

**New Jersey State Board of Dentistry
Public Session Minutes
April 2, 2003
Board Office
Newark, New Jersey**

ATTENDANCE:

The following members were in attendance:

Patricia Delaney, RDH, Dr. Alexander Hall, Dr. Sally-Jo Placa, Dr. John Ricciani, Dr. Barbara Rich, Dr. Arnold Rosenheck.

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller, Deputy Attorney General Joseph Donofrio, Kevin B. Earle, Executive Director, Terri Goldberg, Assistant to the Executive Director, Michael Dominach, Paralegal and Cecilia Moreira, Management Assistant.

ABSENT AND/OR EXCUSED:

Dr. Emil Cappetta; Mr. Louis Cardenas; Dr. Anthony Chibbaro, Dr. Herbert Dolinsky, Mrs. Helen Huber

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 19, 2003

March 5, 2003

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

1. **Dr. Thomas A. Giegerich** - The Board reviewed his application for reinstatement of the dental license. Based on the information provided concerning an incident unrelated to the practice of dentistry which occurred 18 years ago, the Board requested that he be scheduled for an appearance to discuss this matter.

2. The Board reviewed a copy of the Medical Board's regulations concerning the use of M.D. Anesthesiologists/Medical Board Alternate Credentialing Process. After discussing this matter, the Board in a motion by Ms. Delaney, seconded by Dr. Rich, determined that it be referred to the Anesthesia/Sedation committee (Dr. Ricciani, Dr. Rosenheck) to review the Medical Board regulations and to determine whether the requirements set forth can be used by this Board. The Board also requested that Maryann Sheehan draft language to cross-reference BME regulations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Dental Auxiliaries Applications:

1. **Svetlana Karetny** - Meets requirements for a dental hygiene license by N.E.R.B. past five years. The committee recommends approval of this application.

2. **Rebecca Hanscom** - Ms. Hanscom attended Algonquin College in Ontario, Canada. The committee recommends that ADA be contacted to determine whether this is a CODA approved

school. If the school is approved the committee recommends approval. If the application is not approved the application will be re-reviewed by the committee.

3. **Nancy Tuttle** - The committee reviewed a dental hygiene application for licensure by credentials. Ms. Tuttle graduated from SUNY Farmingdale in 1961 and did not take the National Board Examination. The committee determined that she must take the National Boards in order to meet the requirements for a dental hygiene license.

4. **Al-Isha Tisdale** - The committee discussed a Registered Dental Assistant application. Ms. Tisdale graduated from the dental assistant program at UMDNJ in 1995 and has worked as a dental assistant since 1999. The committee requested that the following information be obtained:

- Work history from 1995 to 1999.
- List of duties at Overlook Hospital
- Reason for not applying for RDA after graduation.

The Board in a motion by Dr. Rich, seconded by Dr. Rosenheck, approved the committee's recommendations.

Continuing Education Committee

The Board in a motion by Dr. Hall, seconded by Dr. Rich, approved the continuing education committee report.

INCIDENT REPORTS:

The Board reviewed incident reports submitted by the following:

1. Dr. Jerome Silverstein (UMDNJ)
2. Dr. Andrew Youngblood (UMDNJ)

The Board took these reports as informational.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN FOLLOW-UP TO RESPONSES ON THE RENEWAL FORM INDICATING THAT THE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS WERE NOT COMPLETED:

1. **Dr. Ninoska Fergusson** - The Board reviewed Dr. Fergusson@s response to the request for proof of the continuing education credits taken for renewal of his dental license. Dr. Fergusson provided proof of two courses taken in 2002 totaling 14 hours. The courses had to be taken between 10-31-1999 and 11-1-2001. The Board determined that a Uniform Penalty Letter be sent assessing a \$500 penalty for failure to complete the credits. The forty hours must be completed by June 15, 2003. The 14 hours taken in 2002 can be applied. Dr. Fergusson is to be reminded that an additional forty hours will be required to renew the license in 10-31-2003.

2. **Dr. Yelena Vinter** - The Board reviewed Dr. Vinter's response to a request for proof of the continuing education credits taken for renewal of her dental license. Dr. Vinter was licensed on July 5, 2000. She was required to take 30 hours between 7-5-00 and 10-31-01. Dr. Vinter responded that she never practiced in New Jersey. She provided proof of 26 hours of education. The Board accepted the hours provided and directed that she be reminded that 40 hours are required in order to renew an active license on October 31, 2003.

RESPONSES TO UNIFORM PENALTY LETTERS FOR FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR LICENSURE RENEWAL:

1. **Dr. Yan Ma** - The Board reviewed Dr. Ma's response to the Uniform Penalty Letter for failure to complete the continuing education credits for licensure renewal. Dr. Ma was licensed September 2000 and was required 25 hours of credit for licensure renewal in 10-31-01. After discussing the explanation submitted by Dr. Ma, the Board rescinded the penalty letter. A letter of Assurance of Voluntary Compliance will be sent to Dr. Ma requesting that she complete 25 hours of credit by June 15, 2003 and reminding her that an additional 40 hours will be required in order to renew her dental license on October 31, 2003.

2. **Dr. Michael Kane** - The Board reviewed Dr. Kane's response to the Uniform Penalty Letter for failure to complete the continuing education credits for licensure renewal. Dr. Kane responded that he was unable to complete the required credits on time due to a financial hardship. He is working for a federally funded program for low-income patients in Pennsylvania. The Board requested that additional information be obtained concerning the program, whether it is full time or part-time, and clarifying the dates of employment.

3. **Dr. Thomas H. Hafner** - The Board reviewed Dr. Hafner's response to the Uniform Penalty Letter for failure to complete the continuing education credits for licensure renewal. The Board questioned the content of some courses submitted and the course sponsors. The Board in a motion by Ms. Delaney, seconded by Dr. Rich moved this matter to Executive Session.

RESPONSE TO UNIFORM PENALTY LETTER FOR ADVERTISING VIOLATION:

1. **Dr. Brian Kiernan** - A uniform penalty letter was issued to Dr. Kiernan of the Poller Dental Group (American Dental Center) in January 2000. Dr. Kiernan indicates that the letter was given to Dr. Craig Abramowitz from American Dental and assumed that the matter was handled. The penalty was paid by American Dental. He was employed with this practice for a brief period of time. He was not aware that this would be on his record since he never paid the penalty. After reviewing the explanation submitted, the Board in a motion by Dr. Rosenheck, seconded by Ms. Delaney determined to rescind the Uniform Penalty Letter as to Dr. Kiernan as he did not consent to its entry.

OTHER MATTERS:

1. The Board reviewed a letter from John Paul Dizzia, Esq. requesting for correction of Board records concerning Settlement Agreement of 5-19-94 involving several licensees. Mr. Dizzia is requesting that matter not be considered a disciplinary action. Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller requested additional time to evaluate this matter.

2. The Board reviewed a letter from John Morelli, Esq. concerning New Jersey Center for Medical & Dental Education, Inc. Mr. Morelli also appeared before the Board to discuss this facility to include a dental education center. The facility would host continuing education courses and will seek to offer rotation for students from dental schools. As there were some aspects of this project that couldn't be answered by Mr. Morelli, it was suggested that Deputy Attorney General Nancy Costello Miller follow-up with Mr. Morelli and Dr. Jack Piermatti and report back to the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Board in a motion by Ms. Delaney, seconded by Dr. Hall, approved the list of applicants for licensure.

ADJOURNMENT: