

Former Halifax Lawyer Lyle Howe Wins Right to Pursue Legal Action Against The NSBS



Halifax, Nova Scotia Mar 14, 2024 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Former lawyer Lyle Howe has been granted the right to pursue legal action against the [Nova Scotia Barristers' Society \(NSBS\)](#) whose actions, he claims, based in deep-seated prejudice, have cost him his reputation and livelihood.

“For over the past 11 years, I have compiled evidence of investigations and procedures tainted by systematic racism in various public and private Nova Scotian institutions,” said Howe. “I look forward to the opportunity to lay out this systematic injustice in court.”

In 2017, the Society disbarred Howe on the grounds of professional misconduct and professional incompetence. Howe then took this ruling to the Supreme Court where it was dismissed then on appeal, the decision was made that Howe’s case should be heard.

“I have been a target for prejudice for years; while some of my white counterparts faced suspensions for a certain breach,” Howe said of his appeal. “While some received a slap on the wrist, my career has been irrevocably dismantled.”

According to Howe, the NSBS has publicly proclaimed its commitment to combat anti-black racism, even hiring more black members, however he said these efforts are superficial.

Howe explained he hopes that the litigation will underscore the Society's willingness to address discrimination but only to the extent that it shields its members from scrutiny.

“I know in my heart this was all connected to my race. Our system is broken and while we have some people trying to repair it, it’s not enough,” said Howe.

“My case is an example of a larger and ongoing national problem: the negative impact of the system’s discrimination on the integrity and functioning of the Justice System and the bodies tasked with its oversight.”

Howe is due in court on May 8 for the discovery phase of his first lawsuit against NSBS.

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