

# MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

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**FILE NO.:** 03/113C

**IN THE MATTER** of the MEDICAL

PRACTITIONERS ACT 1995

AND

**IN THE MATTER** Proceedings pursuant to Section102

of the Act against

RICHARD WARWICK

GORRINGE former medical

practitioner of Hamilton

# BEFORE THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

#### DIRECTION FROM THE TRIBUNAL

# CONCERNING MEDIA COVERAGE OF HEARING

**PRESENT:** Ms P Kapua – Chair

Dr I D S Civil, Ms S Cole, Dr R J Fenwicke,

Dr M G Laney (Members)

Ms G J Fraser (Secretary)

- This direction is given to all representatives of the media proposing to cover the Tribunal's hearing into the charge brought by a Complaints Assessment Committee against Dr Gorringe.
- 2. Applications have been received from Radio New Zealand and Television One. Both applications have been granted subject to the following conditions.

#### Radio New Zealand

- 3. Material obtained from recording for radio shall be broadcast in a way which gives an accurate, impartial and balanced coverage of the proceedings and the parties involved. Any such broadcast is to be without editorial comment. There shall be no live radio broadcast of the presentation of evidence. There must be a clear gap between recording and transmission. A minimum of one hour will ensure adequate time for consideration by the Tribunal and for submissions by counsel, of any issues that the Tribunal or counsel believe might affect the appropriateness of transmission in news programmes.
- 4. There shall be no use of material obtained from recording for radio otherwise than for normal news and current affairs programmes unless prior approval for that use has been given by the Tribunal.
- 5. Any witness or party who objects to having their testimony broadcast on radio shall have the matter determined by the Tribunal.
- 6. Any coverage by radio shall fully respect and shall not infringe the confidentiality of counsel's discussions with each other and with the parties and witnesses.
- 7. There shall be no more than two recording devices used inside the hearing room to cover proceedings. No tape recorder or other instrument for recording sound shall be brought into the hearing room for use except with the express leave of the Tribunal and subject to any condition the Tribunal may impose. The Tribunal may withdraw leave to record evidence and submissions if the recording instruments disturb proceedings or distracts or worries any witness or other participant. One or more media person shall be present with the machines at all times.

- 8. The media representative shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the dignity and decorum of the hearing room.
- 9. The Tribunal may order cessation of recording for radio at any time upon finding that:
  - 9.1 The guidelines set out above or any additional conditions imposed by the Tribunal have been breached; or
  - 9.2 The rights of individual participants have been prejudiced by coverage;
  - 9.3 There has been a breach of the voluntary code of conduct for the media.

#### **Television One**

- 10. Material obtained which is broadcast shall be presented in a way which gives an accurate, impartial and balanced coverage of the proceedings and of the parties involved. Any such broadcast is to be without editorial comment and of at least two minutes duration per news item. There shall be no live broadcasting of the presentation of evidence. There must be a clear gap between recording and transmission. A minimum of one hour will ensure adequate time for consideration by the Tribunal and for submissions by counsel, of any issues that the Tribunal or counsel believe might affect the appropriateness of transmission in news programmes.
- 11. There shall be no use of material obtained from television coverage otherwise than normal news programmes unless prior approval for that use has been given by the Tribunal.
- 12. Any coverage shall be subject at all times to the authority of the Tribunal to regulate proceedings of the Tribunal in a manner it considers consistent with the fair administration of justice.
- 13. Any witness who conveys to the Tribunal a prior objection to being identified shall have their identification protected. There shall be no visual coverage of members of the public who are in attendance.

- 14. Any television coverage shall fully respect and not infringe the confidentiality of counsel's papers and of their discussions with each other and with the parties and witnesses, and shall not include any pictures of exhibits unless express permission of the Tribunal is first obtained.
- 15. There shall be no more than one camera in the hearing room at any one time and it shall operate from a fixed point determined by the Tribunal. The camera shall be attended by no more than one media representative and the media person shall be in place for the full duration of any session. No additional lighting devices or flash equipment shall be used.
- 16. The media representative shall at all times conduct him/herself in a manner consistent with the dignity and decorum of the hearing room.
- 17. The Tribunal may terminate television coverage at any time upon finding that:
  - 17.1 The guidelines set out above or additional conditions imposed by the Tribunal have been breached; or
  - 17.2 The rights of individual participants or parties to a fair hearing have been prejudiced by coverage; or
  - 17.3 There has been a breach of the voluntary code of conduct for the media.

**DATED** at Auckland this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 2003

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P Kapua

Deputy Chair

Medical Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal