

IN THE MATTER OF THE *PROFESSIONAL GOVERNANCE ACT* S.B.C 2018, c. 47

AND

IN THE MATTER OF PETER CHARLES GAFFRAN (FORMER LICENCE #: 20197) ENGINEERS AND GEOSCIENTISTS BC FILE NO. T22-029

CONSENT ORDER

Background

- 1. On October 30, 2024, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia, doing business as Engineers and Geoscientists BC, issued a citation (the "Citation") against Peter Charles Gaffran pursuant to section 66(1) of the *Professional Governance Act*, S.B.C. 2018, c. 47 (the "*PGA*").
- 2. Mr. Gaffran resigned his registration in Engineers and Geoscientists BC on June 22, 2022.
- 3. Engineers and Geoscientists BC and Mr. Gaffran now wish to resolve this matter by consent pursuant to section 73(2) of the *PGA* in order to avoid the need for a disciplinary hearing.
- 4. Mr. Gaffran consents to the disposition set out below.

Legislation

- 5. On February 5, 2021, the *Engineers and Geoscientists Act,* R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 116 (the "*EGA*") was repealed and replaced by the *PGA*.
- 6. The allegations in the Citation are made under the *EGA* insofar as they relate to conduct that took place prior to February 5, 2021, and under the *PGA* insofar as they relate to conduct that took place on or after February 5, 2021.

7. Pursuant to sections 35(2) and 36(1)(c) of the *Interpretation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 238, investigations commenced under the *EGA* carry on procedurally under the *PGA*.

Admissions

- 8. Mr. Gaffran admits that between June 2020 and February 25, 2021, he engaged in conduct toward a junior colleague that was inappropriate, including initiating communications and physical contact of a sexual nature, including but not limited to:
 - a. Confessing to her at their workplace that he had romantic feelings for her and asking to kiss her;
 - b. Kissing her;
 - c. Making sexual advances during a work trip including kissing and removing clothes;
 - d. Discussing past sexual relationships with her;
 - e. Texting to invite her to share a hotel room with him overnight;
 - f. Texting that he missed her;
 - g. Texting a romantic excerpt from a sonnet by Shakespeare;
 - h. Emailing her personal email account to tell her that he had driven by her home;
 - i. Emailing her personal email account to tell her about his feelings regarding her relationship with her boyfriend; and
 - Calling her after he was directed not to contact her by their employer.
- 9. Mr. Gaffran admits that his conduct prior to February 5, 2021:
 - a. constituted unprofessional conduct contrary to the EGA;
 - b. was contrary to Principle 1 of Engineers and Geoscientists of BC's Code of Ethics created pursuant to the *EGA*, as it stood at the time, which required that members and licensees hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public, the protection of the environment and promote health and safety within the workplace; and

- c. was contrary to Principle 7 of Engineers and Geoscientists of BC's Code of Ethics created pursuant to the EGA, as it stood at the time, which required that members and licensees conduct themselves with fairness, courtesy and good faith towards clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as give, honest and fair professional comment.
- 10. Mr. Gaffran admits that his conduct between February 5 and February 25, 2021:
 - a. constituted conduct unbecoming a registrant contrary to the PGA:
 - b. was contrary to Principle 1 of the Code of Ethics attached as Schedule A to the Bylaws of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, which required that registrants must hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public, including the protection of the environment and the promotion of health and safety in the workplace; and
 - c. was contrary to Principle 13 of the Code of Ethics attached as Schedule A to the Bylaws of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, which required that registrants must conduct themselves with fairness, courtesy and good faith towards clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as give, honest and fair professional comment.

Disposition

- 11. By consent, this Consent Order is made pursuant to section 73(2) of the PGA.
- 12. Mr. Gaffran's registration in Engineers and Geoscientists BC is cancelled. Mr. Gaffran agrees not to re-apply for registration with Engineers and Geoscientists BC at any time in the future.
- 13. Mr. Gaffran will pay a penalty of \$15,000 to Engineers and Geoscientists BC contemporaneous with the effective date of this Consent Order.
- 14. Mr. Gaffran will pay \$12,000 to Engineer and Geoscientists BC contemporaneous with the effective date of this Consent Order as a contribution towards the legal costs incurred in this matter.

Consequences of the Consent Order

- 15. The full text of this Consent Order will be published on the website of Engineers and Geoscientists BC, and a summary will be published in print and electronic publications, including in public communications.
- 16. This Consent Order has the same force and effect as an order made under section 75 of the *PGA*.

- 17. Mr. Gaffran agrees that he has received independent legal advice regarding this Consent Order.
- 18. Mr. Gaffran and Engineers and Geoscientists BC agree that this Consent Order may be executed in counterparts and delivered as an electronic document.

This Consent Order is approved and accepted by Mr. Gaffran and the members of the Discipline Resolution Panel this <u>11th</u> day of <u>July</u>, 2025.

Discipline Resolution Panel this 17th da	ly 01 <u>July</u> , 2025.	
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Peter Charles Gaffran	Signature of Witness	
	Lara Zee	
	Name of Witness	
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Chris Arthur, P.Eng.		
Member, Discipline Resolution Panel		
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Rajib Ahsan, P.Eng.		
Member, Discipline Resolution Panel		
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Reshmeena Lalani, CPA, CA		

Member, Discipline Resolution Panel