

LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA TRIBUNAL
HEARING DIVISION

BETWEEN:

LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

AND:

ZACHARY CHUN NG

RESPONDENT

AMENDED CITATION

TO: Zachary C. Ng

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TAKE NOTICE THAT by direction of the Discipline Committee of the Law Society of British Columbia, a Hearing Panel of the Law Society will, at a date and time to be set, conduct a hearing to inquire into your conduct or competence as a member of the Law Society of British Columbia, in accordance with section 38 of the *Legal Profession Act*. Parts 4 and 5 of the Law Society Rules outline the procedures to be followed at the hearing. Your appearance before the Hearing Panel may be your only opportunity to present evidence, call witnesses or make submissions.

The allegations against you are:

1. Between approximately August 2014 and June 2018, in the course of acting for one or more of AA, BB, and CC in one or more of the matters set out in Schedule “A”, you engaged in activity that you knew or ought to have known assisted in or encouraged dishonesty, crime or fraud, by providing legal services ~~and/or~~ using or permitting the use of your firm’s trust account, or both, in circumstances that were

objectively suspicious, contrary to rule 3.2-7 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

2. Between approximately August 2014 and June 2018, in the course of acting on behalf of one or more of AA, BB, and CC in one or more of the matters set out in Schedule “A”, you provided legal services or used or permitted the use of your firm’s trust account, or both, in circumstances where you failed to do one or more of the following:
 - (a) be on guard against becoming the tool or dupe of unscrupulous clients or other persons;
 - (b) make reasonable inquiries prior to acting or continuing to act in one or more of the matters set out in Schedule “A” in circumstances that were objectively suspicious, including making reasonable inquiries in relation to:
 - (i) your clients or other persons, or both;
 - (ii) your clients’ private lending business;
 - (iii) the source of the funds your clients alleged to have loaned or were seeking to loan in connection with the matters set out in Schedule “A”;
 - (iv) the legitimacy and legality of the loans in respect of which you were providing legal services or using or permitting the use of your firm’s trust account, or both, as set out in Schedule “A”; and
 - (v) the payment to unrelated third parties of funds you had received into your firm’s trust account in connection with certain matters set out in Schedule “A”;
 - (c) make a record of the results of inquiries made; and
 - (d) decline to act or to continue to act in the matters set out in Schedule “A” until there was a reasonable basis for believing that doing so would not assist in or encourage dishonesty, crime or fraud.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

3. Between approximately May 2017 and December 2017, in the course of acting for AA and/or CC in a matter involving a loan to DD, you acted in a conflict of interest when you acted for both AA, as the actual lender, and CC, as the nominee lender, contrary to rule 3.4-1 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

4. Between approximately October 2016 and May 2017, in the course of acting for AA in relation to three *ex parte* applications for orders renewing and permitting alternative service of an Amended Notice of Civil Claim in Supreme Court of British Columbia action no. V, you did one or more of the following, contrary to one or more of rules 2.1-2, 2.2-1, and 5.1-2 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*:

- (a) prepared and/or filed application materials that you knew or ought to have known were false or misleading, in that they contradicted and/or failed to disclose findings made by the court in the action on September 30, 2015; and
- (b) prepared and/or filed an affidavit of AA made on or about January 23, 2017 that you knew or ought to have known contained evidence of AA's financial circumstances that was false or misleading.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

5. Between approximately February 2017 and May 2017, in the course of acting for BB in relation to an *ex parte* application for an order renewing and permitting alternative service of an Amended Notice of Civil Claim in Supreme Court of British Columbia action no. W, you prepared and/or filed an affidavit of AA sworn on or about March 1, 2017 that you knew or ought to have known contained evidence of BB's and/or AA's financial circumstances that was false or misleading, contrary to one or more of rules 2.1-2, 2.2-1, and 5.1-2 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

6. On or about May 8, 2017, in the course of acting for one or both of AA and/or BB in relation to Supreme Court of British Columbia action no. X, you filed an Amended Notice of Civil Claim that you knew or ought to have known was false or misleading, contrary to one or more of rules 2.1-2, 2.2-1, and 5.1-2 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*, in that it was inconsistent with one or more of the following:

- (a) findings made in the action on July 7, 2015;
- (b) evidence in an affidavit of AA made on or about July 7, 2015;

- (c) evidence in an affidavit of AA made on or about November 19, 2015 in Supreme Court of British Columbia action no. Y; and
- (d) information that you received from AA on or about May 8, 2017.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

7. Between approximately May 2015 and June 2015, in the course of acting for AA in relation to a claim in Supreme Court of British Columbia action no. Z, you concluded a settlement of the claim when you knew or ought to have known that you had not disclosed material facts to opposing counsel, contrary to rules 2.1-4, and 2.2-1 of the *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia*.

This conduct constitutes professional misconduct, pursuant to section 38(4) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Hearing Panel may proceed with the hearing in your absence and make any order that it could have made had you been present.

THIS CITATION AMENDED pursuant to Rule 5-4.2 of the Law Society Rules