



## College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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### Discipline Hearing Summary

#### Jeffrey Pitts (Brantford, ON)

June 15, 2023

#### Decision

On June 15, 2023, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Jeffrey Pitts committed acts of professional misconduct in that he:

1. sexually abused a client;
2. 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, in particular, the Standard for *Maintaining Professional Boundaries and Preventing Sexual Abuse*;
3. physically abused a client; and
4. 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.

Mr. Pitts exposed and massaged a client's breasts without obtaining the client's informed consent and without clinical indication to treat that sensitive area.

#### Interim Suspension

Given the panel's finding of sexual abuse involving touching of a sexual nature of a client's breasts, the panel suspended Mr. Pitts' Certificate of Registration pursuant to subsection 51(4.2)(c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, S.O., c.18*.

A penalty hearing will be scheduled in the near future. The date of the penalty hearing will be posted on the College [website](#).

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