

IN THE MATTER OF the *Veterinarians Act*, SBC 2010, c. 15, as amended

The College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

(the “College”)

– and –

Dr. Justin Sewell

(the “Respondent”)

FURTHER AMENDED CITATION

TO: Dr. Justin Sewell
c/o Richard Gibbs, KC
1134 3rd Avenue
Prince George, BC V2L 3E5

TAKE NOTICE that a Panel of the Discipline Committee (the “Panel”) of the College will conduct a hearing into your conduct as a veterinarian in accordance with section 59 of the *Veterinarians Act*, SBC 2010, c. 15 (the “Act”). This Citation is issued at the direction of the College’s Investigation Committee pursuant to sections 57 and 58 of the Act.

The hearing will be held by videoconference commencing at ~~10:00 a.m.~~ **9:30 a.m.** on **June 8 & 9, 2026.**

You are requested to attend the hearing. You have the right to be represented by legal counsel at the hearing and to submit evidence. However, if you fail to attend the hearing, the Panel may proceed with the hearing in your absence and, without further notice to you, may take any action that it is authorized to take under the Act.

The purpose of the hearing is to inquire into your conduct as follows:

WHEREAS:

- A. In 2006 and 2007, your wife’s sister, “V.L.”, lived in your residence with you, first in Fort St. John, British Columbia, and then in Charlie Lake, British Columbia;
- B. In the years 2006 and 2007 and at all material times thereafter you were a registrant of the College;
- C. As a doctor of veterinary medicine and registrant of the College, you had access to controlled drugs, including ketamine and Valium, through your veterinary practice;

D. The *Veterinarians Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 476 (the “Previous Act”) was in force in 2006 and 2007. It was repealed and replaced by the Act, effective September 15, 2010. While the allegations set out below are made under the Previous Act and the bylaws made thereunder, the procedures established by the Act and current bylaws will be followed as far as they can be adapted in this proceeding.

IT IS ALLEGED THAT:

1. On or about June 7, 2007, at or near Charlie Lake, British Columbia, while V.L. was incapacitated and thereby unable to consent, you removed her clothing, masturbated and ejaculated twice on her leg, removed your own clothing, and pressed your naked body against her.
2. After you had removed V.L.’s clothing, you took approximately 30 photographs of her while she was fully or partially nude, including a photograph of your penis near her face, without her knowledge or consent.
3. Prior to the conduct described above in paragraphs 1 and 2, you administered ketamine or Valium to V.L. without her knowledge or consent.
4. You obtained the ketamine or Valium that you administered to V.L. from your veterinary clinic, the Rivers Animal Hospital.
5. In or about 2006 through 2007, you surreptitiously took other photographs of V.L. while she was in your residence in circumstances where she could reasonably have been expected to be fully or partially nude, without her knowledge or consent.
6. You stored photographs that you took of V.L. on a computer at Rivers Animal Hospital, which showed V.L. while she was fully or partially nude, resulting in some or all of the photographs being seen by staff members of Rivers Animal Hospital.
7. The conduct described in each of paragraphs 1–6 constitutes unprofessional conduct.
8. The conduct described in each of paragraphs 1–6 constitutes a breach of sections 8 and 9 of the College’s Code of Ethics as it stood at the time, which sections provided as follows:
 8. A veterinarian’s conduct should at all times be characterized by courteousness, respectfulness and professionalism generally, towards clients, the public, colleagues in the veterinary profession, and members of other professions;
 9. A veterinarian must not in extra-professional activities or professional practice engage in dishonourable or questionable conduct that casts doubt on the veterinarian’s professional integrity or competence, or reflects adversely on the integrity of the veterinary profession.

9. The conduct described in each of paragraphs 1–3 constitutes a breach of section 17 of the College’s Code of Ethics as it stood at the time, which section provided as follows:

17. It is unprofessional for a member to commit an act or omission punishable by law in Canada or elsewhere that reasonably affects the confidence of the public or his fellow members in the member or the veterinary profession.

10. The violations of the Code of Ethics referenced in paragraphs 8 and 9 constitute unprofessional conduct.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that after a hearing under section 59 of the Act, the Panel may make such determinations and orders under the Previous Act as it considers appropriate.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that, pursuant to section 67 of the Act, you may make a written proposal to the Investigation Committee to resolve the matter any time before the hearing, which proposal the Investigation Committee may accept or reject.

DATED at Richmond, British Columbia, this ~~7th~~3rd day of ~~May~~ June, 2026.



Christine Arnold, Registrar & CEO
College of Veterinarians of British Columbia