

Richards Thomas LLP (Richards Thomas Solicitors)

14 The Strand, FERNDALE , CF43 4LY

Recognised body

519879

[Fined Date: 20 January 2025](#)

Decision - Fined

Outcome: Fine

Outcome date: 20 January 2025

Published date: 24 February 2025

Firm details

Firm or organisation at date of publication

Name: Richards Thomas LLP

Address(es): 14 The Strand, FERNDALE

Firm ID: 519879

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Decision details

Richards Thomas LLP was directed to pay a fixed financial penalty of £1,500 and costs of £150.

Reasons/basis

Richards Thomas LLP is a recognised body whose office is at 14 The Strand, Ferndale, CF43 4LY.

Firms must at all times have in place a compliance officer for legal practice (COLP) and a compliance officer for finance and administration (COFA).

A firm must designate a person as its COLP and a person as its COFA and the SRA must approve that person before they commence their role.



The COLP and COFA of a firm have specific responsibility for ensuring a firm, its managers and employees comply with the SRA's regulatory requirements. They are also responsible for recording any breaches and reporting those to the SRA, where necessary.

A firm must promptly notify the SRA if it becomes aware of any material changes to information previously provided to the SRA, by it or on its behalf, including to its compliance officers.

Richards Thomas LLP failed to:

- promptly notify the SRA of a material change to the information it had previously provided to the SRA about its COLP
- promptly notify the SRA of a material change to the information it had previously provided to the SRA about its COFA

in breach of paragraph 3.8(a) of the Code of Conduct for Firms.

The firm continued to breach this requirement after the SRA directed it to pay a fixed financial penalty of £750.

Fined Date: 28 November 2024

Decision - Fined

Outcome: Fine

Outcome date: 28 November 2024

Published date: 10 January 2025

Firm details

Firm or organisation at date of publication

Name: Richards Thomas LLP

Address(es): 14 The Strand, FERNDALE

Firm ID: 519879

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Decision details

Richards Thomas LLP was directed to pay a fixed financial penalty of £750 and costs of £150.

Reasons/basis

Richard Thomas LLP is a recognised body whose office is at 14 The Strand, Ferndale, CF43 4LY.

Firms must at all times have in place a compliance officer for legal practice (COLP) and a compliance officer for finance and administration (COFA).

A firm must designate a person as its COLP and a person as its COFA and the SRA must approve that person before they commence their role.

The COLP and COFA of a firm have specific responsibility for ensuring a firm, its managers and employees comply with the SRA's regulatory requirements. They are also responsible for recording any breaches and reporting those to the SRA, where necessary.

A firm must promptly notify the SRA if it becomes aware of any material changes to information previously provided to the SRA, by it or on its behalf, including to its compliance officers.

Richard Thomas LLP failed to:

- promptly notify the SRA of a material change to the information it had previously provided to the SRA about its COLP
- promptly notify the SRA of a material change to the information it had previously provided to the SRA about its COFA

in breach of paragraph 3.8(a) of the Code of Conduct for Firms.

The firm failed to remedy this breach after being given notice and reasonable time in which to do so.

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