

CONSENT ORDERS HEARING

CONSENT ORDERS CHAIR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

REASONS FOR DECISION

In the matter of: Mr Callan Loveridge

Considered on: Friday, 20 February 2026

Location: On the papers

Chair: Mr Gerard Wareham

Legal Adviser: Miss Juliet Gibbon

Outcome: The Chair made orders in the terms of the Consent Order: Draft Agreement that Mr Callan Loveridge shall be severely reprimanded and shall pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £1,564.00

PRELIMINARY

1. This matter has been referred to a Chair of the Disciplinary Committee of ACCA (“the Chair”) pursuant to Regulation 8(8) of The Chartered Certified Accountants’ Complaints and Disciplinary Regulations 2014, as amended (“the Regulations”) for the Chair to determine, on the evidence before him, whether to approve or reject the Consent Order: Draft Agreement (“the Consent Order”) agreed between ACCA and Mr Callan Loveridge.

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2. The Chair had before him a bundle of papers, numbered pages 1-55, that included a one-page Consent Order referral form and a bundle, numbered pages 1-5, that includes the Referral to Consent Orders Chair Consent Order: Draft Agreement. The Chair also had sight of the following:
 - a. Detailed and simple costs schedules
 - b. ACCA's 'Consent Orders Guidance'
 - c. ACCA's 'Consent Orders – Frequently Asked Questions'
 - d. ACCA's 'Guidance for Disciplinary Sanctions' ("GDS"), and
 - e. ACCA's 'Guidance on Costs Orders'.
3. The Chair considered the Consent Order in the absence of the parties and without a hearing in accordance with Regulation 8(8) of the Regulations.
4. The Chair was satisfied that Mr Loveridge was aware of the terms of the Consent Order and had signed the order on 05 February 2026. The Chair noted that the Consent Order had also been signed by a representative of ACCA on 10 February 2026.
5. The Chair noted the terms of the Consent Order, as follows:

"The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants ("ACCA") and Mr Callan Loveridge (the Parties), agree as follows:

1. Mr Callan Loveridge admits the following:

Allegation 1

Pursuant to Bye-law 8(a)(ix) Mr Loveridge is liable to disciplinary action by virtue of being convicted and sentenced for the offence of where he '[REDACTED]' an individual.

Allegation 2

- (a) From 22 May 2025 to 19 September 2025 Mr Loveridge omitted to bring the conviction he received on 22 May 2025 promptly to the attention of ACCA, contrary to Bye-law 10(b).
 - (b) By reason of his conduct at 2(a) above, Mr Loveridge is liable to disciplinary action pursuant to Bye-law 8(a)(iii).
2. That Mr Callan Loveridge shall be severely reprimanded and shall pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £ 1564.00.

[Signatures of Mr Callan Loveridge, dated 05 February 2026 and a representative of ACCA, dated 10 February 2026]

If the Consent Orders Chair is satisfied it is appropriate to deal with the complaint by way of a Consent Order and the signed draft Consent Order is approved, it constitutes a formal finding and order. The Consent Orders Chair has the power to recommend amendments to the signed draft Consent Order and to subsequently approve any amended order agreed by the Parties.

BACKGROUND

- 6. As part of his application to become a student of ACCA Mr Callan Loveridge (“Mr Loveridge”) disclosed that he had been convicted of an offence of [PRIVATE]. This was considered by ACCA and Mr Loveridge was admitted as a student of ACCA on 23 August 2022. Mr Loveridge has taken and passed a number of ACCA professional examinations since the date of his admission as an ACCA student.
- 7. On 14 April 2025 Mr Loveridge entered a guilty plea to and was convicted of an offence of [PRIVATE]. [PRIVATE]. [PRIVATE].
- 8. [PRIVATE].
- 9. [PRIVATE].

