

HEARING AID COUNCIL
Meeting
of
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

FAST TRACK DISCIPLINARY HEARING

held at

70 St Mary Axe
London EC3A 8BD

on

24 April 2008

The case of: MR CHRISTOPHER ELCOCKS

Before the Panel of:

MR CHRIS HUGHES (CHAIR)
MR TONY CORCORAN
MR MARK GEORGEVIC

MR DAVID GRANT: LEGAL ASSESSOR
MR STUART PARKER: ON BEHALF OF MRS HAWTHORNE (SOLICITOR FOR THE HAC)
MS AMICIE KNOWLES: CLERK TO HAC

The RESPONDENT did not attend and was not represented

Transcript of the Shorthand Notes of
Ubiquis
Cliffords Inn
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1 [DECISION ON SANCTION]

2 CHAIR: In the case of Christopher Elcocks, the Disciplinary Committee of the Hearing
3 Aid Council has found him guilty of a breach of Clause 21 of the Code of Practice
4 in that he failed to respond with reasonable expedition and in a proper manner to
5 enquires made by the Registrar in connection with a complaint.

6 The relationship between the regulated professional and his or her
7 regulation and registration body is of fundamental importance in maintaining
8 standards and in maintaining confidence in the regulated profession. Failing to
9 properly address issues raised by the Regulator in connection with service provided
10 to consumers is a matter for significant concern.

11 In considering what sanction to apply in this case, the Disciplinary
12 Committee is aware of the need to maintain standards and to maintain public
13 confidence. In these circumstances, especially in the absence of any explanation
14 from the Dispenser of the reasons for his breach, we have to view this matter as an
15 issue of some seriousness. Accordingly, we conclude that simply to reprimand the
16 Dispenser on this occasion is not appropriate and we have therefore considered a
17 financial penalty within the range which is available to us under statute. We have
18 concluded that a sanction of £1,000 is proportionate in the circumstances.

19
20 [DECISION ON COSTS]

21
22 CHAIR: The Committee awards costs in favour of the Hearing Aid Council in the sum of
23 £1,896.70.

24 The next matter in this case we have to deal with, although it's not formally
25 before us, is we need to properly consider the precise terms of the order and how
26 much time we should allow Mr Elcocks to pay.

1 We have very conveniently a quite detailed income and expenditure
2 schedule which Mr Elcocks has provided. We need to consider what an appropriate
3 period of time for payment should be, which is reasonable in his circumstances. I
4 would be minded to make an order that he should pay the sum of £300 per month,
5 the first payment to be made within 14 days, and that in the event of any payment
6 not being made the full sum be immediately due and payable. That means that the
7 first payment will be due on 8 May and monthly thereafter, the final payment of
8 £196.70 being due in March next year.

9 That concludes the hearing with respect to Mr Elcocks.

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11 [The hearing concluded]
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