

College of Chiropractors of Ontario

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Attention: News / Health Editors

Divisional Court of Ontario dismisses chiropractor's appeal

TORONTO, July 28, 2003 – The Divisional Court of Ontario has dismissed the appeal by Burlington chiropractor Dr. Ogi Ressel, of the findings of professional misconduct, penalty and costs imposed by CCO's Discipline panel in August 2002.

The panel had suspended Dr. Ressel in September 2002, but the suspension was stayed following his appeal to the Divisional Court, which heard the case on July 21-22, 2003. Under the provisions of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA)*, a member may continue to practise pending appeal subject to limited exceptions, such as sexual abuse.

“Dr. Ressel has 30 days (starting July 25) to wind down his practice, following which he must begin his nine-month suspension,” said CCO Registrar and General Counsel, Ms Jo-Ann Willson. “While suspended, Dr. Ressel is prohibited from providing chiropractic services or performing controlled acts, holding himself out as a doctor or chiropractor or as a person qualified to practise as a chiropractor.”

On August 8, 2002, CCO's discipline panel found Dr. Ressel guilty of professional misconduct, and in particular, found he had abused a minor patient verbally, psychologically and emotionally, engaged in conduct or performed an act or acts that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as unprofessional in that he made unprofessional comments to the minor patient and her mother, contravened a standard of practice or failed to maintain the standard of practice of the profession with respect to record keeping, provided therapeutic services that were not necessary, and used a term, title or designation indicating a specialization in the profession contrary to CCO's policies.

The panel ordered a nine-month suspension, oral reprimand, term, condition or limitation that Dr. Ressel successfully complete a communications and record keeping course at his expense, and, upon returning to practice, that he permit assessments of his practice at his cost. In addition, the panel ordered Dr. Ressel to pay costs to CCO in the amount of \$87,948.58 on a prescribed payment schedule.

The College of Chiropractors of Ontario is the governing body established under the *RHPA* with the responsibility to regulate chiropractic in the public interest. Every chiropractor practising in Ontario is a registered member of CCO.

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