

**DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF  
THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF ONTARIO**

GILLIAN DUNN	)	TUESDAY,
BETTY LE	)	THE 12 <sup>TH</sup> DAY OF
MARY YEOMANS	)	NOVEMBER, 2019
MARGARET WADE	)	

**BETWEEN :**

COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF ONTARIO

- and -

AMANDA BERNARDI

**ORDER**

**THIS HEARING** was held on November 12, 2019 in Toronto, Ontario.

**ON READING** the Notice of Hearing, the Agreed Statement of Facts and Admission of Professional Misconduct, the Joint Submission as to Penalty and Costs, and on hearing the submissions of counsel for the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario ("College") and the submissions of counsel for Amanda Bernardi (the "Registrant"):

**A. THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE FINDS** that the Registrant has committed professional misconduct pursuant to:

1. Clause 51(1)(b.0.1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 to the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (the "Code"): Failing to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee or any assessor appointed by the committee; and

2. Clause 51(1)(c) of the Code and as defined in paragraph 2 of O Reg 218/94 under the *Dental Hygiene Act, 1991*: Contravening by act or omission, a standard of practice of the profession or failing to maintain the standard of practice of the profession; and
3. Clause 51(1)(c) of the Code and as defined in paragraph 30 of O Reg 218/94 under the *Dental Hygiene Act, 1991*: Signing or issuing, in the member's professional capacity, a document that the member knows or ought to know contains a false or misleading statement; and
4. Clause 51(1)(c) of the Code and as defined in paragraph 42 of O Reg 218/94 under the *Dental Hygiene Act, 1991*: Failing to take reasonable steps to ensure that information provided by or on behalf of the member to the College is accurate; and
5. Clause 51(1)(c) of the Code and as defined in paragraph 52 of O Reg 218/94 under the *Dental Hygiene Act, 1991*: engaging in conduct or performing an act, relevant to the practise of the profession, that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional.

**B. THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE ORDERS THE FOLLOWING PENALTY AND COSTS:**

1. The Registrant is required to appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee immediately following the hearing of this matter to be reprimanded, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the public register of the College.
2. The Registrar is directed to suspend the Registrant's certificate of registration for a period of three (3) months, commencing on November 22, 2019.
3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on the Registrant's certificate of registration:
  - a. Within three (3) months of the date of this Order, the Registrant must successfully complete, at her own expense,
    - i. the PROBE ethics course, and
    - ii. an essay describing the importance of the College's QA program in ensuring that College registrants maintain an ethical and safe dental hygiene practice. The paper shall be at least 2,500 words in length and cite appropriate legislation and other authorities and shall be prepared to the satisfaction of the Registrar.

4. The Registrant is required to pay to the College costs in the amount of \$3,000.00 within six (6) months of the date of this Order.

Date: Nov 12/19

Gillian Dunn  
Chair

COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF ONTARIO

- and -

AMANDA BERNARDI

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF  
THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS  
OF ONTARIO

**ORDER**

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of Ontario



**Summary of Reprimand Issued by Discipline Committee to AMANDA BERNARDI  
on November 12, 2019**

As you know, Ms. Bernardi as part of its penalty order, this Discipline panel has ordered you to attend today and that the Panel administer an oral reprimand.

The fact that you have received this reprimand will be noted on the College's public register as will a summary of the reprimand. As such, part of your record with the College.

Although you will be given an opportunity to make a statement at the end of the reprimand this is **not** an opportunity for you to review the decision by the Discipline panel, **nor** a time for you to debate the merits of our decision.

The panel has found that you have engaged in professional misconduct in five different ways. They are as follows:

1. Failing to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee or any assessor appointed by the committee; and
2. Contravening by act or omission, a standard of practice of the profession or failing to maintain the standard of practice of the profession; and
3. Signing or issuing, in the member's professional capacity, a document that the member knows or ought to know contains a false or misleading statement; and
4. Failing to take reasonable steps to ensure that information provided by or on behalf of the member to the College is accurate; and
5. engaging in conduct or performing an act, relevant to the practise of the profession, that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional.

It is a matter of profound concern to this panel that you have engaged in these forms of professional misconduct. By doing so, you have brought discredit to the profession and to yourself. Public confidence in this profession has been put in jeopardy. Moreover, the result of your misconduct is that you have let down your clients, the public, the profession of dental hygiene and yourself.

We need to make it clear to you that your conduct is unacceptable.

Consequently, it is necessary for us to take steps to impress upon you the seriousness of the misconduct in which you have engaged.



We also want to make it clear to you that while the penalty this panel has imposed upon you of November 12, 2019 is a fair penalty, a more significant penalty will be imposed by another Discipline panel in the event that you are ever found to have engaged in professional misconduct again.

As I have already stated, this is not an opportunity for you to review the decision or debate the correctness of the decision

However, do you have any questions or do you wish to make any comments?

Thank you for attending today.