



Think Ahead

News release

05 May 2020

Disciplinary Committee ordered Removal from Exclusion from Membership*

On 20 April 2019 and 30 April 2020 the Disciplinary Committee of ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) found proved the following allegations against Ms Jane Louise Francis, of Rushden, Northamptonshire, United Kingdom:

Allegation 1

- a) Contrary to paragraph 14(2) of the Global Practising Regulations (as applicable in 2017 and 2018), between 8 February 2017 and 26 March 2018 Ms Jane Louise Francis failed to provide all information necessary to enable ACCA to complete its monitoring process efficiently.

Allegation 2

- a) Contrary to paragraph 14(3) of the Global Practising Regulations (as applicable in 2017 and 2018), between 8 February 2017 and 26 March 2018 Ms Jane Louise Francis failed to co-operate with ACCA in its monitoring and enforcement of compliance with these regulations.

Allegation 3

Ms Jane Louise Francis breached Global Practising Regulations (as applicable in 2018) by virtue of not holding a valid practising certificate with regards to any or all of the following in that:

- a) Between 1 January 2018 and 18 June 2018 she was the sole proprietor of Absolute Accounts, which carried out public practice, contrary to Paragraph 3(2)(a) of the Global Practice Regulations (as applicable in 2018);

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- b) She carried on public practice, in particular, she produced accounts for Company C between 1 January 2018 and 17 January 2018 for the year ended 30 April 2017 contrary to Paragraph 3(1)(a) of the Global Practice Regulations (as applicable in 2018);
- c) She carried on public practice, in particular, she produced accounts for Company B between 1 January 2018 and 20 February 2018 for the 369 day period ended 31 May 2017 contrary to Paragraph 3(1)(a) of the Global Practice Regulations (as applicable in 2018);
- d) She carried on public practice, in particular, she produced accounts for Company A between 1 January 2018 and 31 May 2018 for the year ended 31 August 2017 contrary to Paragraph 3(1)(a) of the Global Practice Regulations (as applicable in 2018);
- e) Between 5 September 2018 and 26 September 2018 held herself out to be held out as a “Chartered Certified Accountant” in her LinkedIn profile contrary to paragraph 4(1)(c) of the Global Practice Regulations (as applicable in 2018);

Allegation 4

- a) Contrary to Paragraph 3(1) of the Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations 2014, Ms Jane Louise Francis failed to co-operate with the investigation of a complaint in that she failed to provide any or all of the information requested by an investigation officer in correspondence dated:
 - i. 20 April 2018
 - ii. 11 May 2018
 - iii. 31 May 2018
 - iv. 10 August 2018

Allegation 5

a) By reason of her conduct in respect of any or all of the matters set out at 1 to 4 above, Ms. Jane Louise Francis is:

i. Guilty of misconduct pursuant to bye-law 8(a)(i)

The Disciplinary Committee ordered that Miss Francis be excluded from the membership with immediate effect and to pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £9,000.

Please note that this may be the subject of an appeal.

ACCA's regulations require ACCA to publish the Committee's findings and orders by way of a news release, as soon as practicable.

** An order made by the Disciplinary Committee shall take effect from the date of expiry of the Appeal Period referred to in the Appeal Regulations unless the Committee directs that the order should have immediate effect*

- ends -

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About ACCA

ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) is the global body for professional accountants, offering business-relevant, first-choice qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management.

ACCA supports its **219,000** members and **527,000** students (including affiliates) in **179** countries, helping them to develop successful careers in accounting and business, with the skills required by employers. ACCA works through a network of **110** offices and centres and **7,571** Approved Employers worldwide, and **328** approved learning providers who provide high standards of learning and development.

Through its public interest remit, ACCA promotes appropriate regulation of accounting and conducts relevant research to ensure accountancy continues to grow in reputation and influence.

ACCA has introduced major innovations to its flagship qualification to ensure its members and future members continue to be the most valued, up to date and sought-after accountancy professionals globally.

Founded in 1904, ACCA has consistently held unique core values: opportunity, diversity, innovation, integrity and accountability. More information is here: www.accaglobal.com

With the increased spread of the coronavirus, the UK Government has issued updated guidance and has set out the quarantine and isolation requirements. This information is constantly being updated and assessed by the Government and so please always check [this link](#) and on [ACCA's website](#).