

THE LAW SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

IN THE MATTER OF:

VIBHU RAJ JHANJI

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE LEGAL PROFESSION ACT

Hearing Date: September 17, 2019

Appearances: Vibhu Raj Jhanji, Self-Represented
Rocky Kravetsky, Counsel for the Law Society of Manitoba

**DECISION OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE**

On July 19, 2019, a duly appointed Panel of the Law Society dismissed a preliminary motion by Mr. Jhanji to disqualify Mr. Rocky Kravetsky from proceeding further as counsel for the Law Society, alleging bias and improper conduct on Mr. Kravetsky's part. The Panel's reasons for doing so were succinctly stated as "there is no evidence to support the conclusion that Mr. Kravetsky is in a position that disqualifies him from continuing to act for the Law Society. He is not in a conflict of interest; he has not demonstrated any bias; there is no legal reason on the facts before us to disqualify him."

Mr. Jhanji has now applied for reconsideration of the issue before a future hearing of the Panel currently scheduled to be heard on November 26, 27, 28 & 29, 2019 and December 9, 10 & 11, 2019. The matter came before me at a duly constituted Pre-Hearing Conference pursuant to Law Society Rule 5-93(2.2).


In reality, in my opinion, the request to reconsider the July 19, 2019 decision "to appreciate both the admitted and fresh evidence in the reasons" constitutes, in reality, an application to introduce new evidence.

Ordinarily, this application might well be heard by the Panel that continues to be seized with

the responsibility of hearing the matter on its merits, but I am persuaded that in this particular instance (see paragraphs (c) and (d) of the Rule), that I have the jurisdiction to hear the application, as I have been requested to do by Messrs. Kravetsky and Jhanji. This, in my view, is in the interests of facilitating the work of the Panel, expedites the upcoming hearing, and accords with procedural fairness to both parties, given the character - as I was advised - of some of the requested new evidence.

A day has therefore been set, namely, Friday, October 11, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the Law Society offices for the hearing of the application with any supplementary affidavit evidence by the Law Society to be filed no later than October 7, 2019.

DATED this 24 day of September, 2019.



Mr. Richard J. Scott
Chairperson of the Discipline Committee