

# Holly Johnson

## Employee

### 609437

[Employee-related decision Date: 27 October 2017](#)

## Decision - Employee-related decision

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

Outcome date: 27 October 2017

Published date: 6 December 2017

## Firm details

### Firm or organisation at time of matters giving rise to outcome

Name: Priority Law Limited

Address(es): Priority House, 22 Church Street, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 1AU

Firm ID: 438393

## Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

### Decision details

On 1 July 2015, Miss Holly Johnson commenced employment as a trainee solicitor with Priority Law Limited whose registered office is at Lake View, Lakeside, Cheadle. She was dismissed by the firm on 7 December 2016. During the course of her employment, Miss Johnson was found to have:

- a. Used money that the firm was holding for a client to cover up mistakes that she had made on five separate matters.
- b. Changed the matter name to try and conceal the payment requests that she had made / was making.

Her conduct in this regard was found to be dishonest and to have breached rule 1.2(c) of the SRA Accounts Rules 2011 and the following SRA Principles:

- Principle 2 (act with integrity).
- Principle 6 (behave in a way that maintains the public's trust in you and the provision of legal services).



- Principle 10 (protect client money and assets).

Miss Johnson was made subject to an order pursuant to section 43(2) of the Solicitors Act 1974 (as amended), was given a written rebuke and was ordered to pay a financial penalty of £2,000. She was also ordered to pay the SRA's costs of £600 in investigation this matter.

It is not known whether Miss Johnson is currently working at a SRA regulated practice.

#### **Reasons/basis**

#### **Order for publication**

In the matter of Miss Holly Johnson of Denton, Manchester, a person who is or was involved in legal practice but is not a solicitor.

#### **Section 43 Solicitors Act 1974 (as amended)**

#### **Finding**

Miss Johnson was involved in a legal practice (as defined by section 43(1A) of the Solicitors Act 1974) but not as a solicitor and has occasioned or been a party to an act or default which involved such conduct on her part that in the opinion of the Society it would be 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 with effect from the date of the letter or email notifying Miss Johnson of this decision:

- 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 a Society permission.

This order is subject to an internal right of appeal and a statutory right of review Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal.

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