



Summary of Alternative Dispute Resolution

Settlement Agreement

IN THE MATTER OF: Dr. James Coffey, Dermatology
Practice Address: 430 Topsail Road, St. John's, NL

Dr. James Coffey is a medical practitioner licensed pursuant to the *Medical Act, 2011* to practice dermatology.

On January 29, 2024, the Registrar of the College filed an allegation against Dr. Coffey. The allegation was based on information provided by the Complaints Authorization Committee, arising from an investigation into an allegation filed by a patient wherein in response to the College's request for a copy of a patient's medical file, Dr. Coffey altered the requested medical record, provided the altered copy to the College, and did not indicate that the record had been altered.

Following an investigation, the Complaints Authorization Committee of the College referred the allegation back to the Registrar for Alternative Dispute Resolution in accordance with s. 44(1)(a) of the *Medical Act, 2011*.

Dr. Coffey admitted that he altered a medical record relating to a clinical encounter with a patient, did not indicate on the record that it had been altered or the date of the alteration, and provided a copy of the medical record to the College. Dr. Coffey acknowledged that his actions amounted to "professional misconduct", as defined in s. 2(17) and 2(25) of the College's *By-Law 5: Code of Ethics*.

Dr. Coffey and the College agreed to a disposition of the allegation which included the following:

1. The College reprimanded Dr. Coffey for his admitted professional misconduct.
2. Dr. Coffey will review and agree to comply with the expectations of the College as set out in the Standard of Practice: Medical Records Documentation & Management.
3. Dr. Coffey will complete courses, satisfactory to the Registrar, on the topics of medical record-keeping and professional ethics.
4. The College will publish this summary on its website.

Tanis Adey, MD
CEO and Registrar, CPSNL
May 29, 2025