

## College of Paramedics of Nova Scotia

### Consent Reprimand

WALSH, Timothy

Halifax, Nova Scotia

CPNS Registration Number: 11631

On October 6, 2022, the Investigation Committee of the College of Paramedics of Nova Scotia (CPNS) ordered, pursuant to section 67(6)(a)(i) of the *Paramedics Regulations*, and with the consent of Mr. Walsh, that he receive a reprimand for failing to advocate for a patient and failing to communicate effectively with a colleague, contributing to inappropriate intervention and treatment.

Mr. Walsh and his partner attended a call for a post-fall assessment of an elderly patient. It was documented that the patient was experiencing pain and was reluctant to walk due to a fear of falling. It was alleged that during extrication, the patient was required to walk (assisted) to the stretcher. It was later reported that the patient had suffered a fracture. Mr. Walsh was the secondary crew member and had specialized training in extrication. While Mr. Walsh noted that he inquired with his partner about the use of a stair chair, he failed to advocate for the patient by assertively communicating the importance of using appropriate technique under the circumstances.

Based on the available information, the Committee was satisfied that Mr. Walsh breached the *Code of Ethics* and the *Standards of Practice* related to, *inter alia*, advocating in the best interests of the patient, consulting with others for the benefit of the patient, and continuously evaluating the ongoing management of patient care.

The Committee determined that under these circumstances, Mr. Walsh's breach of the *Code of Ethics* and *Standards of Practice* was unprofessional, and that pursuant to s. 67(4)(g) of the *Regulations*, there is sufficient evidence that, if proven, would constitute professional misconduct. The Committee therefore determined that a reprimand was the appropriate outcome in this situation.

On December 6, 2022, Mr. Walsh consented to the reprimand.