



Údarás um Fhorfheidhmiú Corparáideach
Corporate Enforcement Authority

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER NAGP CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CHARGED WITH COMPANY LAW OFFENCES

Arising from an investigation conducted by the Corporate Enforcement Authority (CEA), and following directions from the Director of Public Prosecutions, two men have been charged with company law offences in relation to the affairs of the National Association of General Practitioners (NAGP).

Former NAGP Chairman, Dr. Andrew Jordan, has been charged with one count of fraudulent trading and with two counts of failing to keep adequate accounting records.

Former NAGP Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Christopher Goodey, has also been charged with one count of fraudulent trading and with two counts of failing to keep adequate accounting records.

At a sitting of the District Court at the Criminal Courts of Justice, Dublin this morning both men were served with a Book of Evidence and sent forward to the Circuit Court for trial on indictment.

Both men were remanded on continuing bail to an upcoming sitting of the Dublin Circuit Court 16 May 2024.

ENDS/
CORPORATE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY
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NOTE FOR EDITORS

Corporate Enforcement Authority (CEA)

The CEA is Ireland's company law enforcement agency. The CEA's functions include to:

- encourage compliance with the Companies Act 2014,
- investigate instances of suspected breaches of the Companies Act 2014,
- take appropriate enforcement action in response to identified breaches of company law,
- supervise the activities of liquidators of insolvent companies, and
- operate a regime of restriction and disqualification in respect of directors of insolvent companies.

The CEA discharges its mandate to encourage compliance with company law through a range of activities, including developing and publishing accessible guidance materials and through its outreach activities.

The CEA's enforcement remit is both civil and criminal in nature and, in discharging that mandate, the CEA has at its disposal an extensive suite of statutory powers including:

- the power to require the production of documents, including electronic documents, by companies and relevant third parties,
- powers of search and seizure,
- the power of arrest, i.e., by CEA officers who are seconded members of An Garda Síochána, and
- powers to request the courts to order certain additional investigative measures.

The CEA is a multi-disciplinary agency whose staff complement includes, amongst others, accounting and legal professionals, seconded members of An Garda Síochána, and digital forensics experts.

Fraudulent trading

Fraudulent trading is among the most serious company law offences on the statute book. Section 722 of the Companies Act 2014 provides that it is an offence where a person

“...is knowingly a party to the carrying on of the business of a company with intent to defraud creditors of the company or creditors of any other person or for any fraudulent purpose.”

On conviction on indictment, fraudulent trading carries a penalty of up to 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine of €500,000.

Failure to keep adequate accounting records

The Companies Act 2014 sets out a number of legal requirements in relation to accounting records. Accounting records must be continuous and consistent; they must correctly record and explain the transactions of the company, its income, expenditure and transactions. It is an offence for a company director to fail to take all reasonable steps to ensure that those obligations are complied with by the company, or to intentionally cause the company's non-compliance with the obligation to keep adequate accounting records.

NAGP

The National Association of General Practitioners (NAGP) was founded in 2013 as a professional association representing general practitioners (GPs) in Ireland. It served as a collective voice for GPs, advocating for their interests and concerns, as well as promoting excellence in primary healthcare. The NAGP worked on various issues affecting GPs, including healthcare policy, professional development, and patient care.

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