

Misappropriation of trust funds

CHRISTOPHER R.W. WILSON

Victoria, B.C.

Called to the Bar: June 26, 1975

Although a person of means, Mr. Wilson because of cash flow problems professionally misconducted himself by misappropriating or wrongfully converting money entrusted to and received by him in his capacity as a member of the Society from the following:

1. Miss S, a woman for whom he drew a will, \$3,241.16 on or about June 30, 1986;
2. Mr. E, the amount of \$5,014.66 on or about June 30, 1988;
3. the Estate of S, \$4,000 on or about March 4, 1987;
4. Mr. D and S Inc., \$2,000 on or about May 31, 1988;
5. Mr. S and business associates, \$11,300 in varying amounts on four occasions between May 4, 1988 and June 1, 1988;
6. Mr. and Mrs. K, \$1,000 on or about May 19, 1986.

The member also misconducted himself while acting for Mr. D and S Inc. in falsely stating that he had meetings and communications on their behalf with parties in England. Mr. Wilson has made restitution with respect to the above-noted instances of misappropriation.

Mr. Wilson ceased to be a member of the Law Society of British Columbia on January 1, 1989.

On February 22, 1989 the member tendered a conditional admission of a discipline violation to the Standing Discipline Committee pursuant to Rule 468(1) and (3).

The Discipline Committee agreed to accept this admission and to vacate the citation outstanding against Mr. Wilson when it received a cheque for \$8,500 from Mr. Wilson to cover the costs of the Law Society's preparation for the hearing and Mr. Wilson's written undertaking to:

1. refrain from ever re-applying for reinstatement to the Law Society of British Columbia;

2. obtain the written consent of the Benchers of the Law Society of British Columbia before ever working for a lawyer or law firm in the Province of British Columbia;
3. provide written notice to the Secretary of the Law Society of British Columbia prior to making application for membership in any other law society or governing body of lawyers;
4. refrain from allowing his name to be used on the letterhead of any lawyer or law firm who may purchase the goodwill of his practice;
5. pay the costs of the custodian of his practice subject to the taxation thereof, or subject to an agreement between counsel for the Discipline Committee and Mr. Wilson as to the amount thereof.

Discipline Digest — 1989: No. 1 July (Wilson)