

# **Complaints Procedure**

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- 1. Jamieson Alexander are committed to providing a high-quality legal service.
- 2. We acknowledge that we may not always get it right so, if something has gone wrong, including in relation to the bill, we need you to tell us. This will help us to sort out any mistakes or misunderstandings and to constantly improve our standards.
- **3.** We take all complaints seriously and always aim to resolve any issues that arise as soon as reasonably possible.

### 4. How do I make a complaint?

- 4.1. You can contact us in writing (by letter, fax or email) or by speaking with our Complaints Handler, whose contact details are: Alex Hill, Practice Manager. Telephone number: 0330 4606 097. Email: alex.hill@jamiesonalexander.co.uk.
- 4.2. To help us to understand your complaint, and in order that we do not miss anything, please tell us:
  - 4.2.1. your full name and contact details including telephone number
  - 4.2.2. what you think we have got wrong
  - 4.2.3. what you hope to achieve as a result of your complaint, and
  - 4.2.4. your file reference number (if you have it)
- 4.3. If you require any help in making your complaint we will try to help you.

## 5. How will you deal with my complaint?

- 5.1. We will record your complaint centrally.
- 5.2. We will write to you within three working days acknowledging your complaint, enclosing a copy of this policy.
- 5.3. We will investigate your complaint. This will usually involve:
  - 5.3.1.reviewing your complaint
  - 5.3.2.reviewing your file(s) and other relevant documents, and
  - 5.3.3.speaking with the person who dealt with your matter
- 5.4. We may also need to ask you for further information or documents. If so, we will ask you to provide the information within a specific period of time.
- 5.5. We will update you on the progress of your complaint at appropriate times.
- 5.6. We may also, if appropriate, invite you to a meeting to discuss your complaint. You do not have to attend if you do not wish to or if you are unable to. We will be happy to discuss the matter with you on the telephone.



5.7. We will write to you at the end of our investigation to tell you what we have done and what we propose to do to resolve your complaint. Where possible, we will aim to do this within 21 days of the date of our letter of acknowledgement.

#### 6. What if I am not satisfied with the outcome?

- 6.1. If you are unhappy with the outcome of our complaints handling procedure please first let us know and we will review the matter.
- 6.2. If you are still unhappy you can ask the Legal Ombudsman to look into your complaint. You can contact the Legal Ombudsman:
  - 6.2.1.by post at Legal Ombudsman, PO Box 6167, Slough, SL1 0EH
  - 6.2.2.by telephone: 0300 555 0333, or
  - 6.2.3.by email: enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk
- 6.3. You must usually refer your complaint to the Legal Ombudsman within six months of our final written response to your complaint and no more than one year from the date of the act or omission being complained about; or no more than one year from the date when you should reasonably have known that there was cause for complaint. Further details are available on the website: www.legalombudsman.org.uk.

#### 7. What will it cost?

- 7.1. We will not charge you for handling your complaint.
- 7.2. Please note that if we have issued a bill for work done on the matter, and all or some of the bill is not paid, we may be entitled to charge interest on the amount outstanding.
- 7.3. The Legal Ombudsman service is free of charge.

## 8. Making a complaint to the SRA (Solicitors Regulation Authority)

- 8.1. The Solicitors Regulation Authority can help if you are concerned about our behaviour. This could be for things like dishonesty, taking or losing your money or treating you unfairly because of your age, a disability or other characteristic.
- 8.2. Visit their website to see how you can raise your concerns with the <u>Solicitors Regulation</u> <u>Authority.</u>

