
Discipline Summary

Dr. Keith Da Silva
124 Edward St
Toronto, Ontario

Hearing Date: June 21, 2018

Allegations of professional misconduct

- Submitted an account or charge for dental services that he knew or ought to have known was false or misleading
- Charged excessive or unreasonable fees
- Disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional or unethical conduct

Synopsis

Dr. Da Silva submitted bills and accepted payment for restorative treatment for two minor patients when the treatment was not performed. He represented to his patients, their guardian(s) and to a public health unit that funds dental care for underprivileged children that restorative treatment had been done for these two patients when it had not.

Decision

1. Finding

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

2. Penalty

- Reprimand
- Suspension of certificate of registration for a period of four months (July 21, 2018 – November 20, 2018)
- Course in recordkeeping
- Course in professional/problem-based ethics
- Practice to be monitored for 24 months following completion of recordkeeping course

3. Costs

- Member to pay costs to the College in the amount of \$5,000
- Member to pay for courses and monitoring

Panel's reasoning

- The penalty was a joint submission reached as a result of a pre-hearing conference.
- The panel was satisfied that the goals of penalty – deterrence, rehabilitation and protection of the public – are met.
- Given the facts of the case, the length of the suspension was on the higher end of the range of possible suspensions, but it was reasonable and put forward in a joint submission which should be respected.
- The submission of false or misleading billings is a serious issue for the profession and the penalty imposed reflects this fact.
- Dr. Da Silva cooperated with the College at every interaction, fully accepted his misconduct, expressed remorse for his actions and made full restitution to the benefits provider in respect of the two patients.