

24 December 2024

Disciplinary Committee ordered member severely reprimanded*

On 12 & 13 December 2024, the Disciplinary Committee of ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) found proved the following amended allegations against Mr Alexander George Parker of Lymm, United Kingdom:

Allegations

Allegation 1

- (a) That on 19 November 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker sent a letter of engagement to Company A that was incorrect as it stated that Mr Parker's firm had been engaged by Company A since 23 July 2020 when it had not been.
- (b) That on 27 October 2020, Mr Parker raised an invoice in the name of Company A that was incorrect as it referred to work that had been undertaken since 23 July 2020 when such work had not been undertaken for Company A.
- (c) Mr Parker's conduct in respect of 1(a) and/or 1(b):
 - (ii) Demonstrated a failure to act with integrity.

Allegation 2

- (a) That on or around 23 July 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker caused his firm to undertake work for Person B without first establishing their identity and address.
- (b) Mr Parker's conduct in respect of 2(a) was contrary to Paragraph 9 of Section B2 (Anti-Money Laundering) (as applicable in 2020).

Allegation 3

- (a) That on or around 17 October 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker caused his firm to accept an engagement from and/or undertake work for Company A despite:
 - (i) Mr Parker's personal connection to Person B who was a director and 50% shareholder in Company A; and/or
 - (ii) Mr Parker's firm having been engaged by Person B, a 50% shareholder and director of Company A, on or around 23 July 2020.
- (b) Mr Parker's conduct in respect of 3(a) was contrary to:
 - (i) The Fundamental Principle of Objectivity (as applicable in 2020); or in the alternative
 - (ii) R310.4 (Conflicts of Interest) (as applicable in 2020).

Allegation 4

- (a) That on or around 17 October 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker caused his firm to undertake work for Company A without:
 - (i) Obtaining proof of the incorporation of Company A;
 - (ii) Establishing the primary business address and/or registered address of Company A;
 - (iii) Establishing the structure, management and ownership of Company A;
 - (iv) Obtaining independent evidence of Person C's identity; and/or
 - (v) Retaining copies of any evidence obtained in connection with 4(a)(i) to (iv).

- (b) Mr Parker's conduct in respect of 4(a) was contrary to Paragraph 9 of Section B2 (Anti-Money Laundering) (as applicable in 2020).

Allegation 5

- (a) That on or around 19 November 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker sent a letter of engagement to Person B having first been engaged by them on or around 23 July 2020.
- (b) Mr Parker's conduct in respect of 5(a) was contrary to Paragraph 5 of Section B9 (Professional Liability of Accountants and Auditors) (as applicable in 2020).

Allegation 6 (as amended)

That on 25 November 2020, Mr Alexander George Parker sent an email to Person C, a director of his firm's client, which displayed a lack of courtesy and consideration, contrary to Section 115.3 (Professional Behaviour) (as applicable in 2020).

Allegation 7

By reason of his conduct, Mr Alexander George Parker is:

- (a) Guilty of misconduct in respect of any or all of the matters set out at allegations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and/or 6, pursuant to bye-law 8(a)(i).

The Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Parker be severely reprimanded and to pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £10,000.

Please note that this may be the subject of an appeal.

ACCA's regulations require ACCA to publish the Committee's findings and orders by way of a news release, as soon as practicable.

** An order made by the Disciplinary Committee shall take effect from the date of expiry of the Appeal Period referred to in the Appeal Regulations unless the Committee directs that the order should have immediate effect*

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For media enquiries, contact:

ACCA News Room

E: newsroom@accaglobal.com

Twitter/X: @ACCANews

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About ACCA

We are ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), a globally recognised professional accountancy body providing qualifications and advancing standards in accountancy worldwide.

Founded in 1904 to widen access to the accountancy profession, we've long championed inclusion and today proudly support a diverse community of over 252,500 members and 526,000 future members in 180 countries.

Our forward-looking qualifications, continuous learning and insights are respected and valued by employers in every sector. They equip individuals with the business and finance expertise and ethical judgment to create, protect, and report the sustainable value delivered by organisations and economies.

Guided by our purpose and values, our vision is to develop the accountancy profession the world needs. Partnering with policymakers, standard setters, the donor community, educators and other accountancy bodies, we're strengthening and building a profession that drives a sustainable future for all.

Find out more at: www.accaglobal.com