

Decision 3

Dr. Hanan Taraf
444 McNeely Ave #C3
Carleton Place, Ontario

ALLEGATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- ◆ Contravened a standard of practice or failed to maintain the standards of practice of the profession (para. 1)
- ◆ Treated or attempted to treat a disease, disorder or dysfunction of the oral-facial complex that was beyond her expertise or competence (para. 5)
- ◆ Recommended and/or provided an unnecessary dental service (para. 6)
- ◆ Signed or issued documents that contained false, misleading or improper statements (para. 28)
- ◆ Charged fees that were excessive or unreasonable in relation to the services performed (para. 31)
- ◆ Failed to keep records as required by the regulations (para. 25)

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

- ◆ Dr. Taraf charged fees for the complicated extraction of erupted teeth despite a lack of justification and surgical details.
- ◆ She charged fees for the extraction of teeth with complete bone impaction despite a lack of justification and surgical details.
- ◆ She charged fees for treatment not rendered.
- ◆ She failed to obtain patient consent prior to treatment.
- ◆ Her diagnosis and treatment planning was inadequate.

- ◆ Dr. Taraf's restorative, endodontic and surgical treatments, as well as her management of post-operative complications did not meet the standards of practice of the profession.
- ◆ She performed surgical treatment of one tooth for one patient that was beyond her expertise.
- ◆ She recommended unnecessary treatment (fabrication of nightguards, extraction procedures).
- ◆ Dr. Taraf's recordkeeping, including her clinical chart entries and financial records were inadequate and inaccurate.

DECISION

Finding

- ◆ The member pleaded guilty and was found guilty with respect to the above allegations of professional misconduct.

Penalty

- ◆ Reprimand
- ◆ Suspension of certificate of registration for 3 months (July 1, 2014 – September 30, 2014)
- ◆ Courses in endodontics, restorative dentistry, oral surgery, recordkeeping, and ethics
- ◆ Mentoring program
- ◆ Practice to be monitored for 36 months following completion of mentoring program

Costs/Publication

- ◆ Costs awarded to College in the amount of \$3,000
- ◆ Member to pay mentoring and monitoring costs

- ◆ Pursuant to the legislation, publication of this matter includes the member's name and address

PANEL'S REASONING

- ◆ The penalty was a joint submission reached following a pre-hearing conference.
- ◆ The panel accepted that the penalty was within the appropriate range for professional misconduct of this nature.
- ◆ Although the panel had serious concerns regarding the extent of the member's misconduct, its improper nature and that it had occurred at such an early stage in her professional career, it was satisfied that the penalty addressed those concerns and was in the public interest.
- ◆ The panel considered that it was a mitigating factor that there have been no prior complaints or discipline in respect of Dr. Taraf and as soon as she was made aware of her deficiencies, she fully cooperated with the College.
- ◆ The courses, mentoring and monitoring will aid in the rehabilitation of Dr. Taraf in her practice of dentistry and will ensure the public is protected.
- ◆ The suspension represents a significant financial penalty.
- ◆ The panel is satisfied that all aspects of the penalty will act as a deterrent to Dr. Taraf and to other members of the profession who might otherwise be inclined to engage in misconduct of this type.