

Sarah Aikenhead
Employee
667226

[Employee-related decision Date: 16 July 2019](#)

Decision - Employee-related decision

Outcome: Control of non-qualified staff (Section 43 / Section 99 order)

Outcome date: 16 July 2019

Published date: 27 August 2021

Firm details

Firm or organisation at time of matters giving rise to outcome

Name: Maddocks Clarke Solicitors

Address(es): Fairbank House 27 Ashley Road, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 2DP

Firm ID: 73299

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Decision details

IN THE MATTER OF: Sarah Aikenhead of Sale, Greater Manchester

A person who is or was involved in a legal practice but is not a solicitor

Reasons/basis

THE FACTS

Ms Aikenhead was employed as a legal secretary at Maddocks Clarke Solicitors whose head office is at Fairbank House, 27 Ashley Road, Altrincham. The firm is a recognised body. Ms Aikenhead was dismissed for gross misconduct on 13 September 2019 following the discovery that she had misappropriated money from the firm's client account.

On 30 October 2020 Ms Aikenhead pleaded guilty to, and was convicted of, two counts of fraud by abuse of position. She was sentenced to 40 months imprisonment and had to pay a victim surcharge of £170.

FINDING

Ms Aikenhead, who is not a solicitor, was involved in a legal practice and has been convicted of a criminal offence which is such that it is undesirable for her to be involved in a legal practice in any of the ways described in the order below.

ORDER

To make an order pursuant to section 43 that:

- i. no solicitor shall employ or remunerate her in connection with his/her practice as a solicitor;
- ii. no employee of a solicitor shall employ or remunerate her in connection with the solicitor's practice;
- iii. no recognised body shall employ or remunerate her;
- iv. no manager or employee of a recognised body shall employ or remunerate her in connection with the business of that body;
- v. no recognised body or manager or employee of such a body shall permit her to be a manager of the body; and
- vi. no recognised body or manager or employee of such a body shall permit her to have an interest in the body

except in accordance with the SRA's permission.

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