

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO ACT, 2017

TO: ROSLYN VALENTINE
AND TO: The Discipline Committee of CPA Ontario

The Professional Conduct Committee of CPA Ontario (PCC) hereby makes the following Allegations of professional misconduct against ROSLYN VALENTINE, a suspended member of CPA Ontario:

1. THAT the said Roslyn Valentine, in or about the period of November 14, 2019 to March 5, 2020, failed to co-operate with the regulatory process of CPA Ontario, contrary to Rule 104.2(a) of the CPA Code of Professional Conduct, in that she failed to promptly reply in writing to CPA Ontario communications to which a written reply was specifically required, namely the correspondence of Ms. Maria Lau, Standards Enforcement Case Manager, dated October 21, 2019, and, the correspondence of Jennifer Carriere, CPA, CA, Standards Enforcement Officer, dated January 15, 2020.

Dated at Brampton, Ontario, this^{16th} day of March 2020.



A.J SOKIC, CPA, CA, CHAIR
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO ACT, 2017

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF: Allegations against **ROSLYN VALENTINE**, a suspended member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario, under **Rule 104.2(a)** of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario Code of Professional Conduct.

TO: Roslyn Valentine

AND TO: The Professional Conduct Committee

DECISION AND ORDER MADE JULY 8, 2020

DECISION

The Allegation that Roslyn Valentine has breached Rule 104.2(a) of the CPA Code of Professional Conduct is established, and she has committed professional misconduct.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Roslyn Valentine be reprimanded in writing by the Chair of the hearing;
2. Roslyn Valentine shall pay a fine of \$3,500 to the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario ("CPA Ontario") by July 8, 2021;
3. Roslyn Valentine shall cooperate with the regulatory process of CPA Ontario, by August 8, 2020, by
 - a. fully responding in writing to the correspondence of Ms. Maria Lau, Standards Enforcement Case Manager, dated October 21, 2019, and, the correspondence of Jennifer Carriere, CPA, CA, Standards Enforcement Officer, dated January 15, 2020, specifically with respect to proof of her compliance with the guidance issued by CPA Ontario in the letter, dated September 27, 2019, from A.J. Sokic, Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee; and,
 - b. providing CPA Ontario with proof that she has removed her professional designations from the YouTube page currently titled "Tax Talk with Roslyn Saul, CPA, CGA".

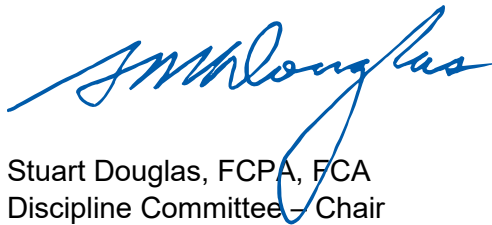
4. Notice of this Decision and Order, disclosing Roslyn Valentine's name, is to be given in the form and manner determined by the Discipline Committee:
 - (a) to all members of CPA Ontario;
 - (b) to all provincial bodies;and shall be made available to the public;

5. In the event that Roslyn Valentine fails to comply with the terms of this Order, her membership with CPA Ontario shall be revoked, and notice of her revocation, disclosing her name, shall be given in the manner specified above, and in the Globe and Mail. All costs associated with this publication shall be borne by Roslyn Valentine and shall be in addition to any other costs ordered by the Panel;

AND THAT:

6. Roslyn Valentine shall pay costs of \$4,800 to CPA Ontario by July 8, 2021.

DATED at Toronto this 8th day of July 2020.



Stuart Douglas, FCPA, FCA
Discipline Committee – Chair

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO
THE CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO ACT, 2017

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF: Allegations against **ROSLYN VALENTINE**, a suspended member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario, under **Rule 104.2(a)** of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario Code of Professional Conduct.

BETWEEN:

**Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario
Professional Conduct Committee**

-and-

Roslyn Valentine

APPEARANCES:

For the Professional Conduct Committee: Kelvin Kucey, Counsel

For Ms. Valentine: Self-represented

Heard: June 1 and July 8, 2020

Decision and Order effective: July 8, 2020

Release of written reasons: July 29, 2020

REASONS FOR DECISION AND ORDER MADE JULY 8, 2020

I. OVERVIEW

[1] The Professional Conduct Committee of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (“PCC”) had made an Allegation that Ms. Valentine had failed to cooperate with the regulatory process of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (“CPA Ontario”) during the period from November 19, 2019, to March 5, 2020, by failing to reply promptly to communications from the Standards Enforcement department of CPA Ontario (“Standards Enforcement”). This hearing was held to determine whether the Allegation was established and whether the conduct breached Rule 104.2(a) of the CPA Ontario Code of Professional Conduct and amounted to professional misconduct.

- [2] Ms. Valentine obtained her CGA designation in 2005. She described this achievement as the culmination of ten years of work and stressed how important her designation was to her. She subsequently received a CPA designation and became a member of CPA Ontario upon amalgamation in 2014. From 2012 until early 2019, she had operated a Liberty Tax franchise. Her membership in CPA Ontario was suspended for failure to pay fees in August 2019.
- [3] On or about June 14, 2018, CPA Ontario received a complaint against Ms. Valentine (“the original complaint”). Ms. Valentine responded to the subsequent communications from CPA Ontario, and the matter was ultimately resolved by a letter of guidance from the PCC. This Allegation arose from Ms. Valentine’s apparent failure to comply with the requirements imposed on her by the letter of guidance.
- [4] Ms. Valentine denied the Allegation of professional misconduct made by the PCC. The onus was on the PCC to show on a balance of probabilities that Ms. Valentine’s conduct breached Rule 104.2(a) of the CPA Ontario Code of Professional Conduct and constituted professional misconduct.

II. PRELIMINARY ISSUES

- [5] At the outset of the hearing, on Monday, June 1, 2020, Ms. Valentine indicated that she had only become aware of some of the allegations on the previous Friday (May 29, 2020). She noted that the PCC had given her the option of delaying the hearing for a further 30 days, but she had chosen to proceed with the hearing on the scheduled date. She had received materials from the PCC. The Panel accepted that Ms. Valentine was ready to proceed, and the hearing continued. The Panel advised Ms. Valentine that they would proceed gradually, so as to ensure that she was able to properly respond to the Allegation.

III. ISSUES

- [6] The Panel identified the following issues arising from the Allegation:
- A. Did the evidence establish, on a balance of probabilities, the facts on which the Allegation by the PCC was based?
 - B. If the facts alleged by the PCC were established on the evidence on a balance of probabilities, did the Allegation constitute professional misconduct?

IV. DECISION

- [7] The Panel found that the evidence established, on a balance of probabilities, the facts set out in the Allegation of professional misconduct.
- [8] The Panel was satisfied that the Allegation constituted a breach of Rule 104.2(a) and, having breached this Rule, Ms. Valentine had committed professional misconduct.

V. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Findings regarding Conduct of Ms. Valentine

- [9] The evidence in support of the Allegation was placed before the Panel through the Affidavit of Jennifer Carriere, CPA, CA, a Standards Enforcement Officer with CPA Ontario (Exhibit 2). Ms. Valentine also provided oral testimony. Ms. Valentine conceded that the statements of fact in the Affidavit of Ms. Carriere were accurate. Her evidence related primarily to her personal background and the context of the Allegation.
- [10] In the course of considering the original complaint received by CPA Ontario on June 14, 2018, Standards Enforcement staff identified that Ms. Valentine had a YouTube channel entitled "Tax Talk with Roslyn Saul, CPA, CGA" ("the YouTube channel"), which contained slideshows of personal photographs. Standards Enforcement staff reached the conclusion that there was no content that reasonably related to "tax talk" or a similar professional topic.
- [11] On September 4, 2019, the PCC met and considered the issues raised by the original complaint and related information. The PCC decided to close the file but provide a letter of guidance to Ms. Valentine.
- [12] By letter dated September 27, 2019 (the "Guidance Letter"), signed by Mr. A.J. Sokic, CPA, CA, the Deputy Chair of the PCC, the PCC wrote to Ms. Valentine to provide her with guidance regarding issues identified by Standards Enforcement. In the Guidance Letter, the PCC cautioned Ms. Valentine that her conduct that gave rise to the original complaint may have violated the CPA Code of Professional Conduct and gave her advice as to how to avoid the issues in the future.
- [13] In addition, in the Guidance Letter, the PCC cautioned Ms. Valentine regarding her social media presence and her professional obligation to maintain the good reputation of the profession in the following terms:

Further, the Committee draws your attention to Rule 201.1, which requires a member to act at all times in a manner which will maintain the good reputation of the profession and serve the public interest. This would include content posted in relation to your professional services. Your social media presence on YouTube does not reflect well on the

profession since it does not deliver what the channel professes to be. The Committee advises that personal photographs of pets, partners, and self-portraits under the caption of 'Tax Talk with Roslyn Saul, CPA, CGA' are inappropriate and do not meet the requirements of Rule 201.1.

- [14] The PCC directed Ms. Valentine to either remove the videos that did not pertain to her professional services from the YouTube channel *or* remove references to any of her professional services or designations from the YouTube channel. The PCC required Ms. Valentine to confirm on or before October 14, 2019, that she had complied with these requirements of the Guidance Letter.
- [15] The Guidance Letter was sent by e-mail to Ms. Valentine's email address of record with CPA Ontario. Delivery of this email to Ms. Valentine was confirmed electronically.
- [16] Ms. Valentine did not respond to the Guidance Letter by October 14, 2019.
- [17] In the absence of a response from Ms. Valentine, Standards Enforcement staff wrote to Ms. Valentine by letter, dated October 21, 2019 (the "October Letter"), and requested her response on or before November 4, 2019. The October Letter was sent by registered and regular mail to Ms. Valentine's last known address according to the records of CPA Ontario. The registered letter was returned as "unclaimed." The letter sent by regular mail was not returned by Canada Post.
- [18] The October Letter was also sent by e-mail to Ms. Valentine's email address of record with CPA Ontario. Delivery of this email to Ms. Valentine was confirmed electronically.
- [19] Ms. Valentine did not respond to the October Letter by November 4, 2019.
- [20] On January 15, 2020, Standards Enforcement staff again wrote to Ms. Valentine, (the "January Letter"), referencing Rule 104 and her obligation to respond to CPA Ontario. Ms. Valentine was directed to respond on or before January 29, 2020. The January Letter was sent by registered mail and regular mail to Ms. Valentine's last known address according to the records of CPA Ontario. Ms. Valentine signed for the copy sent by registered mail, but she said, in her evidence at the hearing, that she did not open it.
- [21] The January Letter was also sent by e-mail to Ms. Valentine's address of record with CPA Ontario. Delivery of this email to Ms. Valentine was confirmed electronically.
- [22] Ms. Valentine did not respond to the January Letter by January 29, 2020.
- [23] In the absence of a response from Ms. Valentine, Standards Enforcement staff telephoned Ms. Valentine, at her telephone number of record with CPA Ontario, multiple times on February 19, 2020. However, on each occasion, Ms. Valentine's telephone line was busy, and Standards Enforcement staff were unable to leave a voice-mail message. Consequently, Standards Enforcement staff sent Ms.

Valentine a follow up e-mail to her email address of record with CPA Ontario. Ms. Valentine denied that anyone from CPA Ontario had called her until the week before the hearing. She indicated that her phone was only for emergencies and she had no email.

- [24] Although the evidence did not fall within the timeframe set out in the Allegation, the Panel also received evidence regarding the attempts that the PCC and the Tribunals Office made to contact Ms. Valentine with respect to this hearing as it formed part of the overall narrative addressed by both parties in relation to the Allegation.
- [25] On March 16, 2020, a process server delivered the Allegation and related information to Ms. Valentine. Ms. Valentine indicated that, at that time, out of concern about COVID-19, she would have had the person put that letter in her mailbox. She would then have placed it in a room in her basement for at least a week. However, she said that she had never retrieved it from that room and could not find it, although she did not dispute that it was delivered. At one point in her evidence, she said that she had not received this letter, but, ultimately, she conceded she had received it. At another point, she suggested that she had thought the letter of March 16, 2020, was actually in relation to unpaid fees, and she had not opened it because she was aware of that issue.
- [26] It was confirmed during the hearing by both PCC and Ms. Valentine that Ms. Valentine had not responded to any of the letters from Standards Enforcement or the Guidance Letter, and had not made any amendments to the YouTube channel prior to July 8, 2020.
- [27] Ms. Valentine said that she did not have a password for the YouTube channel, which someone else had created for her, and that she had not used the channel herself.
- [28] During the hearing on July 8, 2020, the second hearing date in this matter, Ms. Valentine removed all of the videos from the YouTube channel. This left the page empty but for the title and a single picture unrelated to professional services.
- [29] The Allegation asserted that Ms. Valentine had not responded to two letters, the October letter and the January letter, from Standards Enforcement during the period from November 19, 2019 to March 5, 2020. The Panel was satisfied that there was clear, cogent and compelling evidence to demonstrate that these letters had been delivered to the last address that Ms. Valentine had provided to CPA Ontario and that Ms. Valentine had not responded to them in any way during the stated time period. In fact, the evidence demonstrated that Ms. Valentine had not responded to either letter as of the date of the hearing, and she did not take any of the steps required in the underlying Guidance Letter until the second day of the hearing.

Finding of Professional Misconduct

- [30] In determining whether the facts demonstrated by the evidence amounted to professional misconduct, the Panel considered the evidence provided by Ms. Valentine regarding her health in the period in and around the events that were the subject of the Allegation. Ms. Valentine acknowledged that all members had an obligation to respond to CPA Ontario. She insisted that she had not been ignoring CPA Ontario, and she took her obligations seriously. However, she argued that she was unable to respond due to the state of her health at the time.
- [31] Ms. Valentine indicated in her evidence that she had been under the care of a physician for “burn out” in 2018 and 2019. She insisted that she was unable to respond, or make the choice not to respond, during this time. As part of this care, she was treated with a variety of medications, which were adjusted over time. In January 2019, her doctor told her to take a break and rest, which she did. As a result of this medical advice, she was forced to close her business in February 2019. She had attempted to resume her normal activities in June 2019, but her effort was premature and unsuccessful. Ms. Valentine said she was in bed from June to November 2019, and she continued medications until early 2020.
- [32] Ms. Valentine said that during this time period she received correspondence, but she did not appreciate what the items were. She indicated that she had a lot of unopened mail during this period. Ms. Valentine indicated that prior to early March she had a caregiver living with her who sorted all of her mail and only brought to her attention what the caregiver considered important. That, apparently, did not include correspondence from CPA Ontario.
- [33] Around March 12th or 13th, the caregiver left Ms. Valentine. Ms. Valentine said that she had been told to self-isolate around that time because she had been in contact with someone who had symptoms of COVID-19, and this forced the caregiver to leave. Ms. Valentine said that, after that time, she had put all mail in her basement, unopened, due to COVID concerns.
- [34] Ms. Valentine explained that she had also not kept track of the material in her email inbox, even though she had filtered email from CPA Ontario into a separate folder. She said she stopped monitoring her email from CPA Ontario after she had closed her franchise. Ms. Valentine acknowledged that she had subsequently found the relevant emails in her archive folders.
- [35] In cross-examination, Ms. Valentine agreed that she had responded fully to the correspondence from CPA Ontario regarding the original complaint in June 2018 prior to the Guidance Letter in September 2019. She suggested that she had been unable to respond after this time until early March 2020; however, she was otherwise unclear as to the exact timeframe in which her medical condition had prevented her from responding. She was also unclear as to whether she had ever opened any of the correspondence in issue in the Allegation or whether she had

even located it in her home. In response to a question from the Panel, Ms. Valentine said that she would have opened correspondence received after the middle of March 2020; however, she did not respond to any correspondence from CPA Ontario until she was called by the Tribunals Clerk. She maintained that that she would have opened any correspondence she received from CPA Ontario, if she knew she received it, because she said she wanted to know how the complaint was resolved. Contrary to this assertion, however, she also indicated that letters from CPA Ontario concern her less since she stopped operating her business.

- [36] Ms. Valentine acknowledged that dealing with the YouTube channel was a simple task, but she maintained that it was more than she could cope with at the time. She said that the correspondence had fallen through the cracks.
- [37] Contrary to her assertion that she was unable to deal with business matters prior to the middle of March 2020, Ms. Valentine acknowledged that she was involved in selling an income property she owned during this period, having visited that property on March 4, 2020.
- [38] Ms. Valentine said that she was prioritizing her health for several months and intended to address all of the accumulated correspondence in April. However, she acknowledged that she had not done so. She said that she had reviewed all of the relevant emails before the second hearing date.
- [39] The hearing was adjourned before the completion of submissions on June 1, 2020, after the Panel noted the absence of medical evidence regarding her condition and Ms. Valentine expressed an interest in introducing evidence regarding her medical condition from her physician. Ms. Valentine indicated that she did not want to disclose her entire medical history, but she agreed to have her doctor attend to give evidence if the hearing was adjourned. When the hearing resumed, Ms. Valentine's physician did not attend, but she provided the Panel with a letter from him.
- [40] Ms. Valentine submitted a letter, dated June 13, 2020, from Dr. Martin Shack, who had been her family doctor for thirty years. Dr. Shack's letter comprised only one paragraph. Although he did not provide any details of Ms. Valentine's condition, the relevant portion of Dr. Shack's letter summarized his assessment in the following terms:
- Since March 1, 2020 she has overcome these issues [sleepiness and lack of focus] and is currently back to herself. It is not surprising that her concentration, emotional wellness and cognition were adversely affected during this difficult time. I would ask she be given medical consideration as she was not her usual self during the time of 2018 until March 2020.
- [41] The Panel was not prepared to wholly disregard Dr. Shack's letter as urged by the PCC. However, the Panel was not able to give any significant weight to the opinion

in reaching a conclusion regarding the Allegation for two reasons. First, Dr. Shack's letter lacked any type of detail regarding Ms. Valentine's condition that would allow the Panel to assess the impact of her medical condition on her ability to respond to CPA Ontario. In fact, taken at its highest, Dr. Shack's letter indicated that Ms. Valentine suffered some negative impacts on her concentration and cognition. This is not the same as her condition rendering her unable to respond to the correspondence she received. This discrepancy may have been addressed if Dr. Shack had attended the hearing, but he did not do so. The Panel was left with the limited evidence in his letter.

- [42] Second, Dr. Shack clearly indicated that Ms. Valentine's condition had improved and she was "back to her usual self" after March 1, 2020. It followed that Ms. Valentine would have been able to respond to the correspondence from CPA Ontario prior to March 5, 2020, and certainly prior to the hearing. But she had not responded at all. When questioned about the apparent discrepancy between her evidence as to when she was incapable of responding and the doctor's note, Ms. Valentine maintained that there was no clear date when she had become capable of responding as it was a gradual process of recovery.
- [43] The Panel accepted that Ms. Valentine had suffered some significant health problems from 2018 until the early part of 2020. However, the Panel found that the evidence of Ms. Valentine, which was contradictory in parts, did not demonstrate on a balance of probabilities that her health problems prevented her from responding to the correspondence from CPA Ontario. Ms. Valentine had been able to sell a rental property during the relevant period; it would follow that she could reply to CPA Ontario, especially given her concession that it would have been straightforward to do so. While her health may have delayed her response, there was no evidence to support the conclusion that she could not respond at all. This conclusion was reinforced by the limited evidence in Dr. Shack's letter. In addition, the Panel concluded that the fact that Dr. Shack indicated unequivocally that Ms. Valentine was recovered by March 1, 2020, demonstrated that her health condition did not preclude her from responding to the correspondence identified in the Allegation. Even if she could not have responded before March 1, 2020, which the Panel did not find, this evidence demonstrated she could have responded after that date.
- [44] The Panel was satisfied that the obligation on a member to cooperate with the regulatory process under Rule 104.2(a) was clear and unequivocal. Absent compelling evidence that demonstrated that a member's inability to respond to CPA Ontario was the result of an illness or disability, the failure of a member to respond constituted a breach of that Rule. Ms. Valentine did not respond in any way to the correspondence from CPA Ontario. She did not even do so once the hearing began, until the second day of hearing. The evidence regarding her health did not establish a connection with her failure to respond and did not justify or

explain her failure. In those circumstances, the Panel found that Ms. Valentine had failed to cooperate with the regulatory process of CPA Ontario, contrary to Rule 104.2(a) of the Code of Professional Conduct.

VI. DECISION AS TO SANCTION

- [45] After considering the evidence, the law and the submissions of both parties, the Panel concluded that the appropriate sanction was a written reprimand, a fine of \$3,500 payable within twelve months, an order that Ms. Valentine both respond to the correspondence from Standards Enforcement, including the letter of guidance from the PCC, and remove her professional designations from the web page in issue within thirty days, failing which Ms. Valentine's membership would be revoked, and the usual order as to publication of the decision to all members of CPA Ontario and the decision being available to members of the public.
- [46] The Panel also concluded that if Ms. Valentine's membership was revoked, the fact of that revocation would be published in the *Globe and Mail*.

VII. REASONS FOR DECISION AS TO SANCTION

- [47] The Panel was sympathetic to the difficult experience that Ms. Valentine had endured with her health. In assessing the appropriate sanction, the Panel gave as much weight as possible to the health challenges that she had endured as a mitigating factor. However, in considering her evidence and Dr. Shack's evidence carefully, the Panel was limited by the vague and inconclusive nature of the evidence.
- [48] Ms. Valentine said that the PCC was being heavy-handed in seeking a finding of professional misconduct and a disciplinary sanction in relation to this matter. She based that argument on the fact that the underlying issue, an inappropriate YouTube channel, was not as serious as the types of issues being investigated in the failure to respond decisions cited by PCC. She argued that those cases invoked serious penalties for a failure to respond because the subject of the investigations involved a lack of integrity or similar misfeasance.
- [49] In the Panel's view, Ms. Valentine's argument misunderstood the issue that underpins an Allegation of failure to cooperate with the regulatory process. The issue is not defined by how serious the underlying complaint is. The issue is whether a member has met her obligation to respond to CPA Ontario so that the regulator may fulfil its statutory obligation and assure the public that it is doing so. That is an important obligation regardless of the reason for the inquiry.
- [50] Ms. Valentine acknowledged that she had made a mistake and wished she had handled this matter differently. The Panel accepted that acknowledgment.

However, this factor and the absence of any previous discipline were not sufficient to diverge from the basic sanction of reprimand and a fine. In the Panel's view, a reprimand and fine were necessary in most cases of non-cooperation to underscore the importance that all members must cooperate with CPA Ontario. Given the Panel's conclusion regarding the medical evidence, there was no other factor that would justify a departure from that sanction.

- [51] The Panel considered the amount of the fine sought by the PCC, which would have aligned with the amount imposed in other cases to which the Panel was referred. However, the Panel concluded that a reduction in the quantum of the fine was appropriate in light of Ms. Valentine's circumstances. This amount, which reflected the amount of fine imposed in some of the older decisions, balanced the upward trend in the quantum of fines against Ms. Valentine's particular personal and financial circumstances. For the same reason, the Panel found that more time to pay this was appropriate.
- [52] At the same time, it was essential that Ms. Valentine be directed to address the outstanding matters raised by the PCC and Standards Enforcement. If Ms. Valentine was genuinely interested in complying with her professional obligations, as she insisted was the case, these would require minimal effort on her part. However, if she chose to not comply, that decision, particularly after her representations at the hearing, was irreconcilable with her continued membership in the profession.
- [53] In reviewing the alternative courses of action offered to Ms. Valentine in the Guidance Letter underlying the correspondence from Standards Enforcement, the Panel was concerned that the completion of one and not the other would not address the concern expressed by the PCC. By the end of the hearing, Ms. Valentine had removed the videos from the YouTube channel. However, the heading still associated her professional designations with a personal photo and no content that was professional in nature. Accordingly, the Panel directed that Ms. Valentine complete the other alternative action put forward by PCC, the removal of her professional designations from the YouTube channel to address this concern.
- [54] Publication in the ordinary course was required in order that the deterrent message could be conveyed to other members and the public.

VIII. COSTS

- [55] The PCC asked the Panel to award two thirds of the costs incurred by the PCC in the prosecution of this matter, as reflected in the Costs Outline filed as Exhibit 5. The total costs set out in the Costs Outline was \$7,322.58. Two thirds of this sum amounted to \$4,800 in round figures. The Panel considered Ms. Valentine's

current lack of employment, but, in the absence of further evidence of financial hardship, the Panel found that the general rule requiring a member to pay a significant portion of the costs incurred as a result of her own actions should prevail.

[56] The Panel decided that an order for costs in the amount of \$4,800, as requested, was reasonable in all of the circumstances. The Panel ordered that Ms. Valentine pay costs in the amount of \$4,800 within twelve months of the order being made.

Dated at Toronto this 29th day of July, 2020



Stuart Douglas, FCPA, FCA
Discipline Committee – Deputy Chair

Members of the Panel

Hamid Farooq, CPA, CGA
David Handley (Public Representative)
Catherine Kenwell (Public Representative)
Jane Rivers, CPA, CGA

Independent Legal Counsel

Glenn Stuart
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