10. Mr Loveridge subsequently wrote a letter to the victim apologising for his actions. In the letter he stated: *“there hasn’t been a day where I haven’t thought what I have affected in your life”*. Mr Loveridge also wrote a letter to the sentencing judge stating: *“I am aware this has impacted the victim in a terrible way and I couldn’t feel more ashamed as a result”*.
11. Mr Loveridge provided a number of testimonials for the sentencing judge to consider, including one from a previous employer who stated: *“Callan showed good commitment towards his professional studies and I sincerely believe that he would have qualified as a Certified Accountant in the next 18 months, should he be given the opportunity to complete these studies”*. They also stated: *“I submit that the scared young man who will present before you in Court is a fundamentally good person [REDACTED]. Callan has shown me his good character and diligence, as a result, I continue to believe that he has the potential to become an upright and professional member of our community”*.
12. Under bye-law 8(a)(ix), Mr Loveridge is liable to disciplinary action by reason of his criminal conviction
13. Further, Mr Loveridge did not promptly inform ACCA of his conviction, contrary to bye-law 10(b).
14. In a letter to Mr Loveridge, dated 02 January 2026, ACCA proposed that the matter be disposed of by way of a Consent Order. Mr Loveridge replied to ACCA by letter agreeing for the matter to be disposed of by way of a Consent Order. Mr Loveridge also stated in his letter: *“... I would like to mention just how much this career means to me. It has and will enable me to become the man I have always strived to be. Hard working and able to benefit others from the knowledge all picked up from this pathway”*.
15. In signing the Consent Order, Mr Loveridge has admitted the allegations and has accepted that he should be severely reprimanded and pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £1,564.00.
16. Two of Mr Loveridge’s former employers emailed ACCA with positive references for him.
17. The first reference states:

“...During the time with Mr Loveridge as an employee I built a professional relationship with him and have been generally encouraged by his approach to work ... He built good relationships with clients and had been professional and courteous at work. His relationship with clients and the quality of work has been commented on by clients, some of whom have provided unsolicited testimonials which speak of the high regard they have for him.”

18. The second reference states:

“... throughout my time working with [Mr Loveridge] I knew him to be professional, reliable and a pleasure to work with ... I have spoken to [Mr Loveridge] many times about the incident [REDACTED] and I do believe this has been a real shock to him and he would like nothing more than to resume his career and learn from this terrible mistake. He has spoken about taking responsibility for his actions and how he has grown up a lot since being in prison. To me he appears remorseful and focused on building a new future ... Knowing [Mr Loveridge] very well, I feel it would be a real waste for him to lose his career at such a young age over this incident. I would be very happy to work with [Mr Loveridge] again and he has my full support on his release”.

DECISION AND REASONS

19. In considering this matter the Chair accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser and paid due regard to the ACCA guidance documents ‘Guidance for Disciplinary Sanctions’ (“GDS”), ‘Consent Orders Guidance’ and ‘Consent Orders – Frequently Asked Questions’.
20. Under Regulation 8(8) of the Regulations the Chair must determine, on the evidence before him, whether it is appropriate to approve or reject the draft Consent Order or whether to recommend any amendments.
21. The powers available to the Chair are:
 - a. To approve the draft Consent Order, in which case the findings on the allegations and the orders contained in it become formal findings and orders (Regulations 8(11) and 8(14) of the Regulations).

- b. To reject the draft Consent Order, which they may only do if they are of the view that the admitted breaches would more likely than not result in exclusion from membership (Regulation 8(12) of the Regulations).
 - c. To recommend amendments to the draft Consent Order, if they are satisfied it is appropriate to deal with the complaint by way of consent but wish the terms of the draft order to be amended (Regulation 8(13) of the Regulations).
22. The Chair was satisfied that there was a case for Mr Loveridge to answer and that the Investigating Officer had conducted an appropriate investigation and had followed the correct procedure.
23. The Chair was also satisfied that Mr Loveridge is liable to disciplinary action by reason of his conviction and his failure to bring the conviction promptly to the attention of ACCA by virtue of bye-laws 8(a)(ix) and 8(a)(iii) respectively.
24. The Chair noted that under Regulation 8(12) of the Regulations, he should only reject the signed Consent Order if he is of the view that the matters that Mr Loveridge has admitted would, more likely than not, result in his exclusion from membership.
25. The Chair considered the seriousness of the allegations and the public interest, which includes the protection of the public, the maintenance of public confidence in the profession, and the declaring and upholding of proper standards of conduct and performance. He balanced the public interest against Mr Loveridge's own interests, and he took into account both the aggravating and mitigating features of the case.
26. The Chair considered the following to be aggravating factors of the case:
- a. Mr Loveridge's conduct was violent and unprovoked and resulted in the victim receiving serious injuries.
 - b. Mr Loveridge's conduct in being convicted [PRIVATE] is a very serious offence which is discreditable to him, the Association and the accountancy profession.

