

Memo

To: NJDHA
From: Paul J. Bent
CC: Becky Pugh / Russell F. Bent
Date: July 8, 2015
Re: NJ State Board of Dentistry Public Session

On Wednesday, July 8th, I had the pleasure of attending the meeting of the NJ State Board of Dentistry Public Session. The meeting was held at the Board Office in Newark and covered the following:

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 17, 2015 – Approved with minor changes.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Applications:

1. Dr. Mark Birner - Application for a dental license. Dr. Birner took CRDTS in 1985. This case had been previously reviewed by the Board. After much debate the Board voted to establish an ad hoc “credential” committee to establish a standard for the Board and to review this and similar applications. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

2. Dr. Padma Mukherjee - Application for a dental license. Dr. Mukherjee took the WREB in March 2008. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

3. Dr. Yoon Chan P. Han - Application for a dental license. Dr. Han took the WREB in March 2009. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

4. Dr. Manjusha Tummala - Application for a dental license. Dr. Tummala took WREB in March 2009. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

5. Dr. Latoya Callahan - Application for a dental license. Dr. Callahan took CRDTS in May 2006. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

6. Dr. Jeffrey Straub - Application for a dental license. Dr. Straub took CRDTS in May 1979. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

7. Dr. Raquel M. Rozdolski - Application for a dental license. Dr. Rozdolski took the WREB in March 2012 and took the NERB DSE in May 2012. This item was moved to the newly formed credential committee.

B. Continuing Education: No report.

C. Regulations:

1. Proposed regulation - Licensure for LRDA-O and scope of practice for dental auxiliaries. No real details were provided to the public. Mr. Bent from ADHA-NJ objected to this being considered prior to seeking input from the ADHA-NJ. Staff indicated that because of the time limits established under the petition for rule making the Board must act to approve the proposal. The Board voted to release.

III. NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD:

Nominated for President: Dr. Emil Cappetta and Dr. Nicholas DeRobertis

Nominated for Vice President: Dr. Herbert Dolinsky

Elections will take place at the August 5th meeting.

IV. REQUEST FOR LICENSURE REINSTATEMENT:

1. Dr. Judd Garson – Moved to Executive Session.

V. REPORTS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 13:30-8.8:

1. Dr. Robert W. Mermer – 26 year old female patient suffered an obstructed airway during care. Board has directed to staff to obtain records from Dr. Mermer and the hospital the patient received care at.

2. Rutgers School of Dental Medicine – 26 year old male patient suffered a seizure before care was rendered. Board accepted as informational.

3. Dr. Michael Hoffmaster – 72 year old female patient reported feeling dizzy during care. Board accepted as informational.

VI. FOLLOW-UP TO BOARD ORDER:

1. Dr. Leonid Itskov – Consent order from March 9, 2015 required Dr. Itskov to take a “mini residency” as part of the order. Dr. completed one but it is unclear if the course he took was approved by the Board as required under the consent order. Staff to look into it.

VII. REPORTS FROM THE PROBE PROGRAM AS REQUIRED BY BOARD ACTIONS:

1. Dr. Melba Bonelli – Received an unconditional pass.

2. Dr. Aleksandr Gurvich – Received a pass, but not an unconditional pass as required by the Board. PROBE staff felt that Dr. Gurvich could have obtained an unconditional pass, however, a language barrier existed which worked against him. Board to ask if it is possible for Dr. Gurvich to retest with an exam in his native language.

3. Dr. Paresh Patel – Received a failing grade. Dr. Patel had been charged with Medicaid fraud among other charges. This was


discovered when Dr. Patel provided dental records to law enforcement for the identification of victims from a fire that did not match.

VIII. ORDERS/SETTLEMENTS FILED WITH THE BOARD:

1. Dr. Todd Gottlieb - Settlement letter filed June 3, 2015.
2. Dr. Tracy Ginsburg - Final Consent Order filed on June 17, 2015.

Accepted as informational by the Board.

IX. OTHER MATTERS:

1. Letter from Rebecca W. Pugh, RDH, NJDHA Executive Director requesting clarification on "supervision" as written in the law. Board Attorney Swang Oo stated that the "365 day rule" regarding a patient being seen by a dentist applies to school settings only. 

[Disregard this answer per phone call with Ms. Oo on August 3, 2015]

NOT ON AGENDA:

An article regarding "opioids" was shared with the Board. The Board accepted this as informational.

Staff informed the Board that the Alabama Supreme Court had upheld a lower court ruling on June 5, 2015 that tooth whitening procedures in that state may only be performed by licensed dentists.

A Dr. Taverna (sp?) who is scheduled to appear before the Board on August 5th is asking for a continuance or dismissal of the charges. The Board voted to deny this request.

X. ADJOURNMENT: