

September 16, 2019

## **NOTICE**

### **Suspension**

On June 21, 2019, a Hearing Committee of the Law Society of Alberta found the conduct of Peter Mawson, a member of the Law Society who lives and practices in Edmonton, to be deserving of sanction on 26 of 27 citations of misconduct. Pursuant to section 72(1)(b) of the *Legal Profession Act*, the Hearing Committee ordered that Mr. Mawson be suspended for 20 months starting on October 1, 2019.

Mr. Mawson was found guilty of the following conduct:

- (a) conduct relating to poor client service, including failing to file pleadings by agreed-upon deadlines, failing to contact clients, failing to seek instructions, failing to provide documents to clients, failing to address and schedule questioning, failing to consider the need for opposing evidence or cross examination, failing to follow up on a potential appeal, failing to attend Court, failing to address enforcement proceedings, failing to advise clients of adverse Court decisions, failing to respond to opposing counsel, and failing to move litigation forward;
- (b) failures of candour and honesty, including dishonesty with opposing counsel about instructions, and instances the fabrication of letters to make it appear that he had communicated with clients or opposing counsel when he had not done so;
- (c) failure to be candid or to respond to the Law Society; and
- (d) failure to follow the accounting rules.

Mitigating circumstances were such that the Hearing Committee determined that a lengthy suspension was appropriate. Mr. Mawson was also ordered to pay costs of \$45,810.70.

Mr. Mawson has taken steps to deal with his client files during his suspension and thus a custodian will not be appointed.

The full written decision of the Hearing Committee will be posted to the Law Society of Alberta website when it is issued.

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**Elizabeth J. Osler**  
Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director  
The Law Society of Alberta

**NOTICE TO:** Public,  
All Active Lawyers and Students-at-Law,  
All Inactive Lawyers,  
All Executive Directors of other Law Societies in Canada,  
All Justices of the Court of Appeal and Court of Queen's Bench,  
All Judges of the Provincial Court of Alberta,  
All Masters in Chambers,  
All Clerks of the Court.