



The Bar Tribunals & Adjudication Service

The Council of the Inns of Court

Disciplinary Tribunal

MATTHEW JOHN BOYDEN

Called to the Bar by: Middle Temple, July 2007

Type of hearing: 5 Person Tribunal

Date of decision: 12 January 2023

In breach of:

Core Duties 1, 3, 5 and 9 and Rules 64.1, 6.42 and Rules 6 and 8 of the Scope of Practice Rules of the Bar Standards Board Handbook.

Details of Offence:

PC 2020/1136/D5

Matthew Boyden, who at all material times was an unregistered barrister, and who was not entitled to hold a practising certificate throughout the period 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, failed to observe his duty to the court in the administration of justice on 10 July 2019 when he:

- .1 In a Preparation for Effective Trial form (case number 1900075685), gave his personal details for service of documents by the parties and by the court, and in doing so dishonestly gave the misleading impression, to the court and to others, that he was authorised to undertake a reserved legal activity (the conduct of litigation), and/or to practise as a barrister; and/or
- .2 Appeared before the Magistrates' Court on behalf of the Defendant (case number 1900075685), which was a public hearing, and in doing so he dishonestly gave the misleading impression, to the court and to others, that he

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Matthew Boyden, who at all material times was an unregistered barrister, and who was not entitled to hold a practising certificate throughout the period 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, failed to observe his duty to the court in the administration of justice on 10 July 2019 when he:

- .1 In a Preparation for Effective Trial form (case number 1900075685), gave his personal details for service of documents by the parties and by the court, and in doing so gave the misleading impression, to the court and to others, that he was authorised to undertake a reserved legal activity (the conduct of litigation), and/or to practise as a barrister; and/or
- .2 Appeared before the Magistrates' Court on behalf of the Defendant (case number 1900075685), which was a public hearing, and in doing so he gave the misleading impression, to the court and to others, that he was authorised to exercise a right of audience, which is a reserved legal activity, and/or to practise as a barrister.

Matthew Boyden, who at all material times was an unregistered barrister, and who was not entitled to hold a practising certificate throughout the period 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, practised as a barrister and/or undertook reserved legal activities on or around 10 July 2019 in that he:

- .1 In a Preparation for Effective Trial form (case number 1900075685), gave his personal details for service of documents by the parties and by the court, which amounted to the conduct of litigation, and in doing so undertook a reserved legal activity, and/or he practised as a barrister; and/or
- .2 Appeared before the Magistrates' Court on behalf of the Defendant (case number 1900075685), which was a public hearing, and in doing so he exercised a right of audience, which is a reserved legal activity, and/or he practised as a barrister.

Matthew Boyden, who at all material times was an unregistered barrister, and who was not entitled to hold a practising certificate throughout the period 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, behaved in a way which is likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public placed in him and in the profession on 10 July 2019 in that he:

- .1 In a Preparation for Effective Trial form (case number 1900075685), gave his personal details for service of documents by the parties and by the court, which amounted to the conduct of litigation, and in doing so undertook a reserved legal activity, and/or he practised as a barrister; and/or
- .2 Appeared before the Magistrates' Court on behalf of the Defendant (case number 1900075685), which was a public hearing, and in doing so he exercised

a right of audience, which is a reserved legal activity, and/or he practised as a barrister.

Matthew Boyden failed to be open and co-operative with his regulator, the Bar Standards Board, in that between 27 November 2020 to 16 June 2022, he failed to respond promptly or at all, to requests for information sent in respect of a regulatory investigation under BSB case reference PC2020/1136.

PC 2021/6527/D5

Matthew Boyden acted dishonestly when he caused or allowed the website of his employers to display a profile which contained a description of him as a 'commercial barrister' who provides legal services to his employer and clients, from at least 08 February 2022 to 16 May 2022, when he knew that:

- (a) on 21 January 2021 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate for a period of three years, from 21 January 2021 to 21 January 2024, and
- (b) on 22 March 2019 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate from 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022.

Both of these orders were sent to him and were published on the websites of the Bar Standards Board and the Bar Tribunal and Adjudication Service. At all material times, from 1 April 2016, Matthew Boyden was an unregistered barrister.

Matthew Boyden caused or allowed the website of his employers to display a profile which contained a description of him as a 'commercial barrister', who supplied or offered to supply legal services to his employer and clients, from at least 08 February 2022 to 16 May 2022, during which time he was prohibited from applying for a practising certificate by virtue of orders of the Disciplinary Tribunal dated 21 January 2021 (applying a prohibition from 21 January 2021 to 21 January 2024), and 22 March 2019 (applying a prohibition from 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022), and was or ought to have been aware of the same. At all material times, from 1 April 2016, Matthew Boyden was an unregistered barrister.

Matthew Boyden failed to comply in due time or at all with a decision imposed by the Disciplinary Tribunal [BSB case reference: PC/2019/0391/D5] dated 21 January 2021 which ordered him to pay costs in the sum of £1770 to the Bar Standards Board, which he was ordered to pay by 26 February 2021.

Matthew Boyden behaved in a way which could reasonably be seen by the public to undermine his honesty and/or integrity in that he:

.1 acted without integrity when he failed to comply with an order of the Disciplinary Tribunal [BSB case reference: PC/2019/0391/D5] dated 21 January 2021 in respect of payment of the Bar Standards Board's costs in the sum of £1770.00 in due time or at all; and/or

.2 acted with dishonesty and/or without integrity when he caused or allowed the website of his employers to display a profile which contained a description of him as a 'commercial barrister', who supplied or offered to supply legal services to his employer and clients, from at least 08 February 2022 to 16 May 2022, when he knew, or ought to have known, that on 21 January 2021 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate from 21 January 2021 to 21 January 2024, and that on 22 March 2019 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate from 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, both of which orders were sent to him, and were published on the websites of the Bar Standards Board and the Bar Tribunal and Adjudication Service.

Matthew Boyden behaved in a way which is likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in him and/or or in the profession, in that he:

.1 failed to comply with an order of the Disciplinary Tribunal [BSB case reference: PC/2019/0391/D5] dated 21 January 2021 in respect of payment of the Bar Standards Board's costs in the sum of £1770.00 in due time or at all; and/or

.2 caused or allowed the website of his employers to display a profile which contained a description of him as a 'commercial barrister', who supplied or offered to supply legal services to his employer and clients, from at least 08 February 2022 to 16 May 2022, when he knew, or ought to have known, that on 21 January 2021 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate from 21 January 2021 to 21 January 2024, and that on 22 March 2019 the Disciplinary Tribunal made an order which prohibited him from applying for a practising certificate from 22 March 2019 to 22 March 2022, both of which orders were sent to him, and were published on the websites of the Bar Standards Board and the Bar Tribunal and Adjudication Service.

Matthew Boyden failed to be open and co-operative with his regulator, the Bar Standards Board, in that between 8 February to 16 May 2022, he failed to respond promptly or at all, to requests for information sent in respect of a regulatory investigation under BSB case reference PC021/6527.

Sanction: Disbarred. Costs of £4,041.96 to be paid to the BSB.

Status: Final.