

**DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF
THE COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS OF ONTARIO**

BETWEEN:

COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS OF ONTARIO

- and -

JOSEPH TRAMBULO, Registration Number 11391

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee of the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario has referred specified allegations against Joseph Trambulo to the Discipline Committee of the College. The allegations were referred in accordance with paragraph 26(1)1 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*. The statement of allegations is attached to this notice of hearing. A discipline panel will hold a hearing under the authority of sections 38 to 56 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, as amended, for the purposes of deciding whether the allegations are true. A **pre-hearing conference** may be held by electronic means or at the offices of the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario at 375 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, at a date and time to be fixed by the Registrar. A discipline panel will subsequently convene by electronic means or at the offices of the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario at 375 University Avenue, Suite 800, Toronto, Ontario, on a date and time to be fixed by the Registrar but no later than April 1, 2020 for the purposes of conducting the hearing.

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND AT THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, THE DISCIPLINE PANEL MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY FURTHER NOTICE IN

THE PROCEEDINGS.

If the discipline panel finds that you have engaged in professional misconduct, it may make one or more of the following orders:

1. Direct the Registrar to revoke the registrant's certificate of registration.
2. Direct the Registrar to suspend the registrant's certificate of registration for a specified period of time.
3. Direct the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions and limitations on the registrant's certificate of registration for a specified or indefinite period of time.
4. Require the registrant to appear before the panel to be reprimanded.
5. Require the registrant to pay a fine of not more than \$35,000 to the Minister of Finance.

The discipline panel may, in an appropriate case, make an order requiring you to pay all or part of the College's costs and expenses pursuant to section 53.1 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*.

You are entitled to disclosure of the evidence against you in accordance with section 42(1) of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, as amended. You, or your representative, may contact the solicitor for the College, Joanna Birenbaum, in this matter at:

Ursel Phillips Fellows Hopkinson LLP
555 Richmond St. West, Suite 1200
Toronto, ON M5V 3B1

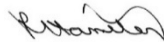
Telephone: (416) 968-3333
Facsimile: (416) 968-0325
Email: jbirenbaum@upfhlaw.ca

You must also make disclosure in accordance with section 42.1 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, which states as follows:

Evidence of an expert led by a person other than the College is not admissible unless the person gives the College, at least ten days before the hearing, the identity of the expert and a copy of the expert's written report or, if there is no written report, a written summary of the evidence.

The Discipline Committee's Rules of Procedure can be found on the College's website.

Date: November 18, 2021



Rod Hamilton
Registrar
College of Physiotherapists of Ontario

TO: Joseph Trambulo

Statement of Allegations

1. At all material times Joseph Trambulo was a registrant of the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario holding an Independent Practice certificate of registration.

2. In the period of December 14, 2020 to March 8, 2021, Joseph Trambulo engaged in professional misconduct within the meaning of the following paragraphs of section 1 of the *Professional Misconduct Regulation*, O. Reg. 388/08:
 - a. paragraph 1 (failing to maintain the standards of practice of the profession);

 - b. paragraph 18 (engaging in conduct or performing an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional); and

 - c. paragraph 26 (failing to maintain records in accordance with the standards of practice of the profession).

PARTICULARS OF THE ALLEGATIONS

1. At all material times Joseph Trambulo was a physiotherapist registered with the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario (the “College”) and the owner of a physiotherapy clinic, PR Health, Health and Therapy Solutions, that operated out of two gyms in the Greater Toronto Area.
2. In the period of December 14, 2020 to March 8, 2021, Patient A attended for a physiotherapy assessment and approximately six physiotherapy treatments with Joseph Trambulo. Patient A’s presenting conditions related to knee, shoulder and ankle pain.
3. In the treatment sessions, Joseph Trambulo engaged in touching that failed to respect Patient A’s personal boundaries, fell below the standards of practice of the profession with respect to physiotherapists maintaining professional boundaries, and was undertaken without Patient A’s informed consent.
4. Joseph Trambulo’s record keeping failed to maintain the standards of practice of the profession, including that the clinical chart for Patient A lacked objective measures and outcomes, and failed to provide any or an adequate rationale or justification for the treatment provided.
5. Joseph Trambulo failed to maintain the standards of practice of the profession with respect to physiotherapists maintaining professional boundaries in social media communications with patients.

APPENDIX

1. Take notice that the documents that have been and will later be disclosed to you will be tendered as business documents pursuant to the *Evidence Act* of Ontario.
2. All documents that are disclosed to you in this matter are disclosed on the basis that they are to be used solely for the purpose of this proceeding and for no other purpose.