

College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Summary Michel Sarkis (Stouffville, ON) September 8, 2023

Motion Decision

Following a hearing on September 8, 2023, the Discipline Committee granted a request brought by the College and Mr. Sarkis to indefinitely adjourn Mr. Sarkis' discipline hearing. The hearing related to a matter in which it was alleged that Mr. Sarkis engaged in the following acts of misconduct:

- 1. sexual abuse of a client;
- contravention of a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College, or failure to maintain the Standards of Practice of the profession, in particular, the Standard for Maintaining Professional Boundaries and Preventing Sexual Abuse, Communication/Public Health Standard 7: Consent, Communication/ Public Health Standard 12: Draping, and Communication/Public Health Standard 14: Client Health Record;
- 3. failing to keep records as required; and
- 4. 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. Sarkis signed an <u>undertaking</u> to resign and never reapply for registration with the College. According to that agreement, the College can re-open the prosecution of this matter if Mr. Sarkis reapplies for registration or otherwise breaches any other terms of the agreement. Mr. Sarkis also agreed to reimburse the College for any funding provided for therapy and counselling to the client and to post security of \$2,500 to guarantee the payment of reimbursement amounts.

The allegations in this matter remain unproven.

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

Motion Summary re: Michel Sarkis