

Applicant 10

Hearing (application for enrolment): September 8-9 and November 5-6, 2015, January 11-12 and April 21, 2016

Panel: Gregory Petrisor, Chair, William Everett, QC and Thelma Siglos

Decision issued: February 27, 2017 (2017 LSBC 06)

Counsel: Jean P. Whittow, QC for the Law Society; Applicant 10 on his own behalf

BACKGROUND

In March 2010 Applicant 10 was suspended from another law society for non-payment of fees. In July 2011 he applied for transfer and admission to the Law Society of BC.

In September 2011 Applicant 10 joined a BC law firm as a solicitor. He was terminated from that position in January 2012.

In February 2012 he was found by another law society to have committed conduct worthy of sanction, received a reprimand and was ordered to pay costs. Also in February he signed a shareholders' agreement with a client of the BC law firm, taking a two per cent shareholder interest and a position as "legal advisor."

In October 2012 he was reinstated to the other law society and was granted active non-practising status.

Applicant 10 has a history of alcohol abuse, and in 2010 he received a suspended sentence and three years of probation for breaking and entering and theft charges.

DECISION

The panel examined the evidence of the Applicant's character, repute, fitness and suitability to practise law. The panel found that the Applicant's conduct cast serious doubt on his ability to appreciate the difference between right and wrong. The panel found that the Applicant failed to prove that he was of good character and repute and failed to prove that he was fit or suitable to be admitted to the bar.

The panel dismissed the application for transfer and call and admission to the Law Society of British Columbia.