

Member Name: Sara Sandford
Division: Western Australia
Date of Hearing: 20th November 2009

The NIA Investigations Review Officer and the NIA Investigations Officer resolved that Ms. Sandford had a case to answer for having:

- (a) breached clause 98(2)(h) of the NIA Constitution in that it was alleged Ms. Sandford had failed to comply with an order of both a NIA Disciplinary Tribunal and a NIA Appeals Tribunal; and
- (b) had a case to answer for having breached clause 98(2)(f) of the NIA Constitution in that it was alleged that the aforementioned conduct is not in the best interests of the Institute.

The details pertaining to each of the above breaches is as follows:

1. The NIA Disciplinary Tribunal of 30th May 2008 resolved that: “the case against Ms. Sandford in regard to section 98(2)(b) is dismissed. The Tribunal further found that the case in regard to section 98(2)(f) was proven and the penalty imposed was that Ms. Sandford was admonished and was required to contribute \$500.00 in costs within 30 days.”

The order of an NIA Disciplinary Tribunal that Ms. Sandford failed to comply with specifically is that the \$500.00 in costs imposed was not paid.
2. The NIA Appeals Tribunal of 24th April 2009 resolved that: “Ms. Sandford is censured with her name published and costs of \$500.00, payable within fourteen days, are imposed. The Appeals Tribunal further resolved that Ms. Sandford is to be the subject of a Public Practice Quality Assurance review at her expense within three months of the date she is deemed to have received the Appeals Tribunal notification and is to also be the subject of a further Public Practice Quality Assurance review at no additional cost to Ms. Sandford, within twelve months of the date she is deemed to have received the Appeals Tribunal notification.

The order of a NIA Appeals Tribunal that Ms. Sandford failed to comply with specifically was that the \$500.00 in costs imposed was not paid.

Tribunal Decision

The Tribunal resolved that Ms. Sandford had cases to answer under sections 98(2)(h) and 98(2)(f) of the NIA Constitution.

The Tribunal further resolved that Ms. Sandford is to pay the outstanding \$1,000:00 in costs by 14th December 2009 and if not paid by that date Ms. Sandford's membership is to be forfeited.

Ms. Sandford did not pay the outstanding \$1,000:00 by the due date and consequently her membership was forfeited with her name being struck off the NIA register of members.

