

Discipline Case Digest



COLLEGE OF
APPLIED BIOLOGY
Professional Accountability

File 009-03

Allegation:

The subject member engaged in professional misconduct in that the member made factually incorrect and misleading public statements regarding the position of a regulatory agency.

Member Action:

When the situation was brought to the member's attention by the Discipline Committee, the member wrote a letter to the regulatory agency advising that the member had indeed misspoken during a radio interview and issued an apology for the statement, clarifying that the member at no time intended to mislead the public as to the position of the regulatory agency. Further, the member requested that the letter be posted to the project registry file (a public site) in order to ensure that those members of the public who heard the interview were aware of the correction.

Decision:

After full and careful consideration of the material contained in the file the complaint was dismissed. The Committee noted the actions of the member in ensuring that the correction was made, an apology offered, and a remedy request that would assist the public being advised of the issues at hand. The Committee did note that while the letter to the regulator was sufficient to resolve the complaint, the Committee drew to the member's attention the need to effect professional communications in a clear, complete and correct so as to avoid the possibility of future misunderstandings.

Postscript:

Care must be taken in all communications and members must ensure that all professional communications are clear, complete and correct so as to avoid the possibility of future misunderstandings.