

2004 LSBC 42

Report issued: December 16, 2004

Oral Reasons: November 22, 2004

The Law Society of British Columbia
In the matter of the *Legal Profession Act*, SBC 1998, c.9
and a proceeding pursuant to s. 39 concerning

Robert Earl Williamson

Respondent

Decision of Three Benchers

Hearing date: November 22, 2004

Panel: Ralston S. Alexander, QC, Chair, Gordon Turriff, QC, Joost Blom, QC

Counsel for the Law Society: Jean Whittow, QC

Counsel for the Respondent: Glen Orris, QC

[1] This is a proceeding pursuant to Section 39 of the *Legal Profession Act* and Rule 4-17 of the Law Society Rules, to determine whether the Respondent should be suspended or have conditions placed on his practice pending final disposition of the citation that was authorized by the Discipline Committee on October 28, 2004. That citation was authorized in respect of the Respondent's alleged conduct in failing to respond promptly to communications from the Law Society, contrary to Chapter 13, Rule 3 of the *Professional Conduct Handbook*, for his breach of the Accounting Rules for failing to properly render accounts to clients, for preparing back-dated accounts in order to conceal his failure to properly render accounts and for his breach of undertaking to the Practice Standards Committee.

[2] Having reviewed the materials submitted, and having heard counsel for the Law Society and the Respondent, and having considered the situation presented in evidence by consent and through the viva voce testimony of the Respondent, we impose the following conditions upon the practice of the Respondent:

1. On or before December 15, 2004, the Respondent must arrange for a practice supervisor who is a member of the Law Society and who is approved by the Practice Standards Committee of the Law Society and who, in turn, enters into a Practice Supervision Agreement on terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the Practice Standards Committee.
2. On or before December 15, 2004, the Respondent must retain a qualified bookkeeper satisfactory to the Practice Standards Committee.
3. On or before January 31, 2005, the bookkeeper must provide to the Practice Standards Committee evidence satisfactory to that Committee that the books and records of the Respondent are in compliance with Law Society Rules.

[3] The Respondent may apply in writing at any time for rescission or variation of this order, pursuant to Rule 4-19.

