



Think Ahead

# News release

06 December 2022

## Disciplinary Committee ordered Member excluded\*

On 01 and 02 December 2022, the Disciplinary Committee of ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) found proved the following allegations against Mr Bilal Khaled Al Hasan from London, United Kingdom:

### Allegations

Mr Bilal Khaled Al Hasan, a member of ACCA and Director of Ashmere & Co (“the firm”):

1. Failed to fully cooperate with the investigation of a complaint, contrary to Regulation 3(1) of the Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations 2014, in that he failed to provide any or all of the information requested by a Senior Investigations Officer in any or all of the correspondence dated:
  - a. 14 July 2021;
  - b. 24 August 2021;
  - c. 25 August 2021;
  - d. 02 September 2021;
  - e. 20 September 2021;
  - f. 05 October 2021.
  
2. On dates between 26 June 2017 and 02 December 2021, failed to comply with the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017 (“the regulations”) in relation to the accountancy services offered by the firm, in that he:

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- a. had not conducted and/or documented a firm-wide risk assessment, contrary to Regulation 18 of the regulations;
  - b. did not put in place adequate steps to ensure the firm had in place a dedicated policies and procedures document outlining the firm's antimoney laundering systems and controls, contrary to Regulation 19 of the regulations;
  - c. did not take appropriate measures as the Money-Laundering Reporting Officer ("MLRO") of the firm to ensure he completed regular training in how to recognise and deal with transactions and other activities or situations which may be related to money laundering or terrorist financing and/or retain a record of such training, contrary to Regulation 24 of the regulations.
  - d. did not take adequate steps to ensure the firm had in place appropriate systems and procedures in relation to customer due diligence measures, and/or apply the same in accordance with Regulations 27 and 28 of the regulations.
3. In respect of allegation 2 above, his conduct was further:
- a. not in accordance with Section B2 of ACCA's Code of Ethics and Conduct (Anti-money laundering) [as applicable between 2017 and 2020] and/or;
  - b. contrary to Subsection 113 of ACCA's Code of Ethics and Conduct (the Fundamental Principle of Professional Competence and Due Care) [as applicable between 2017 and 2021] and/or
  - c. contrary to Subsection 115 of ACCA's Code of Ethics and Conduct (the Fundamental Principle of Professional Behaviour) [as applicable between 2017 and 2021].
4. By reason of any or all of his conduct set out at allegations 1 – 3 above, he is:
- a. guilty of misconduct pursuant to bye-law 8(a)(i);

The Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Al Hasan be excluded and to pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £8,400.

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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**Notes to Editors**

**About ACCA:** ACCA is the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants. We're a thriving global community of **233,000** members and **536,000** future members based in **178** countries and regions that upholds the highest professional and ethical values.

We believe that accountancy is a cornerstone profession of society that supports both public and private sectors. That's why we're committed to the development of a strong global accountancy profession and the many benefits that this brings to society and individuals.

Since 1904 being a force for public good has been embedded in [our purpose](#). And because we're a not-for-profit organisation, we build a sustainable global profession by re-investing our surplus to deliver member value and develop the profession for the next generation.

Through our world leading ACCA Qualification, we offer everyone everywhere the opportunity to experience a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management. And using our respected research, we lead the profession by answering today's questions and preparing us for tomorrow.

ACCA and CA ANZ have formed a [strategic alliance](#) for the benefit of members and to help shape the future of the profession. Find out more about us at [accaglobal.com](http://accaglobal.com)