



File 14-02

Subject Member: Registered Professional Biologist (name withheld)

Complaint Submitted: August 20 -21, 2014. A formal complaint was not submitted. However, separate requests were submitted by three College members

Date of Decision: October 3, 2014

Complaint Summary:

Separate submissions to the College were received in from three College members regarding the conduct of another College member regarding the subject member's professional opinion on a highly contentious and public issue. While none of the submissions led to formal complaints, in keeping with the procedures adopted by the Discipline Committee, a file was created and the committee investigated the allegations.

Decision:

The Committee found that while the subject member had not violated the College's Code of Ethics, they did want to use the incident as an educational opportunity and cautioned the subject member to consider the preliminary nature of the results discussed and to use care in making public statements.

Postscript:

College members are reminded that they must exercise sound judgment and diligence in communicating or providing objective, science-based, unfettered, forthright and intellectually honest opinions and advice. Especially when the issues are high-profile and potentially contentious. Members should consider how public statements on contentious issues may be perceived or interpreted and used against them.