

2010 : No. 2 Summer

Douglas Edward Arthur LeBeau

Burnaby, BC

Called to the bar: May 3, 2004

Discipline hearing : May 6, 2010

Panel : Gavin Hume, QC (single-Bencher panel)

Report issued : May 14, 2010 (2010 LSBC 12)

Counsel : Maureen Boyd for the Law Society and Michael A. LeBeau on behalf of Douglas Edward Arthur LeBeau

Facts

In 2009, Douglas Edward Arthur LeBeau was retained by a bank to prepare and register mortgages on certain properties. The Law Society received complaints from two representatives of this bank alleging that, despite several attempts, they were unable to contact him to obtain final reports in these matters.

LeBeau also failed to respond to letters and telephone messages from the Law Society with regards to these complaints. He was personally served on March 24, 2010 with affidavits and a cover letter, advising that failure to respond to Law Society communications was a serious matter and could constitute professional misconduct.

Immediately before the discipline hearing, LeBeau resigned as a member of the Law Society and indicated that he had no intention of returning to the practice of law.

Verdict

The panel determined that LeBeau's failure to respond to Law Society communications was professional misconduct.

Penalty

The panel decided that a fine was unnecessary given LeBeau's resignation. Counsel for LeBeau indicated that he had taken responsibility for LeBeau's files and was responding to the concerns of the complainants. The panel, therefore, found it unnecessary to order that LeBeau do so. The panel ordered that LeBeau:

1. be reprimanded; and
2. pay \$1,500 in costs.