are in some difficulty being in the middle; however,*

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that you have not released the boys into the care of their Father can only be interpreted as you willfully enabling a breach of Court orders by wrongfully retaining the boys. If there is anything in this statement that is not correct, please let me know.”

- d] On 16 June 2019 in an email to Person A copying in Person B and other third parties *“Yesterday, you decided per ispum, not to remit the boys to the care and control of my client, directly violating Court Orders and in defiance of my request to do so...My client will be at your premises at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning as per the Court Order. Should you continue to thwart the order, I will not hesitate to have you sanctioned by the appropriate authorities.”*

Caroline Langley, a barrister, acted in a way which was likely to diminish the trust and confidence with the public places in a barrister or in the profession in that she communicated with Person A regarding her client, Person B’s contact with Children X and Y, which was inappropriate and/or designed or had the effect of placing undue pressure on Person A to comply with the request for contact by stating the following:

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- c] On 15 June 2019 in an email to Person A copying in Person B and other third parties *“I appreciate that you are in some difficulty being in the middle; however, that you have not released the boys into the care of their Father can only be interpreted as you willfully enabling a breach of Court orders by wrongfully retaining the boys. If there is anything in this statement that is not correct, please let me know.”*
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the Court Order. Should you continue to thwart the order, I will not hesitate to have you sanctioned by the appropriate authorities.”

Sanction: Reprimanded. Fined £750.00. Contribution to Costs of £500.00 to be paid to the BSB; both sums to be paid within 28 days.

Status: Open to Appeal.