

## College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

1867 Yonge Street, Suite 810, Toronto, ON M4S 1Y5 | www.cmto.com | cmto@cmto.com Phone 416.489.2626 | Toll-free (Ontario) 800.465.1933

# Discipline Summary

### **Domenic Falvo (Midland, ON)**

### September 8, 2022

#### **Motion Decision**

On September 8, 2022, the Discipline Committee granted a request brought by the College and Mr. Falvo to indefinitely adjourn discipline hearings in two (2) separate matters. In the first matter, Mr. Falvo faces the following allegations of professional misconduct:

- 1. sexual abuse of a client, more specifically, touching of a sexual nature of a client and/or behaviour or remarks of a sexual nature toward a client;
- 2. contravention of a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College, or failure to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession, more particularly, the Standard for Maintaining Professional Boundaries and Preventing Sexual Abuse, and/or Draping Standard, and/or Communication/Public Health Standard 7: Consent;
- 3. doing anything to a client for a therapeutic or another health-related purpose without a client's consent;
- 4. physical abuse of a client;
- 5. failure to take reasonable steps to ensure that any information provided by or on his behalf to the College is accurate;
- 6. failure to keep records as required;
- 7. falsifying a record relating to his practice; and/or
- 8. engaging in conduct or performing 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.

In the second matter, Mr. Falvo faces the following allegations of professional misconduct:

1. advertising or permitting advertising with respect to his practice in contravention of the regulations under the *Massage Therapy Act, 1991*;

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- 2. contravention of a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College, or failure to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession, in particular, *Advertising*; *Record Keeping*; *Fees and Billing*; *Professional Boundaries*;
- 3. failing to keep records as required;
- 4. falsifying a record relating to his practice;
- 5. signing or issuing, in his professional capacity, a document that he knows contains false or misleading statement;
- 6. submitting an account or charge for services that he knows is false or misleading; and/or
- 7. engaging in conduct or performing 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.

The Discipline Committee granted the request after it was presented with evidence that Mr. Falvo signed an <u>undertaking</u> to resign and never reapply for registration with the College. According to that undertaking, the College can re-open the prosecution of these matters if Mr. Falvo reapplies for registration with the College or otherwise breaches any of the other terms of the undertaking. Mr. Falvo also agreed to reimburse the College for any funding provided for therapy and counselling for the client involved in the first matter, as well as to post security of \$5,000.00 to guarantee payment of any reimbursement amounts.

The complete Decisions and Reasons are available online on the <u>Canadian Legal Information</u> Institute (CanLII) website.

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