

**IN THE MATTER OF PART 3 OF THE
LEGAL PROFESSION ACT, RSA 2000, c. L-8**

AND

**IN THE MATTER OF A HEARING REGARDING
THE CONDUCT OF CHANEL HUDSON
A MEMBER OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF ALBERTA**

ORDER OF THE HEARING COMMITTEE

UPON THE ISSUANCE OF CITATIONS by the Law Society of Alberta (LSA) to CHANEL HUDSON pursuant to section 56 of the *Legal Profession Act* (the Act);

AND WHEREAS:

- a) Ms. Hudson and the LSA have entered into a Statement of Admitted Facts and Admission of Conduct Deserving of Sanction (the Statement, attached to this Order) in relation to Ms. Hudson's conduct on October 25, 2019;
- b) Ms. Hudson admits in the Statement that the conduct set out in the Statement is deserving of sanction;
- c) On November 14, 2019 the Conduct Committee found the Statement acceptable, pursuant to subsection 60(2) of the Act;
- d) On November 25, 2019 the Chair of the Conduct Committee appointed a single Bencher as the Hearing Committee (Committee) for this matter, pursuant to subsection 60(3) of the Act;
- e) Pursuant to subsection 60(4) of the Act, it is deemed to be a finding of this Committee that Ms. Hudson's conduct is deserving of sanction;
- f) On December 9, 2019, the Committee convened a public hearing into the appropriate sanction related to the conduct of Ms. Hudson;
- g) The LSA and Ms. Hudson have provided a joint submission on sanction for the Committee's consideration, seeking a reprimand;
- h) The parties have also agreed that it is reasonable for Ms. Hudson to pay \$630.00 in costs in relation to this matter by March 9, 2020;

- i) The Committee has determined that the joint submission is reasonable, consistent with sanctions in similar cases, does not bring the administration of justice into disrepute and is therefore in the public interest;
- j) The Committee has accepted the joint submission on sanction, and accepted the submission with respect to the payment of costs.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The appropriate sanction with respect to Ms. Hudson is a reprimand, which was delivered orally by the Committee to Ms. Hudson at the hearing.
2. The text of the reprimand will be attached to this Order as a schedule prior to the Order being published.
3. Ms. Hudson must pay costs in the amount of \$630.00, by March 9, 2020.
4. No Notice to the Profession or Notice to the Attorney General is to be made.
5. The exhibits and this order will be available for public inspection, including the provision of copies of exhibits for a reasonable copy fee, except that identifying information in relation to persons other than Ms. Hudson will be redacted and further redactions will be made to preserve client confidentiality and solicitor-client privilege (Rule 98(3)).

Dated at Calgary, Alberta, on December 9, 2019.

STACY PETRIUK

IN THE MATTER OF THE *LEGAL PROFESSION ACT*
AND IN THE MATTER OF A HEARING REGARDING
THE CONDUCT OF CHANEL R. HUDSON
A STUDENT MEMBER OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

STATEMENT OF ADMITTED FACTS
AND ADMISSION OF CONDUCT DESERVING OF SANCTION

BACKGROUND

1. I, Chanel R. Hudson, obtained my Law Degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 2018.
2. I became a student member of the Law Society of Alberta on September 17, 2018 and on October 22, 2019 I commenced my articles at [F] LLP.

CITATION

3. I am facing a citation arising from a Law Society complaint, it is, as follows:

CO20190789

It is alleged Chanel R. Hudson breached CPLED's Professional Integrity Policy and that such conduct is deserving of sanction.

AGREED FACTS

4. As part of my acceptance into the CPLED program I signed an agreement to comply with the program's Professional Integrity Policy (PIP). This policy prohibits students from disclosing or discussing Competency Evaluation Documents with anyone except the CPLED Director or CPLED staff.
5. In February 2019 in preparation for my submissions for the Practice Management Competency Evaluation, I received a screen shot of a document related to this module from another student and then engaged in discussions with the other student about the content of the module.
6. I did not request these materials however I did not report their receipt to the CPLED director, contrary to PIP.

7. Shortly thereafter I engaged in discussions with the other student in which I encouraged him to delete our communications related to the module. I deleted my copies of our communications related to the module.
8. CPLED became aware of these discussions through the other student.
9. When contacted by the Interim Executive Director of CPLED in April 2019, I acknowledged the breach of PIP and apologized for my actions.
10. Due to this breach I was required to redo the Practice Management Competency Evaluation. The work I submitted for these modules was my own and I did not collaborate with others on its production.

ADMISSION OF FACTS

11. I, Chanel R. Hudson, admit as facts the statements contained in this Admitted Statement of Facts for the purposes of these proceedings.

ADMISSION OF CONDUCT DESERVING OF SANCTION

12. For the purposes of s. 60 of the *Legal Profession Act*, I, Chanel R. Hudson, admit to the citation listed above.

This Statement of Admitted Facts and Admission of Conduct Deserving of Sanction is dated the 25 day of October, 2019.

Witness

"Chanel Hudson"
Chanel R. Hudson

Reprimand

Ms. Hudson, your conduct in regards to the complaint is cause for concern. You have a responsibility to members of the public and to the Law Society of Alberta. As a student-at-law, you must conduct yourself with honesty, integrity and candour. You must maintain high ethical standards. You must be honest and forthright. You have failed in this case, and you must do better.

The hearing guide of the Law Society of Alberta requires that hearing committees take a purposeful approach to sanctioning a member who has been found guilty of conduct deserving of sanction. The fundamental purpose of sanctioning is the protection of the best interest of the public and protection of the reputation and standing of the legal profession generally.

Ms. Hudson, I acknowledge your cooperation with the Law Society leading up to today and resolving this complaint by admitting guilt and proceeding with a single Benchler hearing. Your admissions have permitted this citation to be resolved on a more efficient basis. This is not just a benefit to you, but is a benefit to the public and to the Law Society of Alberta.

As a member of the Law Society of Alberta, you are expected to look at what you have done to determine how you can learn from this, undertake not to do this or something similar in the future, do better and move forward. Being a student-at-law, and one day holding office as a barrister and solicitor, requires you to understand the obligations you have to the public, the Law Society and its members, and the importance of ethical conduct and integrity. In this matter, you put your professional reputation and integrity at risk.

In making these comments and giving you this reprimand, I urge you to constantly have at the forefront of your mind the integrity required of you, and all of us as members of this profession, and the measures we must take to maintain our reputation and the reputation of the profession.

Given your comments today, I believe you understand what you did wrong, how you let down the legal profession, the severity of your actions, how you will commit to doing better, and how you will not do this or something similar again. I also appreciated hearing from your principal, Mr. [R], and know that you have the support required to move forward and learn from your mistake. Ms. Hudson, I wish you all the best as you learn and move forward from these difficult circumstances. Thank you for your attendance here today.