

# Southampton director banned for seven years



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Marian Daniel Clipici, aged 35, has been disqualified as a director for 7 years after failing to keep adequate accounts while his business was trading.

Marian Clipici, a Romanian national, was the sole director of Dahliat Limited, which operated a construction business from November 2017 according to documents filed at Companies House. However, its trading address was also home to Dahlia Restaurant, a Romanian restaurant in Southampton, which recently closed. In addition, until July 2021 he was also a director of Dani-Deea Ltd, which operates a Romanian food shop in Southampton.

The company ceased trading in September 2021 and went into liquidation. The liquidator identified a number of concerns, triggering a subsequent investigation by the Insolvency Service.

Investigators found that Marian Clipici was unable to account for more than £530,000 paid into the business bank account between June 2019 and the point of liquidation, including a £40,000 Bounce Back Loan paid to the company in May 2020.

The accounts also showed a similar amount paid out over the same period, bringing the total value of transactions to over £1 million, none of which could be demonstrated to have been for legitimate company payments due to a lack of accounting records and documentation.

Businesses were only eligible for support through the Bounce Back Loan scheme if the money was to be used to benefit the business. Marian Clipici, however, was unable to prove that the Bounce Back Loan was either validly obtained or used to support his business during the Covid pandemic.

The Bounce Back Loan was paid into the company's bank account in May 2020 and over the next four months Marian Clipici withdrew £30,000. He claimed the payments were for

subcontractors and business expenses, but was unable to demonstrate to investigators that these transactions were legitimate company payments.

Marian Clipici made a claim of £12,600 in the liquidation of the company, but due to his inadequate company records, the liquidator was unable to establish whether this was a valid claim.

The liquidators found that the company owed £60,396, including the £40,000 Bounce Back Loan owed to the bank and more than £7,000 to the tax authorities.

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy accepted a disqualification undertaking from Marian Daniel Clipici after he did not dispute he had failed to ensure that Dahlial Limited had kept adequate books and accounting records, or had failed to provide the Liquidator with such records that had been kept.

His disqualification is effective for 7 years and begins on 20 September 2022. The disqualification undertaking prevents Clipici from directly, or indirectly, becoming involved in the promotion, formation or management of a company, without the permission of the court.

Lawrence Zussman Deputy Head of Insolvent Investigation, said

Maintaining adequate company accounting records is a statutory requirement for all directors, and is vital to ensure company transactions are legitimate.

Marian Daniel Clipici has justifiably been removed from the business environment for a period of 7 years and his disqualification should serve as a warning to other directors that if you do not take your responsibilities as a director seriously, you run the risk of being disqualified.

Notes to editors

Marian-Daniel Clipici date of birth is June 1987.

Dahlial Limited (Company Reg no. 11064390).

A disqualification order has the effect that without specific permission of a court, a person with a disqualification cannot:

act as a director of a company

take part, directly or indirectly, in the promotion, formation or management of a company or limited liability partnership

be a receiver of a company's property

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a range of other restrictions.

Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is available.

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