

The Law Society of British Columbia  
In the matter of the *Legal Profession Act*, SBC 1998, c.9  
and an application pursuant to Rule 4-19 concerning

**Robert Earl Williamson**

Respondent

**Decision of Three Benchers**

Hearing date: February 14, 2005

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

Counsel for the Law Society: Jean Whittow, QC

On his own behalf (by telephone): Robert E. Williamson

[1] This is an application by Mr. Williamson for an order pursuant to Rule 4-19(3) of the Rules of the Law Society varying a provision of our earlier order dated November 22, 2004, by which order Mr. Williamson was required to deliver by January 31, 2005, evidence satisfactory to the Practice Standards Committee of the Law Society that his books and records were in compliance with the Law Society Rules. In support of his application today, Mr. Williamson has provided an affidavit which he swore February 10, 2005, relating the steps he took to comply with our order.

[2] Having considered Mr. Williamson's evidence, his submissions and the submissions of Ms. Whittow, counsel for the Law Society in this matter, we find that Mr. Williamson has not shown, on the balance of probabilities, cause for us to vary our order. We are not persuaded that Mr. Williamson undertook the steps necessary in a sufficiently timely way to ensure compliance with our order. We note, for example, that he delivered the necessary bookkeeping materials and information to his accountants just four days prior to the date by which the accountants would have had to report compliance, and we note that of those four days, two of the same were weekend days.

[3] Nothing that we say today in this order should be taken by Mr. Williamson as license for him to abandon his obligations to comply with the Law Society Rules, and particularly, to comply with his obligation to provide in a timely way the Form 47.