

Jan deVries

member: Jan deVries

Hearing date(s): May 23, 2001

Charges of Professional Misconduct

- Sexual abuse of a client;
- Contravening a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College or failing to maintain the Standard of Practice;
- Engaging in conduct or performing an act in the course of practising the profession that having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable and unprofessional in relation to the above allegations.

Brief Synopsis of Facts

- An Agreed Statement of Facts established that the client commenced treatment with the member. Over a period of time a personal relationship developed in which the member engaged in a variety of intimate sexual acts including sexual intercourse with the client.
- There was extensive e-mail communications between the member and the client during which the member continually made sexually explicit and inappropriate comments.
- The member pleaded guilty to all charges.

Decision

The panel accepted the member's plea and found the member guilty of the charges of professional misconduct.

Penalty

- Revocation of the member's Certificate of Registration
- Reprimand;
- Publication of the Decision; and
- No Costs were imposed

Panel's Reasons for Decision

The Panel found the facts supporting the conviction were overwhelming and therefore through its decision illustrated the continued support for the principle of zero tolerance with respect to

sexual abuse of clients by members. Costs were not imposed given the member's financial situation and the difficulties of recovering such costs.