



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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MEDIA RELEASE – August 3, 2016

College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia granted a permanent injunction for the unlawful practice of medicine

VANCOUVER, BC: On July 21, 2016, the BC Supreme Court granted an Order prohibiting Mobile Life Imaging LLC (MLI) and Mr. Randy Spielvogel, both of North Dakota, USA, from providing any service, or facilitating the provision of any service, that may only be provided by a registrant of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC, and that may only be performed in a facility accredited by the College's Diagnostic Accreditation Program (DAP); using any titles reserved exclusively to registrants of the College in British Columbia; and using any name, title, description or abbreviation of a name or title that expresses or implies that he is a registrant of or associated with the College.

This Order follows a lengthy investigation into the activities of MLI and Mr. Spielvogel in British Columbia, after concerns were raised that Mr. Spielvogel was operating an unaccredited diagnostic facility, and engaging in the unauthorized practice of medicine, and that he was likely to continue to do so.

In January 2016, the College received information that MLI was offering diagnostic imaging (ultrasound) for a fee in Abbotsford and Chilliwack. Through further investigation, the College established that MLI was also scheduled to offer services in Maple Ridge, Langley and Delta. A cease and desist letter was sent by the College to MLI. Mr. Spielvogel subsequently informed the College that the ultrasound technicians employed by MLI were certified by the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography and that the interpreting radiologists were all "board certified."

An undercover investigator attended at MLI in Abbotsford for a scheduled appointment and Mr. Spielvogel informed the investigator that he (Mr. Spielvogel) could read the ultrasound images himself, but that he also sends them to board-certified physicians.

The College's investigators attended at the location in Chilliwack where MLI was scheduled to provide imaging services, and discussed the College's concerns with Mr. Spielvogel. The College also sent a letter to Mr. Spielvogel stating that he was providing services that he was not authorized to provide, in a diagnostic facility that was not duly accredited by the DAP.

Mr. Spielvogel informed the College that he was not prepared to sign an undertaking to cease operating an unaccredited diagnostic facility in British Columbia, or to cease providing any other medical service that may only be done by a registrant of the College.

In July 2016, the College made application to the BC Supreme Court and was subsequently granted a permanent injunction prohibiting Mr. Spielvogel from engaging in the unlawful practice of medicine in British Columbia. The Order further prohibited Mobile Life Imaging LLC from providing ultrasound services in BC until such time as it has been accredited by the DAP in accordance with the College Bylaws, or is otherwise approved by the College.

With these actions, the College is confident that the public interest has been served.

This situation serves to remind the public of the importance of seeing a regulated and licensed health professional. For more information on regulated health professionals, visit www.bchealthregulators.ca.

To verify the credentials and to ensure that a person providing medical services is a physician who is registered with the College, members of the public are encouraged to visit the online physician directory on the College website at www.cpsbc.ca.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC regulates the practice of medicine under the authority of provincial law. All physicians who practise medicine in the province must be registrants of the College. The College's overriding interest is the protection and safety of patients. The role of the College is to ensure physicians meet expected standards of practice and conduct.

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