

Exhibit ref.

1st Statement *of the* Defendant
Miss Irene Sara Spalletti

Case ref: M00ED350

IN THE COUNTY COURT AT EDMONTON

IN THE TRUSTS OF LAND AND
APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES ACT 1996

BETWEEN:

Mr Alexander Michael Luke Wolf Walker

Claimant

– and –

Miss Irene Sara Spalletti

Defendant

Family Law Act proceedings

*Exhibited in response to para. 36
of the Claimant's 1st Statement*

Second, an application dated 31 December 2024, to vary and extend the terms of the expressly agreed order of 26 November 2024 (including to confirm Irene's "occupation rights", to extend the order to 31 March 2026 (which she erroneously says is the end of our mortgage agreement), to "prevent further harassment from [my] solicitor" and to deal with financial obligations particularly my responsibilities for maintaining the property and covering associated costs.)

SEPTEMBER

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29	30					

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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Respondent’s arrest

Application for NMO & Occupation Order

Property Matter Only – Solicitor is being instructed

All the communication from Mrs. Walker

Mrs Walker proceeded with TOLATA application instead of waiting for my solicitor to respond to their letter before action

Christmas Holiday Office Closures

Updates on Mrs Walker's behaviour and ongoing mental health repercussions



Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot

Wed 22 Jan, 14:32 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

Dear detective Proudfoot,

Thank you so much for advising me to contact Advocate, they are looking into my situation.

I was only able to afford paying my solicitor for 5 hrs of work (£1,600 including the initial meeting). Please see updates on Mrs Walker communication below:

- Mrs Lucy Cornish (my property matter solicitor) has email Mrs Walker telling her she has just been instructed and will follow up
- Mrs Walker has emailed on the 15th January demanding a follow up
- I have responded to Mrs Walker on the 16th January
- Mrs Walker has called my solicitor on the 17th January
- Mrs Walker has sent a letter to my solicitor with yet again another deadline of this Friday 4pm
- Mrs Walker has called my solicitor again on the 21st January
- Mrs Walker emailed my solicitor about family law matters (NMO and occupation order) and she has pointed this out to me:

"Further to my letter of yesterday's date, here is a link to all of the correspondence that I previously sent to Ms Spalletti (via Mr Pennisi), together with the documents arising from her application for a non-molestation and occupation order: <https://>"

This has probably burned by budget and her insistence is coming out of my funds leaving none to actually resolve the matter.

I am starting to be terrified that if he doesn't get prosecuted they will sue me. I am also terrified of what will happen to me if bail conditions are to come to an end... I know you have done so much to help me this far, please help me get this case approved by the CPS, I really am scared.

Jon, I have contacted my broker and amended my life insurance policy... if anything were to happen to me, if I ever give up because I can't cope with their harassing legal and financial threats any longer, please promise me you will look into holding both Mr. Walker and his solicitor responsible. Their actions and communications are the sole reason my mental health gets affected. If Advocate won't take me on and prosecution won't go ahead... I just don't know how I can cope...

Just by curiosity, will CPS receive a copy of my 1st statement and exhibits? I am attaching all the communication received from Mrs Walker since the 5.11.2024 (47 pages).

Thanks detective,
Iren

One attachment • Scanned by Gmail



Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot

Fri 24 Jan, 16:10 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

Hi detective Proudfoot,

Sorry for following up. I am in the process of making a complaint to the SRA, I have just called them.

Please, how do I get a restraining order for harassment from Mrs. Walker? The SRA agreed and told me to contact the police, but I am under the impression the police are quite reluctant when it comes to dealing with solicitors.

Over the last eight weeks, I've received nearly 40 pages of communication from her. I am a vulnerable person, a victim of her client's abuse, and have zero funds to respond to her absurdities.

Her actions have become a significant threat to my safety and well-being, and I am deeply concerned about the impact this is having on me. I am pleading for urgent intervention as I am struggling to cope with the ongoing pressure and intimidation. The emotional and psychological strain is unbearable, and I fear for what may happen if immediate action is not taken to address this relentless harassment and protect me from further harm.

Thanks,
Iren



Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot

Fri 24 Jan, 19:01 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

P.S. I am neurodivergent, which means I am emotionally more vulnerable and sensitive to things that neurotypical individuals might not be affected by or might find easier to cope with. This makes the situation even more distressing and overwhelming for me.



Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot ▾

Wed 5 Feb, 19:19 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

I'm free any day and anytime after 1pm.

They contacted Mr Pennisi on Monday when I said they couldn't. How is that not breach of bail? It's breach of data too.

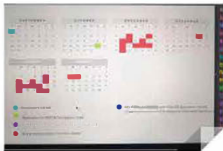
The judge said it has to be dealt with the police and not family court, the police doesn't want to do anything about this as it's a solicitor harassing me rather than a regular member of the public.

I'm not sure where to turn to frankly.

Please see attached photo. How is 3-4 times/week weekly not harassment???

...

One attachment • Scanned by Gmail ⓘ

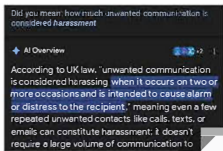


Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot ▾

Wed 5 Feb, 19:58 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

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One attachment • Scanned by Gmail ⓘ



Irene Spalletti <irene.spalletti@gmail.com>
to Jonty.Proudfoot ▾

Wed 5 Feb, 20:05 ☆ 😊 ↶ ⋮

You realise it's Alex giving her instructions, she can't send anything without him meaning it's him contacting me 3-4 times/week despite having 2 protective orders??

They've drained me detective

...

↶ Reply

↷ Forward



Your ref: RGC/000151100

Irene Sara Spalletti
92 Ollerton Road N11 2LA, London
irene.spalletti@gmail.com
07412 604 767

To: Dean Spencer
Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA)
By email: dean.spencer@sra.org.uk

18 April 2025

Formal Complaint Against Ms Sarah May Yi Walker of Hughes Fowler Carruthers

Dear SRA Complaints Team,

I am writing to formally file a complaint against Ms. Sarah May Yi Walker, Senior Associate at Hughes Fowler Carruthers, who is acting on behalf of my ex-partner, Mr. Walker, in an ongoing family and property dispute. Ms. Walker's actions have caused me significant emotional, financial, and psychological harm, undermined the legal process, and perpetuated the abuse I have suffered.

I respectfully request that the content of this complaint remains confidential and is not disclosed to Ms. Walker or her firm. While I understand that my complaint will be investigated in accordance with SRA procedures, I am concerned that sharing its full details may result in further distress or retaliation. I trust that the SRA will handle this matter with due sensitivity.

I believe her conduct has breached SRA Principles and may violate legal standards, including:

- Harassment laws
- The Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Family Procedure Rules
- Equality obligations
- Data protection breach
- The Human Rights Act 1998

Background

- My ex-partner and I jointly own a property purchased in February 2024. Since then, the property has lost £60,000 in value, and we have incurred an additional £60,000 in losses due to renovations and other property-related costs. The property requires essential building works to regain its value before it can be put back on the market.
- On 1 September 2024, my ex-partner was arrested and remains on six-month bail, with conditions preventing him from returning to the property or contacting me directly.
- The case is now with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), where my ex-partner faces multiple charges, including controlling and coercive behaviour and domestic abuse.
- I have been granted a Non-Molestation Order for my protection.
- Due to financial hardship, I am currently unrepresented in these proceedings.

Financial disparities

- I am in severe financial distress due to my ex-partner's abuse and coercion. He stole all my savings—over £10,000—leaving me with less than £10 to my name. This is fully detailed in my 320-page statement, supported by extensive evidence.
- I rely on £400 per month in Universal Credit and financial support from family and friends to cover my £1,600 monthly mortgage and heating costs.
- In contrast, Mr Walker earns £109,560 annually and has over £150,000 in savings and assets.

Summary of complaint

Mrs. Walker's actions as Mr. Walker's solicitor have been excessive, aggressive, and harassing. Despite being aware of my vulnerable position as a domestic abuse survivor leaving me with traumas affecting my mental health, she has exploited the power imbalance between Mr. Walker and me.

Coercion & Harassment Despite My Unrepresented Status

Since my ex-partner's arrest in September 2024, I have relentlessly sought affordable legal representation through legal charities and organisations, with over 188 pages of search efforts, including:

- Phone calls and in-person appointments
- Assistance requests including to RCJ Advice, Support Through Court, FLOWS, the Royal Courts of Justice, Legal Choices, We Are Advocate and The University of Law.

