

AAT INVESTIGATIONS TEAM

ORDER BY CONSENT

In the matter of Philip Simpson (Membership number 141091)

Misconduct Philip Simpson's conduct was found to be in breach of the *Code of Professional Ethics* and to have posed a risk to the public and/or undermine public confidence in the Association and its members as follows:

1. He made misleading and exaggerated claims to the public by misrepresenting himself and his firm, 525 Accountancy Services Ltd, as a '*chartered*' accountancy firm without holding membership and/or a practising licence with any of the relevant chartered bodies.
2. He made misleading and exaggerated claims to the public by misrepresenting himself as holding a practising licence with ACCA and IAB on his firm's stationary without holding a valid practising certificate with either professional body.
3. He made misleading and exaggerated claims to the public by misrepresenting himself as holding fellow membership status with ACCA and IAB by using their designatory letters without holding a valid membership with either professional body.
4. He failed to disclose a County Court Judgment issued on 12 April 2016 as part of his licence renewal between 2016 and 2018.

Finding Grounds for disciplinary action existed and the matter was suitable for the exercise of the Investigations Team's powers under the *Disciplinary Regulations*.

Order Philip Simpson is hereby:

1. Reprimanded; the reprimand will expire 48 months from the date of this Order
2. Warned that he must, at all times, comply with laws, policies, codes and regulations that are relevant to the services that he is licensed to provide
3. Divested of his fellow member status
4. Subject to a practice assurance review on or around 30 November 2020 at his own expense.

Consent Philip Simpson consented to the decision of the Investigations Team in accordance with Regulation 6 of the *Disciplinary Regulations*.

03 June 2020