



Title Enforcement Action

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The following is presented in order to remind members of the need to bring title infringement issues to the attention of the office. The College takes all such reports seriously and investigates all allegations in order to ensure that the College titles are used by members only so as to safeguard the reputation of the College and the membership.

The office was contacted regarding the quality of work performed by an individual who was claiming to be an RPBio, and whose name did not appear on the membership list. As with all such enquiries, the office followed up on the enquiry and found:

1. The individual was not presently a member of the College, and had not been a member of the College when the work at issue was undertaken.
2. The individual was contacted by College staff and advised that as a self-governing professional organization established under the College of Applied Biology Act the College is responsible for enforcing the Act and its Rules. Sections 11 and 12 of the Act provide that an individual may not use the title RPBio unless that individual is a member in good standing of the College of Applied Biology; individuals contravening these provisions are liable on conviction for a fine of up to \$5000 for each occasion on which the contravention occurs
3. The individual advised that they understood the seriousness of this action, and that as they had not used the title, the individual surmised that someone in the office must have applied the “RPBio” designation to the individual’s signature block on the report sign off page when the report was filed with the government regulatory authority.
4. The individual advised the College that they had no problem with the College advising the government regulatory authority that the “RPBio” designation had been applied in error.
5. The College contacted the government regulatory authority to determine whether the authority was interested in this information, given the report in question was several years old; the regulatory authority



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advised that in order to ensure the project record was correct they would appreciate the information being provided.

The College provided the information to the regulatory authority and declared the file closed.