

ARLS

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This statement, required by the Bar Standards Board (BSB), is to explain my status in offering to provide you with legal services. Although I have been called to the Bar (Inner Temple) and passed my BPTC/BVC, I have not fully qualified for a practising certificate and I am therefore classed under the term unregistered Barrister.

I am not currently entitled to practise as a Barrister, and I do not have a practising certificate. I am not on the register of practising Barristers; I do however follow and apply all the Core Duties in the BSB Handbook. All unregistered Barristers remain members of the profession and are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. In this context, they always remain subject to certain Core Duties and Conduct Rules. If they provide legal services, they must comply with all the Core Duties and they have a responsibility not to mislead anyone about their status.

Therefore, in providing any legal services to you I am not acting as a Barrister, and I am not subject to many of the rules which regulate practising Barristers. This may limit the services I can provide to you. I can provide you with legal advice and represent you before certain tribunals, but I cannot exercise rights of audience in court, unless authorised by an approved regulator under Rule S43. In which case I may be authorised to carry on a reserved legal activity, including the conduct of litigation and/or exercise the right of audience.

I aim to provide you with an excellent service and if you have any concerns about what I do for you, please let me know and I will try to resolve the problem. But you should know that you would have only limited rights to complain about me to anyone else, and the Legal Ombudsman, which can adjudicate on complaints about poor service by practising Barristers, cannot consider any complaint against me.

If I cannot resolve your concerns, you can complain to the BSB and it will investigate whether I have failed to comply with any of the rules which apply to me, but it cannot investigate possible breaches of rules which apply only to practising Barristers.

CORE DUTIES

The Core Duties in the BSB Handbook underpin our entire regulatory framework and set the mandatory standards that all Barristers are required to meet. They also define the core elements of professional conduct. ARLS comply fully with the following core duties.

- Core Duty 1: You must observe your duty to the court in the administration of justice.
- Core Duty 2: You must act in the best interests of each client.
- Core Duty 3: You must act with honesty and integrity.
- Core Duty 4: You must maintain your independence.
- Core Duty 5: You must not behave in a way which is likely to diminish the trust and confidence which the public places in you or in the profession.
- Core Duty 6: You must keep the affairs of each client confidential.
- Core Duty 7: You must provide a competent standard of work and service to each client.
- Core Duty 8: You must not discriminate unlawfully against any person.
- Core Duty 9: You must be open and co-operative with your regulators.
- Core Duty 10: You must take reasonable steps to manage your practice, or carry out your role within your practice, competently and in such a way as to achieve compliance with your legal and regulatory obligations.