



College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Raman Sharma, RMT (Etobicoke, ON), February 5, 2019

Decision

On February 5, 2019, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Sharma, a Registered Massage Therapist (RMT), committed acts of professional misconduct in that he:

1. was found guilty of an offence relevant to the registrant's suitability to practise;
2. sexually abused a client;
3. contravened a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published standard of the College, or failed to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession;
4. physically abused a client; and
5. 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.

Penalty Order and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Mr. Sharma 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 revoke Mr. Sharma's Certificate of Registration, effective immediately.
3. Mr. Sharma is required to reimburse the College for funding provided to the Client under the program required under section 85.7 of the Code.
4. Mr. Sharma is required to pay the College costs in the amount of \$2,000.00, payable over twenty-four (24) months in twenty-three (23) monthly installments of \$84.00 and the (1) installment of \$68.00 (in the form of post-dated cheques which shall be provided

to the College on the date of the hearing), starting one month after the date of this Order and continuing every month until paid in full.

The complete Decision and Reasons are available online on the Canadian Legal Information Institute (CanLII) [website](#).

Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Sharma:

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

The Panel would like to acknowledge your cooperation. The Panel took particular note of the mitigating circumstances that you self-reported the criminal findings, that you were cooperative with the College throughout the process, that you entered into an Agreed Statement of Facts and a Joint Submission on Penalty. We also appreciate your presence here today as it demonstrates your willingness to take responsibility for your actions.

That being said, the Panel finds the acts of sexual abuse that you committed are quite simply reprehensible and are particularly heinous when they occur at the hands of a trusted healthcare professional. In your role as a Registered Massage Therapist you were a trusted regulated health professional.

There is nothing quite so damaging to a client than to be assaulted by a person in a position of trust. The victim will more than likely bear the emotional scars of your actions for the remainder of her life. She will also likely have difficulty in establishing trust again especially with health professionals. The panel finds that it is absolutely appropriate that your [Certificate of Registration] as a Registered Massage Therapist be revoked, effectively ending your career as a Registered Massage Therapist. If the legislature had not mandated it, the Panel would have ordered it as the circumstances make that outcome the most reasonable action that a Panel could take.

This Panel wholly condemns your actions with respect to the assault of your client. The Panel sincerely hopes that you find a way to move on in your life and in doing so, do no further harm.