



SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

16 College Road, #01-01 College of Medicine Building, Singapore 169854

E-mail Address: enquiries@smc.gov.sg

Website: <http://www.smc.gov.sg>

Fax Number: (65) 6258-2134

1 February 2012

PRESS RELEASE

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE INQUIRY FOR DR HO MIEN

1. A Disciplinary Committee (“**DC**”) Inquiry hearing was held for Dr Ho Mien (“**Dr Ho**”), aged 35 years, arising from a complaint to the Singapore Medical Council (“**SMC**”) dated 2 October 2008 by the Chairman of the House Officer Training Committee. At the time of the complaint, Dr Ho was practising as a House Officer at the Division of Medicine, Singapore General Hospital.
2. On 16 December 2011, the DC found Dr Ho guilty on 2 charges of having engaged in an improper act or conduct that brought disrepute to the medical profession. These charges arose from Dr Ho’s conduct in making claims for monetary compensation on the grounds of having completed night call duties despite not having actually performed such night call duties.
3. The DC was of the view that Dr Ho’s conduct was not a trivial matter, and that if left unchecked, such conduct would have a detrimental effect on the training of doctors. The DC was also of the view that the wrong message would be sent to doctors under training if it were to condone Dr Ho’s conduct, and that a substantial punishment would be appropriate so that practitioners are deterred from such conduct.
4. Nonetheless, the DC also considered the following mitigating factors:

- (a) Dr Ho had produced substantial and impressive testimonial in favour of his abilities as a doctor and in respect of his contributions to public service;
 - (b) The incidents of misconduct took place early in Dr Ho's career and the DC was therefore reluctant to impose a financial hardship on him as an act of mercy; and
 - (c) The proceedings had taken some time, during which Dr Ho could not complete his training as a doctor.
5. In light of all the circumstances and after due consideration, the DC determined that:
- (a) Dr Ho be censured;
 - (b) Dr Ho shall give a written undertaking to the SMC that he will not engage in the conduct complained of or any similar conduct; and
 - (c) Dr Ho shall pay the costs and expenses of and incidental to these proceedings, including the costs of counsel to the SMC and the Legal Assessor.
6. The DC also ordered that the Grounds of Decision be published.

-END-