

# Investigation Committee & the Competence Assurance Process

## Fast Facts

### Who is the Investigation Committee?

The committee is made up of three RNs and two Public Representatives appointed by SRNA Council. They are the decision-makers in any investigation. A RN investigator is responsible for conducting the investigation on behalf of the Investigation Committee.

### When is an investigation launched?

A written report or complaint is received by the SRNA making allegations of professional incompetence and/or misconduct about a member of the association. The definitions of professional incompetence and professional misconduct arise from *The Registered Nurses Act, 1988* and are outlined in the [Competence Assurance Process brochure](#).

### What will my practice be judged against in an investigation?

The foundation of RN practice and an investigation are based on: *The Registered Nurses Act, 1988*, SRNA Bylaws, standards and competencies, and code of ethics.

### How will I know if I am under investigation?

The member who is the subject of a written report or complaint will be notified and asked to provide a written response to the allegations regarding his/her nursing practice. Additional information about responding to a written report is outlined in [Responding to a Report Submitted About My Nursing Practice brochure](#).

### Will the SRNA provide me with a lawyer?

No – if a member is represented by a union, as an example, he/she can contact the union to inquire about legal assistance. A waiver to legal counsel will be provided to all members. The waiver can be revoked at any time during an investigation.

### How long does an investigation take?

The Investigation Committee's goal is to render a decision within a 4 month period, from the time the written report or complaint is received to the time that the committee meets and makes a decision in the case. Investigation length is dependent on receiving the written response from the member, collection of documents (as needed), and completion of interviews.

### How will I know what is going on in the investigation?

The RN investigator will keep in contact with the member and/or the lawyer regarding the status. If a member has a lawyer all communication will be primarily provided to the lawyer.

### What are the decisions the Investigation Committee could make in an investigation?

Dismissal of the case; Letter of Guidance; Consensual Resolution Agreement; or referral to a Discipline Hearing before a Discipline Committee. The report writer/ complainant, the member, his/her lawyer, SRNA Council and the Discipline Committee are provided with a copy of the de-identified Written Report of the Investigation Committee.