**Disciplinary committee tribunal summary of decision**

Auker Rhodes Professional Services LLP of Aire Valley Business Centre, Lawkholme Lane, KEIGHLEY, West Yorkshire, BD21 3HW. United Kingdom

Type of Member: Member Firm

Terms of complaint

1. From on or after 1 July 2012 to 28 September 2015 Auker Rhodes Professional Services LLP failed to return client money to Mr ‘A’ despite his request for his monies to be repaid to him, contrary to regulation 20A of the Clients’ Money Regulations
2. Between 15 March 2012 and 31 July 2012 Auker Rhodes Professional Services LLP failed to hold client money in excess of £10,000 in separate designated client money accounts, contrary to Regulation 13 of the Clients’ Money Regulations.
3. On 31 July 2012 Auker Rhodes Professional Services LLP failed to comply with regulation 20h of the Clients’ Money Regulations as the firm withdrew £88,030 from the general client bank account using funds held for Mr ‘A’ (£27,283), Mr ‘B’ (£31,256) and Mr ‘C’ (£29,491), to pay for invoices due from ‘D’ Ltd and ‘E’ LLP without written authority from Mr ‘A’, Mr ‘B’ or Mr ‘C’ to use those funds.

Auker Rhodes Professional Services LLP is therefore liable to disciplinary action under Disciplinary Bye-law 5.1c

Hearing date

16-18 October 2018

Finding

Complaint 1 - Proved
Complaint 2 - Proved
Complaint 3 - Proved

Order

Reprimand
Costs of £14,930.00
Fine of £5,000.00