Despite these extensive efforts, I have remained legally unrepresented, a fact Ms Walker has been fully aware of. Despite knowing this, she has:

- Persistently pressured me to agree to unreasonable terms
- Escalated communication aggressively, placing immense pressure on me.

Relentless Harassment Through Excessive Communication

Ms Walker repeatedly contacted me on the following dates:

- November: 5, 8, 11, 12, 14, 18, 20, 21, 22, 25
- December: 13
- January: 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 30, 31
- February: 3, 4

This aggressive and excessive communication has exacerbated my distress and placed immense pressure on me, fully knowing that:

- I lack legal representation.
- I am a survivor of documented domestic abuse and coercion.
- I have no financial means to respond through a solicitor.

I believe this behaviour violates the SRA's ethical obligations and demonstrates a deliberate abuse of legal power to intimidate an unrepresented and financially vulnerable party.

Ms Walker's Disregard for Evidence of Domestic Abuse & Coercion

Ignoring Overwhelming Evidence of Abuse

My first statement to the court, in support of a non-molestation and occupation orders application was nearly 400 pages long, including:

- Extensive exhibits.
- Audio files documenting the abuse.

This evidence, along with the involvement of the police and the council, leaves no doubt as to her client's responsibility for domestic abuse, control, and coercion. Despite being fully aware of this overwhelming evidence, Ms Walker has:

- Dismissed and minimised the abuse I suffered.
- Used her position to protect and enable an abuser.

Her conduct contradicts SRA Principles and legal ethical standards, particularly in cases involving documented domestic abuse survivors.

False Claims About Bail Conditions

Ms Walker has falsely claimed that her client is "on bail for breaking a lamp", when in reality:

- He was arrested on 1 September 2024 and remains on six-month bail.
- The case is currently with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).
- He faces charges of controlling and coercive behaviour and domestic abuse.
- I have been granted a Non-Molestation Order with power of arrest for my protection, allowing me to remain in the property without her client's interference until 25 October 2025.

By trivialising the abuse I have suffered, Ms Walker is:

- Undermining the severity of domestic violence.
- Perpetuating harmful narratives that enable abusers.
- Acting in a discriminatory and insensitive manner towards victims of domestic abuse.

Her conduct sends a damaging and appalling message—that unless a victim of domestic abuse has £20,000 to fight solicitors in court, they are better off remaining in an abusive relationship.

This is not only legally and ethically unacceptable but also a terrifying and dangerous precedent that the SRA must investigate and address immediately.

Specific Incidents of Misconduct

Persistent Harassment & Coercion

- On 5 November, immediately after receiving the non-molestation order and hearing date, Ms. Walker imposed arbitrary deadlines for me to sign undertakings.
- She persistently harassed me with repeated communications on multiple dates (8, 11, 12, 14, 18, 20, 21, 22, 25 November).
- She threatened that failure to comply would result in a £10,000 legal bill, despite court guidance that these issues should be addressed at the hearing.

Unreasonable Financial Demands & Legal Threats

Ms. Walker's communications were made in response to my first statement, which means she was obligated to read and consider its contents before issuing further harassing communications. In my first statement (nearly 400 pages, including exhibits and audio files of abuse), I made it absolutely clear that:

- I cannot afford to buy her client out.
- I am struggling to meet basic financial needs.
- I have no access to legal aid or legal support.

Despite this, she proceeded to issue a Letter Before Action on 13 December, threatening a TOLATA application unless I complied by 13 January with one of the following completely unreasonable demands:

- Pay £213,020 by 31 January 2025, despite my well-documented financial hardship and with no legal basis.
- Accept a property overvaluation of £103,000 (£903,000 vs actual £800,000).
- Pay an additional £15,000 in compensation to her client—my abuser.

OR:

- Put the house on the market immediately by 20 January 2025, despite the court order allowing me to be the sole occupier of the property until the 25 October 2025
- Divide furniture/chattels equally, despite extensive evidence that my ex did not contribute to household or furniture costs and actually used it as financial control to manipulate and abuse me.

Ms. Walker then aggressively followed up on multiple dates: 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 30, 31 January, 3, 4 February, further escalating the pressure.

Coercion Through Financial Abuse

- I am not eligible for legal aid, cannot afford a solicitor, and since my ex-partner's arrest resulting in him never reimbursing me, I have been forced to apply for Universal Credit and survive on £400 per month.

