College of Chiropractors Of British Columbia

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August 26, 2017

Dr. Mark Speakman

In the Matter of the Complaint of AD

The College received a complaint under s. 32 of the Health Professions Act alleging that, in the course of an appointment that occurred at a location away from his clinic, Dr. Speakman failed to obtain consent for the removal of the complainant's clothing and for treatment directly on the plaintiff's skin in areas of the body of potential sexual sensitivity. Dr. Speakman denied that any of the complainant's clothing was removed during the appointment, or that there was any treatment in areas of the body of potential sexual sensitivity, either on skin or over clothing. Dr. Speakman denied any wrongdoing. Dr. Speakman admitted that, contrary to s. 72(1)(c) of the College's Bylaws, he failed to keep a day sheet listing the appointments that occurred at the non-clinic location, including the appointment that was the subject of the complaint. To resolve the complaint, Dr. Speakman consented to (1) payment of a fine of \$750.00 and costs and disbursements of \$2,000.00. He also gave undertakings (2) to complete coursework on patient boundaries, (3) to maintain day sheets as required by s. 72(1)(c) of the Bylaws, and (4) for a period of 2 years, to not treat female patients at his clinic unless another person is present in the clinic, and to have a chaperone present for any treatment of a female patient that occurs outside his clinic or that may involve removal of the patient's clothing or contact with areas of the body of potential sexual sensitivity.