

Re: Our client: Alexander Walker

From: Irene Spalletti (property_92@yahoo.com)

To: chiaraalongo@edwardsfamilylaw.co.uk

Cc: kellyedwards@edwardsfamilylaw.co.uk

Date: Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 15:40 BST

Dear Chiara,

Thank you for your email.

I must respectfully clarify that I did in fact submit the Acknowledgment of Service on 28 February 2025, which was two days after I received the letter, within the 14 days timeframe (attached for your review). At the time, I was outside the country, which contributed to the short delay. If the court has a different record of the filing date, I would be grateful if you could provide that for my records.

Regarding the late submission of my statement shortly before the hearing, are you therefore confirming that your client also failed to follow the correct protocols at the last two hearings?

I would also like to bring to your attention that I am considered disabled under the Equality Act 2010, and I am currently in a financially vulnerable position. I remain without legal representation, and as such, I kindly ask that reasonable adjustments be made in accordance with your client's duties under the Act.

Additionally, I would like to state that during the five days when I was technically represented by the previous solicitor, no steps were taken on this matter. I was effectively unrepresented during that critical period, and this should be taken into consideration when assessing procedural compliance and fairness.

Please confirm whether you are willing to consider late evidence on this basis or whether you will object, in which case I will seek permission from the court directly.

Yours sincerely,
Irene Spalletti

On Wednesday 28 May 2025 at 10:51:40 BST, Chiara Longo <chiaraalongo@edwardsfamilylaw.co.uk> wrote:

Dear Irene,

Many thanks for your email below.

You state you will file your evidence the evening before the hearing. I am afraid this is not acceptable in the circumstances. I note that you (and your solicitors, at the time) failed to serve and file the Acknowledgment of Service in time. The Acknowledgment of Service was due on 28 February 2025, and yet the same is dated 13 March 2025 and was filed on the same day. You also failed to file your evidence alongside the Acknowledgment of Service in accordance with CPR 8.5(2), which reads: "*A defendant who wishes to rely on written evidence must file it when they file their acknowledgment of service*".

I must be clear that you were represented by solicitors at that time, and you continued to be until 14 April 2025, when your solicitors made an application to the Court to be removed from the record as acting for you due to a breakdown of the relationship. As of today, you still have not filed your evidence. Unfortunately, you are very clearly in breach of the CPR.

Though I am not your solicitor, I must advise you that according to CPR 8.6, "*no written evidence may be relied on at the hearing of the claim unless – (a) it has been served in accordance with rule 8.5; or (b) the court gives permission*".