



College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Guifen Hou, RMT (Mississauga, ON), April 11, 2018

Decision

On April 11, 2018, the Discipline Committee found that Ms. Guifen Hou, a Registered Massage Therapist (RMT), committed acts of professional misconduct in that she:

1. failed to keep records as required;
2. engaged in conduct or performed an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by registrants as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional; and
3. with respect to the information return required under *Ontario Regulation 864/93* (Registration) made under the *Massage Therapy Act, 1991*, on the renewal of her Certificate of Registration, made a false or misleading statement or declaration or failed to fully provide the information required.

Penalty and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Ms. Hou is required to appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee immediately following the hearing of this matter to be reprimanded, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the public register of the College;
2. The Registrar is directed to suspend Ms. Hou's Certificate of Registration for a period of five (5) months, effective April 11, 2018.
3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on Ms. Hou's Certificate of Registration:
 - a. Within five (5) months of April 11, 2018, Ms. Hou must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of the College's Professionalism Workshop, which is to be taken at her own expense; and

- b. Within five (5) months of April 11, 2018, Ms. Hou must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of the College's Standards and Regulations Workshop, which is to be taken at her own expense.
4. Ms. Hou is required to pay to the College costs in the amount of \$3,000.00 within six (6) months of April 11, 2018.

Reprimand Delivered to Ms. Hou:

The following reprimand was delivered by a panel of the Discipline Committee:

Ms. Hou, we are concerned by your initial unwillingness to be honest and to be cooperative with the College. You were reckless in not safeguarding your registration number when you signed blank receipts. As a Regulated Health Professional, it is ultimately your responsibility to ensure that your registration number is properly safeguarded at all times.

Additionally, your failure to keep treatment notes is unacceptable and undermines the importance of these medical records, which in turn can put the public at risk. Failing to inform the College of your new practice location suggests that you do not take your professional responsibilities of your regulator seriously. This directly impacts the College's ability to effectively govern the profession and to ensure that they meet their public protection mandate. Actions such as yours undermine the public confidence in this profession and jeopardize the relationship with insurers.

This Panel would like to remind you that being a Registered Massage Therapist is a privilege and not a right. It is our expectation that you will learn from this experience and from your ordered courses work, and when you return to your practice you will commit yourself to upholding the standards of the profession.