



College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Ronald Gary Ryan, RMT (Markham, ON), July 25, 2018

Decision

On July 25, 2018, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Ryan, 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 CMTO, or failed to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession;
4. physically abused a client;
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; and
6. engaged in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by registrants as conduct unbecoming a Massage Therapist.

Penalty Order and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Mr. Ryan 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. Ryan's Certificate of Registration effective immediately.
3. Mr. Ryan is required to reimburse the College for funding for therapy and counselling provided to the client.

4. Mr. Ryan is required to post security in the amount of \$8,000.00 to guarantee payment for this funding.
5. Mr. Ryan is required to pay the College costs in the amount of \$5,000.00 within six (6) months of the date of the order.

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

Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Ryan:

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

The Panel wishes to recognize your participation in these proceedings here today and for your presence and respect for the process. That being said, we are extremely disturbed by the nature of these findings. Your misconduct was not only disgraceful, dishonourable and completely unprofessional, but it was conduct that would be extremely concerning to the public and the profession, as well. This College will not tolerate the sexual abuse of [clients] by its [registrants].

In your case, we are additionally concerned by the violation of the important student/teacher relationship which took place. You knowingly and deliberately abused your position of trust and authority when you victimized your [client] and student by engaging in sexual acts within a Massage Therapy treatment.

Given the serious and egregious nature of these findings, the Panel would not have been satisfied with any other outcome other than the immediate revocation of your [Certificate of Registration]. The Panel wishes to remind the profession that being a regulated health professional is a privilege and not a right.