



Think Ahead

# News release

04 November 2022

## Appeal Committee Ordered Remit to DC\*

On 29 July 2021, the Disciplinary Committee of ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) found proved the following allegations against a member, Mr Peter McDonnell of, Donegal, County Donegal, Ireland.

### Allegations

1. Mr Peter McDonnell, a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), signed documents titled 'Auditors' Report' on behalf of Firm B which stated that the financials statements of company Client A had been audited, when they had not, on:
  - a. 13 March 2012; and/or
  - b. 07 March 2013, and/or
  - c. 05 March 2014; and/or
  - d. 04 March 2015.
  
2. Mr McDonnell's conduct in respect of any or all of Allegation 1 was:
  - a. Dishonest, in that when he signed the reports on behalf of Firm B, he knew an audit of the financial statements had not been carried out.
  
3. Mr McDonnell, as the responsible individual of Firm B, between 2012 and 2015 (dates as at Allegation 1) did not ensure that an engagement letter was signed by Client A in accordance with paragraph 5 of sB9 of the ACCA's Rulebook (applicable 2012-2015).

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4. By virtue of any or all of his conduct set out in Allegations 1 and/or 2 and/or 3, Mr McDonnell is:

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

The Disciplinary Committee ordered that Mr Peter McDonnell be excluded from membership and to pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £6753.50.

Mr McDonnell was notified of this decision on 05 August 2021, and on 30 August 2021, Mr McDonnell gave notice of appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

On 13 January 2022, Mr McDonnell was notified that the Chair of the Appeal Committee had refused his application for permission to appeal.

On 03 February 2022, Mr McDonnell lodged an application for a reconsideration of the application.

On 04 March 2022, Mr McDonnell was informed that another Chair of the Appeal Committee had refused his application for reconsideration.

Due to procedural irregularities, ACCA gave Mr McDonnell the opportunity to resubmit his application for permission to appeal.

On 01 June 2022, Mr McDonnell gave notice for a second application for permission to appeal. On 28 June 2022, Mr McDonnell was notified that another Chair of the Appeal Committee had refused his application for permission to appeal.

On 19 July 2022, Mr McDonnell lodged an application for reconsideration. On 23 August 2022, Mr McDonnell was informed that another Chair of the Appeal Committee had granted permission to appeal under Appeal Regulation 6(4)(i). The matter has been listed for a hearing on 20 and 21 October 2022.

The Appeal Committee on 20 and 21 October 2022:

- The Appeal Committee rescinded the decision made by the Disciplinary Committee's on 29 July 2021 and ordered that the matters be heard afresh by the Disciplinary Committee.
- The Appeal Committee ordered that ACCA make a contribution to Mr McDonnell's costs of €30,000.

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

**- 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)