

03 February 2026

Member severely reprimanded*

On 29 January 2026, the Consent Orders Chair of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) found proved the following allegations against a member, Mr Bernard Brace, of Cranleigh, Surrey, United Kingdom:

Allegations

Mr Brace admitted the following allegations:

1. Between 26 June 2017 and 4 June 2025 failed on behalf of Firm A to comply with or demonstrate compliance with the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017 (“the MLRs 2017”), namely:
 - (a) Regulation 18 (Risk assessment by relevant persons: Firm-wide risk assessment); and
 - (b) Regulation 24 (Training).
2. On or about 26 November 2021 and 18 April 2024, submitted or caused to be submitted to ACCA an AML Risk Assessment Questionnaire (“AML RAQ”) on behalf of Firm A which inaccurately stated that he had conducted and/or documented a Firm-wide Risk Assessment (“FWRA”) for Firm A and that it had been updated on a periodic basis when in fact he had not conducted and/or documented a FWRA for Firm A at those times.
3. By reason of his conduct set out at allegation 1 above, Mr Brace failed to comply with Subsection 115 of ACCA’s Code of Ethics and Conduct (the Fundamental Principle of Professional Behaviour) and Section B2 (Anti-money laundering) of ACCA’s Code of Ethics and Conduct (as applicable from 2017 to 2025).
4. Mr Brace’s conduct in respect of allegation 2 was reckless in that he declared that he had conducted and documented a FWRA in place at Firm A without proper regard as to whether this was true.

5. By reason of his conduct, Mr Brace is guilty of misconduct pursuant to bye-law 8(a)(i).

The Consent Orders Chair ordered that Mr Bernard Brace be severely reprimanded and pay costs to ACCA in the sum of £1,630 and a fine of £5000.

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

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About ACCA

We are ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), a globally recognised professional accountancy body providing qualifications and advancing standards in accountancy worldwide.

Founded in 1904 to widen access to the accountancy profession, we've long championed inclusion and today proudly support a diverse community of over 252,500 members and 526,000 future members in 180 countries.

Our forward-looking qualifications, continuous learning and insights are respected and valued by employers in every sector. They equip individuals with the business and finance expertise and ethical judgment to create, protect, and report the sustainable value delivered by organisations and economies.

Guided by our purpose and values, our vision is to develop the accountancy profession the world needs. Partnering with policymakers, standard setters, the donor community, educators and other accountancy bodies, we're strengthening and building a profession that drives a sustainable future for all.

Find out more at: www.accaglobal.com