



## College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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### Discipline Hearing Summary

#### Ron Devos, RMT (Chatham, ON), March 19, 2018

##### Decision

On March 19, 2018, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Ron Devos, a Registered Massage Therapist (RMT), committed acts of professional misconduct in that he:

1. 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;
2. contravened a federal law that is relevant to the registrant's suitability to practice; and
3. engaged in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by registrants as unbecoming a Massage Therapist.

These findings arose out of Mr. Devos' conduct in possessing child pornography images.

##### Penalty Order and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Mr. Devos was 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 a summary of the reprimand to appear on the public register of the College;
2. The Registrar was directed to revoke Mr. Devos' Certificate of Registration effective immediately; and
3. Mr. Devos was required to pay the College costs in the amount of \$3,000.00, payable to the College in fifty (50) monthly installments of \$60.00, starting one month after the date of this order and continuing every month until paid in full.

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

### **Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Devos**

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

Mr. Devos, this Panel is appalled by the conduct that you have chosen to engage in. There is an expectation of moral behaviour by those of us granted the privilege of practising Massage Therapy. We are in a unique position of authority and are responsible for helping those who are often at their most vulnerable. Therefore, we are held to a higher standard of accountability.

As you are well aware, our practice often includes young children and adolescents who need to be able to trust that we will maintain their safety and confidence appropriately. It is inconceivable that this Panel would allow the public to be exposed to the risks posed by interactions with a regulated health professional who engages in the possession of child pornography.

This Committee would not have been satisfied with any other outcome other than revocation of your licence, given the serious and disturbing nature of this conduct.