

HEARING AID COUNCIL

PROCEEDINGS

Meeting of

FAST-TRACK DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

held at

70 St Mary Axe
London EC3A 8BD
on

11 October 2007

PRESENT:

MR CHRIS HUGHES (Chair)

MR PETER ORMEROD
MR MICHAEL BISHOP
(Committee Members)

MS SIOBHAN GOODRICH: Legal Assessor
MRS JANET HAWTHORNE: Council's Solicitor
MS AMICIE KNOWLES: Committee Administrator

Case of: MR STUART HEYLINGS

The respondent did not attend.

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1 DECISION REGARDING SANCTION

2 CHAIR: This disciplinary charge relates to Mr Stuart Heylings, a registered hearing aid
3 dispenser, who, in breach of Clause Nine of the Code of Conduct, failed to test or record
4 masked bone conduction in respect of a client in August 2004, and that was a breach as
5 it failed to comply with the British Society of Audiology Recommended Procedures.
6 The Council is concerned to ensure that at all times audiometry is properly carried out,
7 and the results of that audiometry are properly recorded. This is a protection for the
8 patient but also for the practitioner. It is, in any event, the essential basic good
9 professional practice. Having considered the facts of the case, and the mitigation
10 submitted, the Committee imposes a penalty of £500, to be paid within three months of
11 today. In addition, the Committee notes the preparedness of Mr Heylings to undergo
12 further training in this area, and therefore direct that Mr Heylings undergoes and submits
13 appropriate evidence of having undertaken a course in audiometry amounting to five
14 CPD points, and this of course should be carried out by 31 March 2008. Thank you.
15 Now we move on to the application for costs.

16 DECISION REGARDING COSTS

17 MR HUGHES: The Disciplinary Committee has considered the application for costs in the
18 sum of £1,000. The Committee notes that the total costs incurred in bringing this case
19 are in excess of £3,000. Given the gravity of the charge, it is not disproportionate, but
20 an award of £1,000 against Mr Heylings is made. Clearly this imposes some cost on the
21 broad regulated population. This is to be regretted. The Committee directs that the sum
22 of £1,000 costs be paid by Mr Heylings within three months of today. And that
23 concludes the case with respect to Mr Heylings.

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26 [The hearing concluded]