

SINGAPORE DENTAL COUNCIL

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PRESS RELEASE

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE INQUIRY FOR DR SHARIFAH NAZILAH SYED TAHA AND MS TAN CHU FEI PATRICIA

- 1. The Singapore Dental Council ("SDC") held a Disciplinary Inquiry against Dr. Sharifah Nazilah Syed Taha ("Dr. Sharifah"), a dentist, and Ms. Tan Chu Fei Patricia ("Ms. Tan"), an Oral Health Therapist.
- 2. Dr. Sharifah pleaded guilty to 4 charges (with a remaining 4 charges being taken into consideration). 2 charges were in respect of professional misconduct for her failure to supervise while Ms. Tan performed dental procedures on a patient on 16th June 2014 and 20th June 2014. The other 2 charges were in respect of offences under the DRA for allowing Ms. Tan to perform procedures beyond her allowable scope of work on 16th June 2014 and 20th June 2014.
- 3. Ms. Tan pleaded guilty to 4 charges (with the remaining 4 charges being taken into consideration) 2 charges were in respect of professional misconduct for performing dental procedures on a patient without the supervision of a registered dentist whose name appears on the first division of the Register of Dentists. The other 2 charges were in respect of offences under the DRA for performing dental procedures beyond her allowable scope of work on the 16th of June 2014 and 20th June 2014.
- 4. On 25th January 2017, both Dr. Sharifah and Ms. Tan pleaded guilty to each of the 4 charges brought against them with the remaining 4 charges being taken into consideration.
- 5. On 26th January 2017 the Disciplinary Committee ("**DC**") ordered that Dr. Sharifah to be suspended for 3 months and was fined \$20,000, in default of payment, an additional 4-month suspension to run consecutively with her 3-month suspension.
- 6. Ms. Tan was sentenced to a 6-month suspension and was fined a total of \$8000, in default of payment, an additional 3-month suspension to run consecutively with her 6-month suspension.
- 7. Both Dr. Sharifah and Ms. Tan were censured for their lapses and were ordered to furnish a letter of undertaking to the SDC to not repeat the same offences. The DC also ordered Dr. Sharifah to pay the costs and expenses of and incidental to the proceedings, including the costs of the solicitors to the SDC and the Legal Assessor.
- 8. Dr. Sharifah's suspension will take place from 10th March 2017 while Ms. Tan's suspension will take place from 26th February 2017.

9. Both Dr. Sharifah and Ms. Tan have 30 days from the day of service of the DC's orders to appeal to the High Court against the orders.

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3 February 2017