

File Reference: DH2116

ELEMENTS OF COMPLAINT

On September 27, 2021, the College became aware that a Registrant may have engaged in the unauthorized practice of dental hygiene between March 1, 2020, and September 27, 2021, after failing to renew his/her full practicing license prior to renewal deadline of February 28, 2021.

The matter was referred to the Inquiry Committee which initiated an investigation under s. 33(4) of the *Health Professions Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 183 (the "Act") and the Registrant was invited to respond.

On September 29, 2021, the Registrant advised the College by email that s/he was under the impression that her/his fees had been paid by her/his financial manager but that was not the case and that s/he had decided to retire from practice.

COMMITTEE DECISION

After a review of the investigation material, the Inquiry Committee was concerned that the Registrant likely engaged in unauthorized practice and failed to comply with her duty to cooperate with the investigation by failing to respond to College communications during the investigation. The Inquiry Committee and the Registrant agreed that the appropriate remedial action was a consent order pursuant to ss. 36(1)(a) and (d) of the Act which will ensure s/he does not repeat the conduct of engaging in unauthorized practice which raises public safety concerns and represents a serious issue for the College.

Under the terms of the consent order, the Registrant agreed: (a) not to repeat the conduct of engaging in the unauthorized practice of dental hygiene contrary to sections 3 and 5(a) of the Dental Hygienists Regulation and s. 47(1) of the College's bylaws and failing to respond to College communications while registered with the College; (b) that prior to seeking reinstatement of registration, the Registrant undertakes to submit a draft reflective essay, using the ORID Focused Conversation Model, of not less than 1200 words, exclusive of references, outlining the responsibilities of being a registered dental hygienist set out in the College bylaws as well as the importance of responding to communications from the College in a timely and respectful manner for approval to the Inquiry Committee and to make such changes as directed by the Inquiry Committee; (c) in the event the Registrant applies for reinstatement of registration and his/her application is granted, s/he undertakes to maintain regular monthly contact with the College (or its successor) by ensuring his/her email and mailing addresses are current with the College (or its successor) and by checking his/her email on a monthly basis for communication and contacting the College (or its successor) if s/he has not received email communications from it within the preceding 30 days; (d) to complete 3 continuing competency credits at his/her cost with a focus in Subcategory F2: Jurisprudence and Ethics in his/her Guided Learning Plan as part of his/her current Quality Assurance Program Plan within 60 days of his/her date of reinstatement of registration; and (e) to report any changes with respect to his/her employment status and place of employment in writing to the College within 5 days of any change and to ensure that the College is aware at all times of his/her current place of employment as a dental hygienist.

RELEVANT PROVISION OF ACT, REGULATION OR BYLAWS

Act, section 13; 33(1) and (4); 33(5); 33(6)(c) and 36.

STATUS: Closed.