



STATEMENT

OJC 07/09

June 2009

STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE FOR JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS

-
Mr M Hodson

A spokesperson for the Office for Judicial Complaints said:

“Mr Mark Hodson, a magistrate on the Croydon Bench, has been removed from office after misusing his position. Mr Hodson wrote to the police after receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice for failing to display a valid Vehicle Excise Licence. This letter used his JP suffix, and by its tone and content appeared to be drawing attention to his judicial position in a way which might be perceived to be an attempt to influence the process. An investigation by the local Advisory Committee found that by using his position as a magistrate and failing to recognise that this could be seen as prejudicial Mr Hodson fell below the high standards expected of a magistrate. The Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice agree, and have decided that Mr Hodson should be removed from the magistracy.”

Notes for Editors

Media queries in relation to the OJC should be made in the first instance to the Judicial Communications Office – telephone 020 7073 4852 or via e-mail – press.enquiries@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk.

For more information about the Office, including details on how to make a complaint against a judicial office holder, you can visit the OJC website at: <http://www.judicialcomplaints.gov.uk/>

ENDS