- Despite my clear inability to meet these demands, Ms. Walker coercively Forced me into further debt—I had to borrow £3,000 to seek legal representation following her Letter Before Action on 13 December, and calculated this would have been proven extremely difficult due to the Christmas holidays.
- Despite my solicitor confirming on 10 January that they were in the process of being instructed, Ms. Walker continued escalating pressure rather than following standard professional conduct.
- Deliberately consumed my legal budget—She continued to chase my solicitor unnecessarily, ensuring that all my available legal funds were drained before I could even respond to their demands.

Intentional Financial Deprivation & Coercive Control

Despite the fact that I followed their dictated process, Ms. Walker and her client ignored it and proceeded with the TOLATA application anyway. I am now being threatened with liability for all application-related costs, exceeding £25,000.

This Is Financial & Coercive Control—A Premeditated Manipulation

The sole reason I am in this financially crippling situation is because of Ms. Walker's abusive legal tactics and her client's relentless abuse and financial control he is continuously having over me. They deliberately stripped me of all available funds.

- Deliberately deprived me of the ability to access legal representation through economic abuse.
- They are now exploiting this financial vulnerability to take me to court, knowing I have no means to fight back.
- I believe these actions amount to serious misconduct, economic abuse, and coercion, warranting urgent investigation by the SRA. This is not just a legal dispute—it is premeditated manipulation.

Data Protection Breach (ICO Complaint Pending)

Ms. Walker and her firm breached data protection regulations by sending highly sensitive information (including my ex-partner's statement) on 3 February to Mr. Pennisi, despite clear instructions on 15 January that neither he nor I wished to be contacted. Given that police bail conditions were also amended to prohibit this, I have now reported this to the ICO.

Human Rights Violations & Psychological Impact

- My GP has raised concerns about the impact of this harassment on my mental health.
- I have been left feeling suicidal multiple times due to this relentless pressure.
- I have prepared my will and provided all evidence to the detective in charge of my ex's prosecution in case their legal threats push me to act on these thoughts.

This constitutes inhuman or degrading treatment under Article 3 of the Human Rights Act 1998. Additionally, by financially depleting me to the point where I cannot participate in the legal process, I believe she has also violated Article 6 (Right to a Fair Trial).

Potential Misrepresentation of Legal Costs

I also request that the SRA investigates whether my ex-partner is genuinely paying the legal fees he is threatening me with, or whether these funds are being returned to him through alternative means.

During a recent court hearing, Ms Walker and her firm claimed £7,000 in legal costs, but the judge only approved £1,600, raising serious concerns about the accuracy and legitimacy of the invoices provided. Given my ex-partner's history of financial control and coercion, I believe it is necessary to verify whether these legal costs are being falsely inflated or manipulated.

Knowing his character and history of financial coercion, I find it highly unlikely that he would personally finance the extortionate costs of such persistent and aggressive legal harassment. Given his pattern of economic abuse, I strongly suspect that he would not willingly spend his own money on these legal proceedings unless there was a way for him to recover those funds through undisclosed means.

Additionally, his uncle is a well-established retired family law solicitor, who is likely to have connections to Hughes Fowler Carruthers or its network. This raises further concerns about the true source of funding for these legal fees and whether my ex-partner is receiving financial or professional support through informal or undisclosed arrangements.

If my ex-partner is not actually paying these fees or is being reimbursed by Ms Walker's firm, his uncle, or any third party, then these legal threats would amount to further financial abuse and intimidation. I request that the SRA thoroughly investigates this matter to ensure full compliance with ethical billing practices and financial transparency.

Request for Investigation & Action

Given the serious misconduct, coercion, and possible criminal behaviour, I formally request that the SRA investigates Ms. Walker and her firm for:

- Breach of professional ethics.
- Abuse of legal processes.
- Potential misrepresentation of legal costs
- Human rights violations under the Human Rights Act 1998.

I formally request an urgent investigation into Ms Walker's misconduct, as her actions have caused significant harm and raise serious ethical and legal concerns. I also urge the SRA to take immediate disciplinary action to prevent solicitors from misusing legal processes to further coercive control, financial abuse, and the re-traumatisation of abuse survivors.

Yours sincerely,



Irene Spalletti