

College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Anna Slavin (Richmond Hill, ON)

June 5, 2023

Decision

On June 5, 2023, the Discipline Committee found that Ms. Slavin engaged in professional misconduct after she admitted to:

- 1. contravening a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College, or failing to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession, in particular, Communication/Public Health Standard 6: Obtain, Update and Record the Client's Health History and Communication/Public Health Standard 14: Client Health Record;
- 2. failing to keep records as required;
- falsifying a record relating to her practice;
- 4. signing or issuing, in her professional capacity, a document that she knew contained a false or misleading statement;
- 5. submitting an account or charge for services that she knew were false or misleading; and
- 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.

Ms. Slavin admitted to having issued or allowing others to issue receipts for Massage Therapy treatments that she did not provide. She also failed to properly keep client records, some of which were missing health history forms, treatment plans and treatment notes.

Penalty Order and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Ms. Slavin is required to appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee 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 suspend Ms. Slavin's Certificate of Registration for five months, starting on June 5, 2023.
- 3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on Ms. Slavin's Certificate of Registration, all of which are to be completed at Ms. Slavin's own expense:
 - a) Ms. Slavin must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of an individualized ethics course, pre-approved by the Registrar, relating to the inappropriate billing issues raised in this case, within six months of June 5, 2023;
 - b) Ms. Slavin must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of the College's Professionalism Workshop, within six months of June 5, 2023;
 - c) Within two years of her return to practice, Ms. Slavin must participate in up to three compliance audits conducted by a College-appointed auditor, with the cost of each audit not exceeding \$500.
- 4. The Registrant is required to pay to the College costs in the amount of \$3,475, which can be made in 12 monthly installments, with the first payment beginning one month from June 5, 2023, in the amount of \$296 and the remaining 11 payments to be made on a monthly basis in the amount of \$289.

The complete Decision and Reasons will be available on the <u>Canadian Legal Information</u> <u>Institute (CanLII)</u> website.

Reprimand Delivered to Ms. Slavin

Ms. Slavin, the panel would like to acknowledge your cooperation in arriving at a resolution in this matter, which assisted in the process and lessened the burden of time and resources upon the College and the profession. We also appreciate your presence here today. Having said that, the panel finds that your conduct was totally unacceptable for a Registered Massage Therapist and a regulated health professional. Massage Therapists are expected to abide by and maintain a commitment to Standards of Practice and ethical requirements. The panel notes that your inappropriate actions took place over an extended period, thus causing an accumulated amount of damage to your clients. This is in addition to the professional damage caused to your clientele as a result of your suspension.

The panel would like to remind you that being a Registered Massage Therapist and a member of this profession is a privilege and not a right. Actions such as yours undermine the public's confidence in this profession and shall not be tolerated. It is our expectation that you will have learned from this experience and that we will not see you before this Committee in the future.