

## Discipline Summary

### Ramil Reyes (Toronto, ON)

**February 16, 22, 23, March 6, April 5, and December 12, 2023**

#### Decision

On October 5, 2023, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Reyes 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.

During a 2018 Massage Therapy treatment, Mr. Reyes asked a client to sign the Consent for Treatment of Sensitive Areas form without properly explaining it to her. During that same appointment, Mr. Reyes exposed the client's breasts, touched the client's breasts without informed consent, and touched the client's nipple.

#### Penalty Order and Costs Award

On December 12, 2023, the Discipline Committee held a penalty and costs hearing and ordered the following:

1. Mr. Reyes must appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee following the hearing to be reprimanded, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the College's public register.
2. The Registrar is directed to immediately revoke Mr. Reyes's Certificate of Registration.

3. Mr. Reyes must reimburse the College for funding that has been and that may in the future be provided to the client under the program required under section 85.7 of the Health Professions Procedural Code<sup>1</sup>.
4. Mr. Reyes must pay the College costs in the amount of \$13,760, payable in 60 equal monthly installments of \$229.33 due by the 16<sup>th</sup> of every month, with the first payment being due by January 12, 2024, and the last payment by December 16, 2028.

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

### **Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Reyes**

The following reprimand was delivered by a panel of the Discipline Committee:

Mr. Reyes, this panel finds that your behaviour was unacceptable. While we appreciate your cooperation through these proceedings, this in no way takes away from the fact that you were found to have sexually abused your client.

Clients place a high level of trust in their health care providers, and behaviour such as yours undermines this confidence. It is always the responsibility of the health care provider to maintain the boundaries of the therapeutic relationship and to act in the best interest of their client. Your actions have demonstrated a clear disregard for the importance of this vital relationship and failed to respect the power imbalance that exists between a health care provider and their client.

You have demonstrated behaviour that is disgraceful, dishonourable, and unprofessional. Revocation was mandatory in this case, and the panel would not have been satisfied with any outcome other than revocation given that public safety and public protection are at the forefront of the College's and this Discipline Committee's mandates.

The College of Massage Therapists of Ontario and this Discipline Committee have a zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse of clients, particularly in the context of a regulated health care profession, and will not tolerate this type of behaviour.

---

<sup>1</sup> Schedule 2 of the [Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991](#).