

BSB DISMISSES ALL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST KHAWAR QURESHI QC

John Petrie, Chief Executive of Serle Court Chambers (Mr. Qureshi QC's London chambers), has confirmed that the Bar Standards Board has dismissed all allegations against Khawar Qureshi QC in respect of his role as Leading Counsel for the Claimant in *Republic of Djibouti v. Boreh*.

Alan Boyle QC, Head of Serle Court, stated “I am delighted that the BSB having considered the allegations has fully exonerated Khawar Qureshi”.

From April 2013 to December 2014, Mr Qureshi QC was instructed by Gibson Dunn for the Claimants. At a 5 day hearing in March 2015, Flaux J held that a partner in the firm, Mr Peter Gray, had deliberately misled the Court in his earlier affidavit evidence in support of a freezing order. Flaux J completely exonerated Mr Qureshi QC of any knowledge or blame for the Court having been misled. The Judge also described as “unedifying” the attempt that had been made by Gibson Dunn’s partner to pass on blame to Leading Counsel.

Flaux J further stated that he had “no doubt” that Mr. Qureshi QC had made submissions “entirely honourably” at a hearing on 13 November 2014 based upon the sworn affidavit evidence of Mr Gray.

Nevertheless, in response to thoroughly unmeritorious allegations after the March 2015 hearing which were both inconsistent with what Flaux J had said and based on no new evidence, Mr. Qureshi QC asked the BSB to investigate his conduct in the case. He asked his professional regulator to do this so as to eliminate any basis for gossip or rumour on this matter - however malicious or false.

Khawar Qureshi QC is one of the Leading Commercial and International Law Silks at the Bar. He was an “A” Panel Treasury Counsel before taking Silk in 2006, and a Visiting Professor in Commercial Law at London University. He has undertaken many high profile cases, is a Bencher of Middle Temple and was appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in 2013.

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