

**GENERAL DENTAL COUNCIL**

**AND**

**NICOLAS, Tearlach James**

**[Registration number: 108210]**

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**NOTICE OF INQUIRY**

**SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

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Notice that an inquiry will be conducted by a Practice Committee of the General Dental Council, commencing at **10:00am** on **28 September 2026**.

**Please note that this hearing will be conducted remotely by video conference.**

The heads of charge contained within this sheet are current at the date of publication. They are subject to amendments at any time before or during the hearing. For the final charge, findings of fact and determination against the registrant, please visit the Recent Decisions page at <https://www.dentalhearings.org/hearings-and-decisions/decisions> after this hearing has finished.

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**Committee members:**

|              |         |       |
|--------------|---------|-------|
| Debbie Jones | DCP     | Chair |
| Janhvi Amin  | Dentist |       |
| Lisa Shaw    | Lay     |       |

**Legal Adviser:**

|                      |               |
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| Lucia Whittle-Martin | Legal Adviser |
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## **CHARGE**

Tearlach James NICOLAS, a dental technician, Verified experience in Dental Technology is summoned to appear before the Professional Conduct Committee on 28 September 2026 for an inquiry into the following charge:

*“That, being registered as a Dental Technician:*

### ***Patient A***

1. *When providing treatment to Patient A, you:*
  - a. *On or around 19 February 2013, took impressions without input from a dentist;*
  - b. *On a date or dates from 19 February 2013 to 23 December 2013, made one or more adjustments to a removable appliance;*
  - c. *On a date from 19 February 2013 to 23 December 2013, reduced the height of one or more of Patient A’s natural teeth;*
  - d. *On or around 1 May 2013, carried out an intra-oral procedure to adjust Patient A’s bite;*
  - e. *On or around 21 June 2013, carried out an intra-oral procedure to adjust Patient A’s bite;*
  - f. *On or around 26 or 27 September 2013:*
    - i. *Carried out an intra-oral procedure to adjust Patient A’s bite;*
    - ii. *Intra-orally added material to Patient A’s teeth for diagnostic purposes.*
2. *Your conduct at 1.a and/or 1.b and/or 1.c and/or 1.d and/or 1.e and/or 1.f.i and/or 1.f.ii above was outside your scope of practice as a Dental Technician.*
3. *Your conduct at 1. a and/or 1.b and/or 1.c and/or 1.d and/or 1.e and/or 1.f.i and/or 1.f.ii and/or 2 above was:*
  - a. *Misleading;*
  - b. *Dishonest, in that you knew you were acting outside your scope of practice.*
4. *On a date from 19 February 2013 to 23 December 2013, you:*
  - a. *Said to Patient A that she should not discuss her problems with the dentist, or words to that effect;*
  - b. *Said to Patient A that you would prefer to speak to her on the telephone or in person as you did not want a trail of emails on record, or words to that effect.*
5. *Your conduct in relation to 4.a above was:*

- a. *Misleading;*
- b. *Dishonest, in that you were trying to prevent Patient A from raising concerns with the dentist.*
- 6. *Your conduct in relation to 4.b above was:*
  - a. *Dishonest, in that you were trying to limit the records and/or correspondence that could be used in any subsequent complaint.*
- 7. *On or around 23 December 2013, you:*
  - a. *Said to Patient A, "It should be another £28,500 but if you give me £15,000 and come back after Christmas I will see what I can do", or words to that effect;*
  - b. *Said to Patient A, that if problems were raised with others it would be the dentist who would get into trouble, or words to that effect;*
  - c. *Said to Patient A, "You can't touch me", or words to that effect;*
- 8. *Your conduct in relation to 7.a and/or 7.b and/or 7.c above was:*
  - a. *Inappropriate;*
  - b. *Unprofessional.*
- 9. *Your conduct in relation to 7.b and/or 7.c above was:*
  - a. *Misleading;*
  - b. *Dishonest, in that you were deliberately misleading Patient A in an attempt to prevent her from making a complaint.*
- 10. *You failed to maintain an adequate standard of record-keeping in that, on one or more occasion from 19 February 2013 to 23 December 2013:*
  - a. *You saw Patient A without a dentist being present; and*
  - b. *You conducted a significant clinical procedure; and*
  - c. *You did not make any note, or any adequate note, of what occurred.*

**Patient B**

- 11. *You provided treatment to Patient B at the Implant and Ceramic Dental Studios between January 2019 and March 2020.*
- 12. *When providing treatment to Patient B:*
  - a. *On or around 17 April 2019, you:*

- i. *Worked independently in the clinic recording a jaw relationship;*
  - ii. *Worked independently in the clinic adapting a removable dental appliance intra-orally;*
  - iii. *Made independent clinical decisions in relation to the patient's care;*
  - iv. *Provided clinical care in an environment which was unhygienic and/or unsafe;*
  - v. *Fitted a new anterior deprogrammer.*
- b. *On or around 2 March 2020, you:*
  - i. *Worked independently in the clinic recording a jaw relationship without a prescription;*
  - ii. *Attached items to the patient's teeth to assess the patient's reaction;*
  - iii. *Did not wear gloves during parts of the treatment of the patient, including when putting your fingers in the patient's mouth.*
- 13. *Your conduct at 12.a.i and/or 12.a.ii and/or 12.a.iii and/or 12.a.v and/or 12.b.i and/or 12.b.ii was outside your scope of practice as a Dental Technician.*
- 14. *Your conduct at 12.a.i and/or 12.a.ii and/or 12.a.iii and/or 12.a.v and/or 12.b.i and/or 12.b.ii and/or 13 was:*
  - a. *Misleading;*
  - b. *Dishonest, in that you knew you were acting outside your scope of practice.*
- 15. *You failed to obtain informed consent for the treatment provided to Patient B on or around:*
  - a. *17 April 2019;*
  - b. *2 March 2020.*
- 16. *During Patient B's course of treatment you failed to report to Registrant 1 that the patient's occlusion was changing.*
- 17. *In the presence of Patient B you said, "South African black women get all their front teeth taken out so they can give oral sex to men" or words to that effect.*
- 18. *Your conduct at 17 above was:*
  - a. *Inappropriate;*
  - b. *Unprofessional;*
  - c. *Racist.*
- 19. *You failed to maintain an adequate standard of record-keeping in respect of Patient B in that:*

- a. *On or around 17 April 2019, you treated Patient B, in the absence of the dentist and without a prescription, and did not record the details of the appointment;*
- b. *On or around 2 March 2020, you treated Patient B, in the absence of the dentist and without a prescription, and did not record the details of the appointment.*

*And that by reasons of the matters alleged above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct.”*