

## Media release

## 21 October 2014

## Statement by the Podiatry Board of Australia

The <u>Tasmanian Health Practitioners Tribunal</u> has disqualified Mr Terrence Williams from applying for registration as a podiatrist for three years, backdated to 23 November 2011.

In May 2013, Mr Williams was convicted in the Supreme Court of Tasmania of one count of aggravated sexual assault relating to an incident on 15 November 2011, when he performed a rectal examination in the course of treating a patient.

The Podiatry Board of Australia suspended Mr Williams' registration on 23 November 2011 and referred the matter to the Tribunal for hearing, after the criminal matter had been resolved in the Supreme Court.

The Tribunal determined that Mr Williams had been penalised through his conviction by the Supreme Court, and that there was no need to impose a further sanction to punish Mr Williams.

The Tribunal noted that Mr Williams' conduct was serious but not premeditated or repeated, and was apparently not motivated by sexual gratification, but by inexperience and poor judgement.

Mr Williams will be eligible to apply for registration when the three-year cancellation period expires later in 2014. The Board has the power to impose conditions on Mr Williams' registration should he apply for registration, if it believes restricting his registration in some way is needed to keep the public safe.

## For more information

- Visit <u>www.ahpra.gov.au</u>
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