

Charles Ogbonna Azotam Solicitor 418957

Prosecution Date: 17 February 2025

Decision - Prosecution

Outcome: Referral to Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal

Outcome date: 17 February 2025

Published date: 3 July 2025

Firm details

Firm or organisation at time of matters giving rise to outcome

Name: Charles Hill & Co Solicitors

Address(es): 1st Floor, 7-13 Camberwell Road, London SE5 0EZ

Firm ID: 641074

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Reasons/basis

This notification relates to a Decision to prosecute before the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal. This is an independent Tribunal which will reach its own decision after considering all the evidence, including any evidence put forward by the Solicitor. The Tribunal has certified that there is a case to answer in respect of allegations which are or include that:-

- 1. Between 1 January 2020 and 31 January 2024, Mr Azotam misappropriated client monies for the benefit of himself and his Firm creating a minimum client account shortage that has not been replaced.
- 2. On 6 March 2023 and 14 November 2023, Mr Azotam issued cheques to a client when he knew that the Firm did not have sufficient funds to honour either of them, thereby misleading the client.
- 3. Between 1 April 2020 and 8 March 2024, Mr Azotam failed to ensure the Firm's books of account were maintained in compliance with the SRA Accounts Rules.



The allegations are subject to a Hearing before the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and are as yet unproven.

Closure Date: 12 March 2024

Decision - Closure

Outcome: Intervention

Outcome date: 12 March 2024

Published date: 12 March 2024

Firm details

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

Name: Charles Hill & Co Solicitors

Address(es): 7-13 Camberwell Road, London, SE5 0EZ

Firm ID: 641074

Outcome details

This outcome was reached by SRA decision.

Decision details

To intervene into the recognised sole practice of Charles Ogbonna Azotam, Charles Hill & Co Solicitors.

Reasons/basis

There is reason to suspect dishonesty on Mr Azotam's part in connection with his practice as a solicitor - paragraph 1(1)(a)(i) Schedule 1, Part I Solicitors Act 1974.

Intervening agents

John Owen of Gordons LLP, 1 New Augustus Street, Bradford, BD1 5LL has been appointed as the intervening agent.

For enquiries please call 0113 227 0395 or email <u>intervention@gordonsllp.com</u> [mailto:intervention@gordonsllp.com] <u>Search again [https://rules.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitor-check/]</u>