

Emma Burns

Employee

7012561

Fined Date: 20 December 2022

Decision - Fined

Outcome: Fine

Outcome date: 20 December 2022

Published date: 26 January 2023

Firm details

Firm or organisation at date of publication and at time of matters giving rise to outcome

Name: Askews Solicitors Limited

Address(es): 92-94 Borough Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 2HJ

Firm ID: 615546

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Decision details

Fined

Fine of £2,000 and SRA costs of £300.

Reasons/basis

Summary of facts

Miss Burns is an advanced paralegal and since 4 May 2021 she has been employed by Askews Solicitors Limited. Ms Burns is involved in a legal practice but is not a solicitor.

Following an arrest which occurred on 1 March 2020, Ms Burns was convicted of:

- a. driving whilst unfit through excess alcohol, contrary to section 5(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988, on 19 August 2020, and

- b. assault on an emergency worker, contrary to Section 39 of the Criminal Justice Act 1998 and Section 1 of the Assaults on Emergency Workers Offences Act 2018, on 17 December 2021.

Findings

1. By driving on 1 March 2020 with a level of alcohol above that of the legal limit, Ms Burns failed to behave in a way that upholds public trust and confidence in the solicitors' profession and in legal services provided by authorised persons, in breach of Principle 2 of the SRA Principles 2019.
2. By assaulting a police officer on 1 March 2020, Ms Burns failed to behave in a way that upholds public trust and confidence in the solicitors' profession and in legal services provided by authorised persons, in breach of Principle 2 of the SRA Principles 2019, and failed to act with integrity, in breach of Principle 5 of the SRA Principles 2019.

Ms Burns was directed to pay a financial penalty of £2,000 and costs of £300.

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