



On July 14, 2022 allegations of the Member's professional misconduct were referred to the Discipline Committee for hearing, on a date yet to be fixed. Please see the Notice of Hearing below:

**ONTARIO COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS
AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS**

IN THE MATTER OF Sections 26 and 28 of the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act, 1998*, S.O. 1998, Chapter 31;

AND IN THE MATTER OF a hearing directed to be held by the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers under the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act, 1998*;

AND IN THE MATTER OF allegations respecting the professional conduct of Jeff Packer, a Social Worker and member of the said College;

NOTICE OF HEARING

TAKE NOTICE that a hearing will take place on a date to be fixed by the Registrar at the hour of 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon (or as soon after that time as a panel can be convened for the purpose of conducting the hearing) at the Board Room of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, 250 Bloor Street East, Suite 1000, Toronto, Ontario before the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. The hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of sections 26 and 28 of the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act, 1998* (the "Act") and pursuant to the Regulations made thereunder, for the purpose of hearing and determining allegations of professional misconduct against you, **Jeff Packer**, which allegations were referred to the Discipline Committee pursuant to section 24(5)(a) of the Act.

AND TAKE NOTICE that you are alleged to be guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of section 26(2) of the Act in that you are alleged to have engaged in conduct that contravenes the Act, Ontario Regulation 384/00 (the "**Professional Misconduct Regulation**"), Schedule "A" to By-law No. 66 of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, being the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers Code of Ethics (the "**Code of Ethics**"), and Schedule "B" to By-law No. 66 of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, being the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers Standards of Practice Handbook (the "**Handbook**")¹.

I. **The following are particulars of the said allegations:**

1. At all relevant times, you were registered as a social worker with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (the "College"). At all relevant times, you provided social work services that included counselling, through your private practice.
2. In or about April 2021, Mr. B contacted you about obtaining professional services. At the time, Mr. B was in the process of separating from his spouse, Ms. B. Ms. B was not a client of yours and had never previously met or spoken to you.
3. At the request of Mr. B, you contacted Ms. B by phone on or about April 9, 2021. At that point, you had not yet had your initial session with Mr. B.
4. During the April 9, 2021 phone call, you engaged in unprofessional communications, responded inappropriately to Ms. B's concerns about the abusive nature of her relationship with Mr. B, and/or provided comments or opinions without sufficient information, including but not limited to by:
 - (a) Telling Ms. B to "call off her lawyer" and make the relationship with Mr. B work;
 - (b) Accusing her of sabotaging her children's lives and happiness by separating from Mr. B;
 - (c) Stating that her children will resent her for separating from Mr. B;
 - (d) In response to Ms. B's statement that she had left the relationship because of Mr. B's abuse and her fear for the safety of her and her children, stating that abuse is always mutual, suggesting that she was involved in

¹ By-law 24, as amended by By-law Nos. 32 and 48 and revoked effective July 1, 2008 by By-law 66, continues to apply to conduct which occurred prior to July 1, 2008.

and/or contributed to Mr. B's abusive behaviour, and/or stating that she brought the situation on herself;

(e) Stating that the criminal assault charges against Mr. B were just allegations, that they were likely false, and/or that we live in a society where women "pull the abuse card" to take the easy way out (or words to that effect);

(f) Stating that the time after leaving an alleged abuser is the most unsafe and that Ms. B should consider reconciling with Mr. B for her own safety; and/or

(g) Laughing at Ms. B's attempts to explain her position and/or speaking to her in a condescending manner.

5. Your comments caused Ms. B to feel scared and upset.

II. It is alleged that by reason of engaging in some or all of the conduct outlined above, you are guilty of professional misconduct as set out in section 26(2)(a) and (c) of the Act:

(a) In that you violated **Section 2.2 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation and Principle II of the Handbook (as commented on in Interpretation 2.1.2)** by failing to remain current with emerging social work or social service work knowledge and practice relevant to your areas of professional practice with respect to issues related to intimate partner violence;

(b) In that you violated **Section 2.2 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation and Principle II of the Handbook (as commented on in Interpretation 2.1.4)** by failing to ensure that any professional recommendations or opinions you provide are appropriately substantiated by evidence and supported by a credible body of professional social work knowledge with respect to issues related to intimate partner violence.

(c) In that you violated **Section 2.2 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation and Principle II of the Handbook (as commented on in Interpretation 2.1.5)** by failing to engage in the process of self-review and evaluation of your practice and failing to seek consultation when appropriate with respect to your interactions with Ms. B, as part of maintaining competence and acquiring skills in social work practice.

(d) In that you violated **Sections 2.2 and 2.36 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation and Principle II of the Handbook (as commented on in Interpretation 2.2.8)** by engaging in conduct or performing an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having

regard to all circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, or unprofessional, and/or by failing to avoid conduct in the practice of social work that could reasonably be perceived as reflecting negatively on the profession of social work.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Discipline Committee may make an order under Section 26(4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) of the Act, or any of them, in respect of any or all of the above allegations.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the parties (including the College and you) shall be given the opportunity to examine before the hearing any documents that will be given in evidence at the hearing.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that at the said hearing, you are entitled to be present and to be represented by counsel.

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND AT THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE OF HEARING, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY PROCEED WITH THE HEARING, AND MAY DEAL WITH THE ABOVE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST YOU, IN YOUR ABSENCE AND WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU.

Dated at Toronto, the 18th day of July, 2022

By: _____

Registrar and CEO
Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers