

Paul Edward Trennum: Summary, as Published in *CheckMark*

Paul Edward Trennum, of Mississauga, was found guilty of a charge of professional misconduct, under Rules 201.1, arising from his criminal conviction on six counts of forgery and fraud. He was fined \$7,500 and expelled from the Insititue.

CHARGE(S) LAID re Paul Edward Trennum

The Professional Conduct Committee hereby makes the following charge against Paul Edward Trennum, a suspended member of the Institute:

1. THAT, the said Paul Trennum, failed to conduct himself in a manner that will maintain the good reputation of the profession and its ability to serve the public interest in that, on or about the 28th day of February 1991, in the Province of Ontario, Toronto Region, he was convicted of those criminal offences shown as counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 in the indictment attached as Schedule "A", contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada, all of which is contrary to Rule 201.1 of the rules of professional conduct.

DATED at Toronto this 22nd day of January, 1992.

B.G. BROOKS, CA - DEPUTY CHAIR,
PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE re Paul Edward Trennum

DECISION AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF: A charge against PAUL EDWARD TRENNUM, a suspended member of the Institute, under Rule 201.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, as amended.

DECISION AND ORDER MADE SEPTEMBER 1, 1992

DECISION

THAT, having seen and considered the evidence, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE FINDS Paul Edward Trennum guilty of the charge.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED in respect of the charge:

1. THAT Mr. Trennum be reprimanded in writing by the chair of the hearing.
2. THAT Mr. Trennum be and he is hereby fined the sum of \$7,500, to be remitted to the Institute within six (6) months from the date this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws.
3. THAT Mr. Trennum be and he is hereby expelled from membership in the Institute.
4. THAT notice of this Decision and Order, disclosing Mr. Trennum's name, be given after this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws:
 - (a) by publication in *CheckMark*;
 - (b) to the Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario; and
 - (c) to the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.
6. THAT Mr. Trennum surrender his certificate of membership in the Institute to the registrar of the Institute within ten (10) days from the date this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws.

DATED AT TORONTO, THIS 3RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1992
BY ORDER OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

BRYAN W. STEPHENSON, BA, LLB
SECRETARY – DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE re Paul Edward Trennum

REASONS FOR THE DECISION AND ORDER IN THE MATTER OF: A charge against PAUL EDWARD TRENNUM a suspended member of the Institute, under Rule 201.1 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, as amended.

WRITTEN REASONS FOR THE DECISION AND ORDER MADE SEPTEMBER 1, 1992

These proceedings before this panel of the discipline committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario were convened on September 1, 1992.

Mr. Paul Farley attended on behalf of the professional conduct committee. Mr. Trennum attended with, and was represented by, his counsel, Mr. Clay M. Powell.

The professional conduct committee had laid one charge of professional misconduct against Mr. Trennum, under Rule of Professional Conduct 201.1, for failing to conduct himself in a manner so as to maintain the good reputation of the profession and its ability to serve the public interest. Mr. Trennum pleaded not guilty.

The charge was based upon Mr. Trennum's conviction of six charges under the *Criminal Code*, as follows:

- two charges that he unlawfully did make, circulate or publish a statement, knowing it to be false in a material particular, with intent to deceive or defraud;
- two charges that he unlawfully did use, deal with or act on documents, as if they were genuine, knowing them to be forged; and
- two charges that he unlawfully did by deceit, falsehood or other fraudulent means, defraud his employer of money, property or a valuable security, of a value in excess of \$1,000.

After hearing the submissions made by counsel, and reviewing the exhibits filed, the discipline committee, upon deliberation, found Mr. Trennum guilty of the charge.

The committee then heard the testimony of Mr. Trennum, and the submissions of counsel, upon the issue of sanction. After deliberation, the committee made the following order:

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED in respect of the charge:

1. THAT Mr. Trennum be reprimanded in writing by the chair of the hearing.
2. THAT Mr. Trennum be and he is hereby fined the sum of \$7,500, to be remitted to the Institute within six (6) months from the date this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws.

3. THAT Mr. Trennum be and he is hereby expelled from membership in the Institute.
4. THAT notice of this Decision and Order, disclosing Mr. Trennum's name, be given after this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws:
 - (a) by publication in *CheckMark*;
 - (b) to the Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario; and
 - (c) to the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.
5. THAT Mr. Trennum surrender his certificate of membership in the Institute to the registrar of the Institute within ten (10) days from the date this Decision and Order becomes final under the bylaws.

The reasoning behind the committee's order as to sanction is set out below. In reaching its conclusions, the committee considered the Eerri, Wilkinson, and Mhyte cases. The committee also gave consideration to the principles of general deterrence, specific deterrence and rehabilitation. In the committee's opinion, the principle of rehabilitation was not of great significance in this case, because of the overriding concern about the serious moral turpitude demonstrated by Mr. Trennum's conduct.

Reprimand

The committee believes that a reprimand is necessary to stress the unacceptability of Mr. Trennum's conduct 'as a chartered accountant.

Fine

The committee concluded that a fine is an appropriate component of this order, on the reasoning that a monetary sanction has a significant deterrent effect upon other chartered accountants. The committee believes that the amount of the fine demonstrates the seriousness with which the committee views conduct of the sort engaged in by Mr. Trennum.

Expulsion

Mr. Trennum's conduct was a serious breach of the profession's obligation to the business community and the public generally to act with honesty and integrity. By his actions, Mr. Trennum significantly damaged the reputation of the profession and undermined its ability to properly and effectively serve the public interest. For the protection of the public, and as a general deterrent, the committee concluded that expulsion is the appropriate sanction in a situation involving moral turpitude, and, accordingly, ordered that Mr. Trennum be expelled from the Institute.

Notice

The providing of notice of the decision and order disclosing Mr. Trennum's name is a significant general deterrent. In addition, providing such information demonstrates to the public and the profession that the Institute is actively regulating itself, and that it is fully prepared to take appropriate action against members who breach its rules of professional conduct. This makes an important contribution to the governance of the profession.

Surrender of certificate

Since the protection of the public interest is a fundamental tenet of the profession, it is of utmost importance that Mr. Trennum no longer appear to be a member of the Institute or the profession after his expulsion through display of a membership certificate. Accordingly, the committee ordered that it be returned to the Institute.

DATED AT TORONTO, THIS 7TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1992
BY ORDER OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

F.A. DROZD, FCA - DEPUTY CHAIR
THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL:

P. RAYSON, CA
D.P. SETTERINGTON, CA
L.L. WORTHINGTON, FCA
S.F. ANDRUNYK (Public representative)