
Feb. 11, 2020

Dr. Richard Barr's appeal of CPSA disciplinary decision unsuccessful

Edmonton, AB – Calgary Urologist Dr. Richard Barr was unsuccessful in his appeal to a CPSA Council Review Panel.

In 2019, Dr. Barr was found guilty of unprofessional conduct by a CPSA Hearing Tribunal for failing to respond to CPSA communications on several occasions. This was in direct breach of a Terms of Resolution agreement (TORA) Dr. Barr entered into with CPSA on Dec. 31, 2014. The Tribunal ordered the following sanctions:

1. Dr. Barr received a reprimand.
2. Dr. Barr's practice permit was suspended for 30 days.
3. Dr. Barr was responsible for the full costs of the investigation and hearing, totalling \$24,064.04.

Dr. Barr appealed the finding of unprofessional conduct and the sanction decision. Among other grounds, he alleged that the Hearing Tribunal did not consider mitigating circumstances preventing him from receiving communications from CPSA.

After reviewing the original decision and considering all the evidence, the Review Panel upheld the Hearing Tribunal's decision. However, they did slightly vary the order on practice permit suspension:

- If, within 90 days of the appeal decision, Dr. Barr provides CPSA's Complaints Director with proof of having completed a course on both email management and communication for physicians, his 30-day suspension will be deemed to have been served.

Resources:

[CPSA Council Review Panel Decision](#)

[CPSA Hearing Tribunal Decision](#)

[Media Release: July 11, 2019](#)

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The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta is the regulator for all physicians and surgeons in the province and is governed by the Health Professions Act. Our role is to protect the public by issuing practice permits to those who meet educational and training criteria, hold Alberta physicians to ethical and medical practice standards, and investigate and resolve physician-related complaints. CPSA also ensures the safety and quality of medical and diagnostic testing services in Alberta through an independent accreditation program.

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