## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS BOARD 職業治療師管理委員會

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20 December 2013

To : All registered occupational therapists

Dear Registrants,

## Publication of Occupational Therapists Board's Decisions at Disciplinary Inquiries

This letter informs you of the new arrangements for publication of the Occupational Therapists ("OT") Board's decisions at disciplinary inquiries in the OT Board's website.

At the 11 December 2013 meeting of the Supplementary Medical Professions Council ("the Council"), the Council agreed to adopt the following arrangements of the publication of the OT Board's decisions –

- (a) For inquiries conducted after 11 December 2013 where the registered occupational therapists are found guilty of professional misconduct, the full judgment will be published in the OT Board's website;
- (b) For guilt cases where the orders are to be published in the Gazette :
  - the identity of the respondent(s) will be published in the judgment; and
  - the judgment will be published in the OT Board's website permanently;
- (c) For guilt cases where the orders are <u>not</u> to be published in the Gazette :
  - the name(s) of the respondent(s) will be edited out in the judgment; and
  - the judgment will be published in the OT Board's website for a fixed period of 5 years;
- (d) In all guilty cases, the identity of other parties such as patients, complainants, expert witnesses will be edited out; and
- (e) The judgment will be published after the expiry of the one-month appeal period or the final conclusion of any appeal.

The information is intended to enhance transparency of the disciplinary proceedings and to educate members of the profession as to what constitutes professional misconduct. It also provides a ready source of reference for the public in making an informed choice of occupational therapists.

As a reminder, all occupational therapists should conduct themselves in their professional duties in accordance with the Supplementary Medical Professions Ordinance (Cap. 359, Laws of Hong Kong) and the Occupational Therapists (Registration and Disciplinary Procedure) Regulation, and the Code of Practice for registered occupational therapists, a breach of which may lead to criminal convictions and/or disciplinary actions by the OT Board.

Please visit the OT Board's website regularly for updated information. For enquiries, please contact the Secretariat by phone: (852) 2527 8380 or by e-mail: <u>smpb@dh.gov.hk</u>.

Yours faithfully,

( C S KOO ) Secretary, Occupational Therapists Board