

## **NOTICE**

### **Suspension**

On November 23, 2023, a Hearing Committee of the Law Society of Alberta found the conduct of **Andrew Scott Rice**, a member of the Law Society who lives and practices in Sherwood Park, Alberta, to be deserving of sanction on five citations. Pursuant to Section 72(1)(b) of the *Legal Profession Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. L-8 (the “Act”), the Hearing Committee ordered that Mr. Rice be suspended for five months, commencing January 1, 2024.

The Hearing Committee specifically determined that Mr. Rice was guilty of the following conduct deserving of sanction: failing to provide legal services to the standard of a competent lawyer, including failing to perform all functions in a conscientious, competent, timely and diligent manner; failing to be honest and candid with one or more clients; bringing the administration of justice into disrepute by asking a client-contact to assist in illegal conduct; and improperly managing and withdrawing funds held in trust, including withdrawing funds without authority and breaching Law Society of Alberta trust accounting rules.

Conduct deserving of sanction is defined in the *Act* as conduct that is incompatible with the best interests of the public (including members of the Law Society) or conduct that tends to harm the standing of the legal profession generally.

Mr. Rice’s suspension will commence on January 1, 2024. All enquiries regarding Mr. Rice’s practice can be addressed to the following during the period of his suspension:

Steven L. Cooper, K.C.  
Cooper Regel LLP  
77 Chippewa Road  
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 6J7  
Tel: (780) 570-8448

The full written decision of the Hearing Committee will be posted to the Law Society of Alberta website when it is issued.

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**Elizabeth J. Osler, KC**  
Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director  
Law Society of Alberta

**NOTICE TO:** Public,  
All Active Lawyers and Students-at-Law,  
All Inactive Lawyers,  
All Executive Directors of other Law Societies in Canada,  
All Justices of the Court of Appeal and Court of King’s Bench,  
All Justices of the Court of Justice of Alberta,  
All Applications Judges,  
All Clerks of the Court.