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WESTERN AUSTRALIA
THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

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DISCIPLINARY HEARING

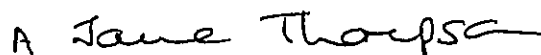
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

The Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal recently found Christopher Gerald Narayanan, a legal practitioner of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, guilty of unprofessional conduct in using threatening and oppressive language in a letter to another practitioner.

The practitioner had alleged fraud by another practitioner. The practitioner, Mr Narayanan, now acknowledges the seriousness of the matter and has advised that he understands the position, however he had not pleaded guilty and the hearing of the Reference had to proceed. Mr Narayanan had no evidence to support the allegation made against the other practitioner.

The Tribunal found the practitioner guilty of unprofessional conduct in that in a facsimile message to another legal practitioner he used language which was oppressive and threatening and no doubt also improper. The allegation of possible fraud was followed by a suggestion that the matter could be avoided by a payment. Such conduct has always been regarded as constituting a breach pursuant to the Legal Practitioners Act.

The Tribunal ordered the practitioner be fined \$500 and pay the costs of \$1200, both to be paid within 60 days. The Tribunal also directed that there be publication of the findings.



Mrs AJ Thompson
Registrar
Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal
January 2000