

Intervention (Solicitor firm closure)

24 June 2021

What you need to know

In an intervention, the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) closes down a solicitor's practice at once—to protect [clients'](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#client) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#client\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#client) interests. After a firm has been closed down, it can no longer act for its clients.

If your solicitor's firm has been closed down by the SRA and your business has not been completed, you can get more information on what to do here: [What if my case is urgent?](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/)

Documents and papers

When the SRA closes down a firm, we take all documents and papers that relate to its clients, including files and accounting records. We keep the documents safe and, if appropriate, return them to the people they belong to. [Where are my documents?](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/)

Money

When the SRA closes down a firm, we take all **money** held by the firm, including its clients' money. We return this money to the people it belongs to if we can trace them. [What happens to my money?](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/)

What you need to do—if you are a client

If you are a client of a practice that the SRA has intervened into, read our [FAQs for clients of intervened firms](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed).

What you will **then** need to do depends on several factors, including

- how long is it since the date of the intervention, and
- whether your case was 'live' (in progress, not yet closed) on the date of the intervention.

Read our [FAQs for clients of intervened firms](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed) [\[https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed\]](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/faqs/faqs-for-consumers/#solicitorsclosed).

What you need to do—if you are not a client

If you are not a client, you may find helpful our [advice for employees](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/solicitor-closed-down/intervention-employees-effect/) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/solicitor-closed-down/intervention-employees-effect/] or our [information for trade creditors](https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/solicitor-closed-down/intervention-debt-creditors/) [https://guidance.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/solicitor-closed-down/intervention-debt-creditors/].

Please use **www.sra.org.uk/help** to link to this page.