

Wednesday, 5 June 2019

Commissioner welcomes Mittiga sentencing

Health and Community Service Complaints Commissioner Dr Grant Davies has welcomed today's sentencing of Mr Robert Frank Mittiga (also known as Robert Frank or Roberto Cialdini).

Mr Mittiga was sentenced in the Adelaide Magistrates Court after pleading guilty to charges of breaching conditions of a prohibition order imposed on him on 24 November 2015 as well as a breach of bond imposed by the Adelaide Magistrates Court on 27 September 2016.

Dr Davies said it served as a warning to unregistered Health Care Workers who think they can act above the law or ignore the prohibition orders imposed on them.

"The majority of unregistered Health Care Workers do a great job helping people and supporting their needs," he said.

"Unfortunately there are some who behave unethically or unsafely and this is why the National Code of Conduct is an important piece of the regulatory puzzle.

"Today's outcome is a warning to anyone who is not practicing in accordance with the Code of Conduct for unregistered Health Care Workers.

"The HCSCC's role is to ensure services provided by unregistered Health Care Workers are safe, the public is protected and their practise is in accordance with the Code."

Mr Mittiga had an order placed on him on [24 November 2015](#) which stopped him from providing health services in South Australia. Mr Mittiga is also subject to prohibition orders in Victoria. The public should also be aware that Mr Mittiga has been known to use multiple names.

Dr Davies added that consumers should take steps to ensure they know their rights when visiting any health services.

"It is very important to know that if you're using the services of an unregistered Health Care Worker, always ask if they are aware of the Code of Conduct and ensure that it is on display," he said.

"If you're unsure whether the practitioner you are seeing is abiding by the Code or you're concerned about their conduct: speak with the HCSCC."

Background

Mr Mittiga received a five month jail term, reduced to three months and two weeks owing to a guilty plea. The sentence was wholly suspended upon Mr Mittiga entering a 12 month good behaviour bond.

The HCSCC Enquiry Service can be called on 8226 8666 or 1800 232 007 (toll free) from Country SA. People can also email: info@hcsc.sa.gov.au.

