



Law Society  
of Saskatchewan

CANADA )  
 )  
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN )  
 )  
TO WIT )

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION ACT, 1990  
AND IN THE MATTER OF GARTH BUITENHUIS,  
A LAWYER OF SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN**

**FORMAL COMPLAINT**

I, Valerie Payne of the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, Director of Professional Responsibility for the Law Society of Saskatchewan, do hereby certify that Greg Walen, K.C., Hearing Administrator, of the Law Society of Saskatchewan, has appointed a Hearing Committee pursuant to Rule 1118 comprised of Nicole Sawchuk, as Chair, Deborah Parker-Loewen and Ben Grebinski to hear and determine a Formal Complaint set out by the Conduct Investigation Committee pursuant to Rule 1116, against **GARTH BUITENHUIS**, a lawyer and a Member of the Law Society of Saskatchewan, carrying on the practice of law at all of the relevant times in the City of Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan, as follows:

THAT **GARTH BUITENHUIS**, of the City of Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan, is guilty of conduct unbecoming a lawyer in that he:

That **GARTH BUITENHUIS**, of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, is guilty of conduct unbecoming a lawyer in that he:

1. did practise law from June 2024 until February 2026 in contravention of the condition that he practise under the supervision of a lawyer approved by the Law Society.
2. did fail to respond promptly and completely to the Law Society of Saskatchewan in relation to inquiries from the Director of Trust Safety, an Auditor, and Professional Responsibility Counsel.
3. did fail to respond with reasonable promptness communications from a fellow member of the Law Society, C.O, that required an answer and did

fail to be punctual in fulfilling commitments to C.O in relation to his former clients W and C.

4. did fail to provide a quality of service to his clients, W and C, that was competent, conscientious and diligent and that which was not undertaken to the standard of a competent lawyer.
5. did charge and accept a fee and disbursement when he had neither delivered the legal services nor incurred the expenses in relation to the following clients:
  - C
  - P & E / S
  - W
6. did, through negligence and a failure to exercise due diligence, facilitate the commission of a fraud against his clients W and C.
7. did through willful blindness or recklessness, facilitate the commission of a fraud against his clients W and C.
8. did allow himself to become the tool or dupe of an unscrupulous person.
9. did enable M.T. to achieve an improper purpose by using his law firm and status as a lawyer to legitimize the fraudulent activities of M.T.
10. did fail to report trust shortages to the Law Society as he was required to do in accordance with Rule 1526, on the following client matters:
  - B.C.
  - S.W.
11. did fail to report a dishonored trust cheque to the Law Society as he was required to do in accordance with Rule 1527, on the following client matters:
  - J. and D. O.
  - S.W.
  - K.D.
12. did fail to obtain client identification and to properly verify his client's identity, on the following client matters:
  - B.C. / Y.W.
  - B.S.P. & S.E.
  - M.S.
  - K.H.J.
  - J. and D. O.

- S.W.
  - K.D.
13. did fail to make inquiries and record information relating to source of funds in financial transactions, on the following client matters:
- B.C. / Y.W.
  - B.S.P. & S.E
  - M.S.
  - K.H.J.
  - J. and D. O.
  - S.W.
  - K.D.
14. did fail to maintain proper books and records relating to financial transactions, on the following client matters:
- K.H.J.
  - J. and D. O.
  - B.C.
  - Y.W.
15. did fail to deposit client funds in trust in accordance with Rules 1504(1) and (2) in relation to client B.C.
16. acted without integrity.

DATED at the City of Regina, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 11th day of March, 2026.

  
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Director of Professional Responsibility for the  
Law Society of Saskatchewan