



**Information Commissioner's Office**  
Promoting public access to official information  
and protecting your personal information

## **Press Release**

22 May 2009

### **ICO prosecutes Lewisham law firm**

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has successfully prosecuted a Lewisham law firm for offences under the Data Protection Act. Motunrayo Adojutelegan of NatAdo Solicitors was fined £250 and ordered to pay costs of £427.40 plus a victims' surcharge of £15. The firm must pay a total of £692.40.

The prosecution follows the firm's failure to notify as a data controller despite reminders from the ICO of its obligations under the Data Protection Act. Under the Act, organisations that process individuals' personal information may be required to notify with the Information Commissioner's Office at a nominal cost of £35 per year.

Assistant Information Commissioner, Mick Gorrill, said: "Organisations must take their data protection responsibilities seriously. It is disappointing that we continue to see solicitors, professionals charged with dispensing legal advice, ignoring their obligations in this way. As this prosecution demonstrates, we stand ready to use our powers to prosecute the small minority of organisations that flout the Data Protection Act."

## **ENDS**

If you need more information, please contact the ICO press office on 020 7025 7580 or visit the website at: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

### **Notes to Editors**

1. Motunrayo Adojutelegan of NatAdo Solicitors was prosecuted on Tuesday 19 May 2009, at London City Magistrates.
2. The Information Commissioner's Office promotes public access to official information and protects personal information. The ICO is the UK's independent influential and

practical authority on information rights and responsibilities, making a difference to people

3. The ICO has specific responsibilities set out in the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003
4. Organisations can now sign the Personal Information Promise to demonstrate their commitment to protecting people's personal information by visiting the website at [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)
5. For more information about the Information Commissioner's Office subscribe to our e-newsletter at [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)
6. Anyone who processes personal information must comply with eight principles, which make sure that personal information is:
  - Fairly and lawfully processed
  - Processed for limited purposes
  - Adequate, relevant and not excessive
  - Accurate and up to date
  - Not kept for longer than is necessary
  - Processed in line with your rights
  - Secure
  - Not transferred to other countries without adequate protection