



ZIMBABWE EZEKIEL GUTI UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF LAW

EXAMINATION PAPER

COURSE CODE : LLB 501
COURSE TITLE : ACCOUNTING FOR LEGAL PRACTITIONERS
DURATION : 3 Hours
DATE :

27 JUN 2022

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. This question paper comprises of two printed pages.
2. This question paper comprise of four questions.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Start each question on a new page of your answer sheet

Question 1

- a) Husband and wife established a law firm and are currently operating as equal partners.
- b) At some point this year one of their clients approached the law firm requesting money that was due to them.
- c) Two weeks later the client had not been paid prompting the client to approach the wife to enquire about the late payment alleging the husband had not made the payment.
- d) The wife became suspicious and approached the husband requesting access to the trust account and the husband assured her that everything was under control and she needs not concern herself with the trust account.
- e) The wife stopped pursuing the issue only to discover a few weeks down the line that the client had not been paid and had approached the Law Society of Zimbabwe in a bid to recover her money.
- f) The Law Society has since escalated the issue to the disciplinary tribunal.

Opinion sought

- i. Whether there is individual or collective liability.
- ii. Wife's rights and liabilities.
- iii. Legal implications of failing to supervise the trust account.

[20 marks]

Question 2

Comment on each of the following.

- a) T and M Legal Practitioners operate a business current, a business savings, a trust current as well as a trust savings account. On 10 November 2021 they withdrew a sum of \$20 000 from the trust savings account being interest earned which amount they then deposited into their business current account.
(5)
- b) The financial year end of D and H Legal Practitioners was the 30 April 2021. The annual audit was completed on 30 May 2021 and the audit certificate was submitted to the Law Society on 15 October 2021.
(5)

- c) A legal practitioner's practising certificate was due to expire on 31 December 2021. She submitted her application for renewal of the practising certificate together with the audit certificate on 7 December and on 15 December 2021 she paid the Compensation Fund the interest due to it.

(5)

- d) On 15 May 2021, a legal practitioner prepared a list of his clients' credit balances as at the 30 March 2021 and noted them in a prominent manner in his ledger. On 30 May 2021 the legal practitioner destroyed the list of the clients' credit balances (as at the 30 March 2021).

(5)

Question 3

In most law firms in Zimbabwe accounting and book keeping is done by professional secretaries or accountants. Discuss the justification for teaching law students Accounting for Legal Practitioners as a core course. [10 marks]

Question 4

Summarise the facts and the law in the following matters involving legal practitioners.

- a) In Re Chikweche 1995 (1) ZLR 235 (SC)
- b) Chizikani v Law Society of Zimbabwe 1994 (1) ZLR 382 (SC)
- c) Law Society of Zimbabwe v Chimuriwo HH 330-21
- d) Law Society of Zimbabwe v Charles Chinyama HH 362-21

(20)

****END OF PAPER****