- c. Mr Loveridge was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for his offending behaviour.
- d. ACCA was not made aware of Mr Loveridge's conviction.
- e. Mr Loveridge has a previous conviction for [PRIVATE], albeit he was not a student of ACCA at the time of that conviction and had disclosed it on his application to become a student of ACCA.

27. The Chair considered the following to be mitigating factors of the case

- a. Mr Loveridge had cooperated with the police and pleaded guilty to the offence at the earliest opportunity.
- b. Mr Loveridge has demonstrated genuine shame and remorse into his offending behaviour and wrote a letter of apology to his victim.
- c. Mr Loveridge provided a number of testimonials for the sentencing judge to consider.
- d. Mr Loveridge and his mother attempted to contact ACCA by email and telephone to inform ACCA of his conviction for [PRIVATE].
- e. Whilst Mr Loveridge's conviction [PRIVATE] is very serious, it did not involve any dishonesty.
- f. Two of Mr Loveridge's former employers have provided positive references for him to ACCA.
- g. Mr Loveridge has fully co-operated with ACCA's investigation and the regulatory process.
- h. Mr Loveridge has admitted the allegations by agreeing to dispose of the case by consent.

28. The Chair considered that the allegations admitted by Mr Loveridge are very serious. He did not, however, consider that the matters admitted by Mr Loveridge would more likely than

not result in Mr Loveridge's exclusion from membership of ACCA given the substantial mitigation put forward by him. The Chair was satisfied, therefore, that there was no basis for him to reject the terms of the Consent Order under Regulation 8(12).

29. The Chair paid due regard to ACCA's GDS. In relation to the sanction of severe reprimand, the Chair found the following factors to be relevant:
 - a. Mr Loveridge has shown good insight into his offending behaviour.
 - b. Mr Loveridge has shown genuine remorse and shame for his conduct.
 - c. Mr Loveridge has provided relevant and appropriate references.
 - d. Mr Loveridge fully co-operated with ACCA's investigation.
30. Having considered the GDS and all the documentary evidence before him, the Chair was satisfied that a severe reprimand was a sufficient sanction given the substantial mitigation put forward by Mr Loveridge.
31. The Chair paid due regard to ACCA's Guidance for Costs Orders. He considered that ACCA was entitled to its costs in principle. ACCA has provided two schedules of costs. The Chair did not have a Statement of Financial Position from Mr Loveridge. He noted, however, that Mr Loveridge is currently of [PRIVATE] but has the support of his family. The Chair was satisfied that ACCA's application for costs in the sum of £1,564.00, which has been agreed by Mr Loveridge, was an appropriate and proportionate sum for the costs incurred by ACCA. He noted that Mr Loveridge had not contested the proposed sum of £1,564.00 and had signed the Consent Order.
32. The Chair, pursuant to his powers under Regulation 8(11) of the Regulations, approved the terms of the Consent Order and made the following Order:

ORDER BY CONSENT

- i. The Consent Order: Draft Agreement is approved.

- ii. Allegations 1, 2a and 2b are proved by way of Mr Callan Loveridge's admissions.
- iii. Mr Callan Loveridge shall be severely reprimanded.
- iv. Mr Callan Loveridge shall pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £1,564.00.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDER

- 33. Under Regulation 8(17) of the Regulations there is no right of appeal against this order. The order shall, therefore, come into effect immediately.

PUBLICITY

- 34. In accordance with Regulation 8(16) of the Regulations all findings and orders set out in the Consent Order shall be published, naming Mr Loveridge, as soon as practicable and in such manner as the Association thinks fit.

Mr Gerard Wareham
Chair
20 February 2026