

Recognising problems with a solicitor

Reviewed 25 November 2019

The greatest [risks](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#risk) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#risk] posed to the public and consumers of [legal services](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#legal-services) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#legal-services] are fraud, dishonesty and serious misconduct. We guard against these risks.

Check our [scam alerts](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/scam-alerts/] for details of recent and ongoing scams.

Gathering information - contact us

We have a unit dedicated to gathering information and intelligence. If you know - or suspect - that a person or [firm](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#firm) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#firm] regulated by us, or one of their employees, is involved in dishonesty or fraud, [contact us](https://rules.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/] immediately.

Any report you make can be treated with strict confidentiality.

What should I report?

Examples of the type of conduct you can report to us:

- [Abandonment or sudden closure](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/abandonment-closure/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/abandonment-closure/] of a firm or [sole practitioner](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#sole-practitioner) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#sole-practitioner]
- [Arrest, charge or conviction](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/arrest-charge-conviction/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/arrest-charge-conviction/] of a person regulated by us
- [Suspected dishonesty](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/dishonesty-suspected/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/dishonesty-suspected/]
- [Fraud](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/fraud/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/fraud/]
- [Financial problems](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/financial-problems/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/financial-problems/]
- A person or firm [pretending to be a solicitor](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/bogus-fake-solicitors/), [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/bogus-fake-solicitors/] or
- a regulated individual or firm being involved in a [scam](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/scams/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/scams/].
- If you suspect that a law firm or a solicitor is involved with a ['get rich quick' scheme](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/investment-schemes/) [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/investment-schemes/], or if you have become involved with a scheme.



- [A legal threat from a solicitor](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/legal-threats-solicitor/)
[\[https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/legal-threats-solicitor/\]](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/fraud-dishonesty/legal-threats-solicitor/)
or law firm

We encourage you to [contact us](https://rules.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/) [\[https://rules.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/\]](https://rules.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/) immediately—even if you are in doubt about reporting. You can also use our [report a solicitor page](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/) [\[https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/\]](https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/) to send us information.