

[2003] LSBC 38

Report issued: October 29, 2003

Oral Reasons: October 10, 2003

The Law Society of British Columbia
In the matter of the *Legal Profession Act*, SBC 1998, c.9
and a s. 38 referral concerning

Raymond William Barton

Respondent

Decision of the Benchers

Hearing date: October 10, 2003

Panel: Peter J. Keighley, QC, Chair, Ralston S. Alexander, QC, Grant C. Taylor

Counsel for the Law Society: Jessica Gossen

Counsel for the Respondent: Marty Finch

[1] This is an application pursuant to Rule 4-17 and s. 39 of the *Legal Profession Act* by the Law Society to suspend the Respondent from the practice of law pending the hearing of citation authorized September 4, 2003.

[2] After hearing evidence the Panel is satisfied that the Respondent may continue in the practice, provided the following conditions are met:

1. The Respondent must abstain absolutely from the consumption of alcohol.
2. The Respondent must attend a minimum of two Alcoholics Anonymous meetings per week, and provide written confirmation of his attendance in a form satisfactory to the Discipline Committee.
3. The Respondent must provide the Law Society, by October 31, 2003, with proof that he has met with and consulted with a physician specializing in addiction assessment and treatment. In this regard, Dr. O'Malley, who practices in Prince George, and Dr. Baker, in Kamloops, are both acceptable to this Panel.
4. By November 30, 2003, the Respondent must provide a report from the addiction physician setting forth a proposed treatment plan and monitoring regime in a form satisfactory to the Discipline Committee.
5. The Respondent will submit to such further assessment and treatment as the addiction physician requires.
6. Failure to abide by any of these conditions will result in the immediate suspension of the Respondent.

[3] This Panel will be seized of further applications until the hearing of citation.