

Committal for Contempt of Court in Open Court at the Business and Property Courts of England and Wales

Pursuant to paragraph 13 of Practice Direction: Committal for Contempt of Court – Open Court dated 26 March 2015

Sanjiv Varma

In relation to claim no. CR 2018 006183 on 4 March 2021 at the Royal Courts of Justice in London, HHJ Johns QC sitting as a Judge of the High Court sentenced Sanjiv Varma to 21 months immediate imprisonment for contempt of Court.

The basis of the sentence was that Sanjiv Varma committed a total of 8 contempts of court by:

- (1) making a false statement in his affidavit of 16 May 2019 that the funds of approximately £3.1m paid to Grosvenor Consultants FZE (“GCFZE”) “were paid against sale of jewellery and diamonds to the company”;
- (2) failing to inform liquidators’ solicitors of assets within 48 hours in breach of an order of 1 May 2019;
- (3) failing to serve an affidavit setting out information as to assets as required of GCFZE by the order of 1 May 2019;
- (4) failing to send a signed letter of instruction in the period specified by the order of Adam Johnson QC sitting as a Deputy High Court Judge on 3 July 2019;
- (5) failing to sign and return authority letters in breach of the order of Andrew Hochauer QC sitting as a Deputy High Court Judge on 1 August 2019;
- (6) making a false statement in his affidavit of 7 May 2019 that “I have only one asset that may qualify for disclosure ...”, namely a shareholding in My Casa PBSA Ltd;
- (7) making a false statement in his affidavit of 16 May 2019 that GCFZE used the £3.1m “to meet its financial obligations and debts, some of the monies was used towards expenses and some of the money was used towards failed and abortive transactions in Dubai/ UAE”; and
- (8) making a false statement in his witness statement of 26 June 2019 that there are silent shareholders in GCFZE.

If Sanjiv Varma satisfies the court that he has purged his contempt of Court, the Court will consider, in the light of any apology afforded, whether to remit the whole or any part of the sentence imposed on him.