



College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Luis Bernal (Sudbury, ON)

December 12, 2019

Decision

On December 12, 2019, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Bernal, a Registered Massage Therapist (RMT), committed acts of professional misconduct in that he:

1. was found guilty of offences that are relevant to his suitability to practise, namely sexual assault and assault;
2. sexually abused clients;
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 clients; 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 made the following order on penalty and costs:

1. Mr. Bernal is required to appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee 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. Bernal's Certificate of Registration, effective immediately;
3. Mr. Bernal is required to reimburse the College for funding provided [for] the clients' [therapy] under the program required under section 85.7 of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 to the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*;
4. Mr. Bernal is required to post security acceptable to the College in the amount of

\$192,720.00 to guarantee the payment of any amounts he may be required to reimburse the College under the order in paragraph 3 above; and

5. Mr. Bernal is required to pay to the College costs in the amount of \$45,000.00 within six (6) months of the date of this Order.

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