



Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

2229 Rocky Ridge Road, Birmingham, AL 35216

205.985.7267

www.dentalboard.org

PUBLIC COMMENTS MEETING

November 8, 2024

The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama met Friday, November 8, 2024, at the Board office to conduct business.

The President called the Board Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with the following members in attendance: Dr. Melodie A. Jones, President; Dr. Kevin Sims, Vice-President; Dr. Mark McIlwain, Secretary/Treasurer; Dr. Holt Gray; Dr. Sonya White; Dr. John W. York, II; and Ms. Kay Alexander, RDH. Also in attendance were W. Blake Strickland, Executive Director; Aaron Dettling, Esq., General Counsel; Dr. Donna L. Dixon, Esq., Prosecuting Counsel/Red Tape Reduction Coordinator; Shannon Youngblood, Investigator; Kevin Lane, Compliance Director; and Steve Hancock, Licensing Specialist/Public Records Coordinator.

Guests included: Ragan Ingram, Windom, Galliher & Associates; Dr. Nicolaas Geurs, Dean, UAB-School of Dentistry; Ann Marie Karaki, UAB School of Dentistry-CE Director; James Driskell, CPA – Driskell & Associates; Dr. Mollie Helf; Dr. G. Robin Pruitt, Jr.; Jessica Robertson, RDH; Dr. Mike Garver, Chair, ADPWC; Dr. Preston Reynolds, Secretary/Treasurer, ALDA; Dr. Ross Isbell; Dr. Gordon Isbell; and Kathy Gray.

The President determined a quorum was present. The Executive Director confirmed.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.dentalboard.org, and on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in compliance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Pursuant to Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-1-.08(4), no requests from the public to speak were received.

Director Strickland presented the following administrative codes (board rules) for discussion:

- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-1-.08 – Board Meetings
 - Correct “memorize” to read “memorialize” in 270-X-1-.08(3)
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.22 – Patient Records
 - Director Strickland noted that there were public comments received, which have been submitted to the board members. Dr. Jones stated that for a “Patient Record”, the full name of the treating licensee/staff needs to be a requirement, not just the initials.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.26 – Patient Records Management
 - Director Strickland noted that there was one public comment received from Dr. Zack Rolen which has been submitted to board members.
 - Dr. McIlwain stated that one of the comments he received was that the board rule did not address “single practices” or records’ retention lengths. Dr. McIlwain proposed a period of 5 years for retention of records. Additional discussions concerned the costs of patient



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notification. Mr. Dettling stated that the way the rule is currently written, the costs can either be split up or other determined since the rule gives flexibility. Dr. Gray stated that the historical model is now being changed because the relationship is between the patient and the practice.

- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-4-.04 – Mandatory Continuing Education for Dentists/Hygienists
 - Correct to remove “annually” from 270-X-4-.04(2)(a)(4)
 - There were additional public comments received discussing live training versus live-interactive (online) training. Those comments were submitted to the board members.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-4-.09 – Criteria/Fees for Mobile Dental Facilities & Portable Dental Operations
 - Director Strickland noted that this revision completed the work by Mr. Dettling which would more formally authorize the Board to waive permit fees for charitable organizations.

After discussion, Dr. McIlwain made a motion to adjourn the Public Comments Meeting. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Jones adjourned the Public Comments Meeting at 8:15 a.m.



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BOARD MEETING

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The Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama met Friday, November 8, 2024, at the Board office to conduct business.

The President called the Board Meeting to order at 8:14 a.m. with the following members in attendance: Dr. Melodie A. Jones, President; Dr. Kevin Sims, Vice-President; Dr. Mark McIlwain, Secretary/Treasurer; Dr. Holt Gray; Dr. Sonya White; Dr. John W. York, II; and Ms. Kay Alexander, RDH. Also in attendance were W. Blake Strickland, Executive Director; Aaron Dettling, Esq., General Counsel; Dr. Donna L. Dixon, Esq., Prosecuting Counsel/Red Tape Reduction Coordinator; Shannon Youngblood, Investigator; Kevin Lane, Compliance Director; and Steve Hancock, Licensing Specialist/Public Records Coordinator.

Guests included: Ragan Ingram, Windom, Galliher & Associates; Dr. Nicolaas Geurs, Dean, UAB-School of Dentistry; Ann Marie Karaki, UAB School of Dentistry-CE Director; James Driskell, CPA – Driskell & Associates; Dr. Mollie Helf; Dr. G. Robin Pruitt, Jr.; Jessica Robertson, RDH; Dr. Mike Garver, Chair, ADPWC; Dr. Preston Reynolds, Secretary/Treasurer, ALDA; Dr. Ross Isbell; Dr. Gordon Isbell; and Kathy Gray.

The President determined a quorum was present. The Executive Director confirmed.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.dentalboard.org, and on the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov in compliance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The President asked for a review of the Board Minutes from October 18, 2024. Ms. Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. White seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Dr. McIlwain presented the Financial Report for September 2024. Dr. Sims made a motion to accept the report as presented. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Director Strickland presented the following administrative codes (board rules) for review and requested the Board determine if the drafts were ready to be voted upon or needed additional revisions:

- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-1-.08 – Board Meetings
 - A motion was made by Dr. McIlwain to accept the board rule with the previously mentioned correction for publication. Dr. Kevin Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.22 – Patient Records
 - A motion was made by Dr. McIlwain to accept the board rule as revised for publication. Dr. Kevin Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.



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- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-2-.26 – Patient Records Management
 - A motion was made by Dr. McIlwain to table the proposed rule for additional discussion. Dr. Kevin Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-4-.04 – Mandatory Continuing Education for Dentists/Hygienists
 - A motion was made by Dr. White to table the proposed rule for additional discussion. Dr. Kevin Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
- Alabama Administrative Code, r. 270-X-4-.09 – Criteria/Fees for Mobile Dental Facilities & Portable Dental Operations
 - A motion was made by Ms. Alexander to accept the board rule as revised for publication. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

The Board is reviewing options to update/upgrade the licensing database currently in use. A potential vendor, Thentia Cloud, provided a presentation of their product and associated costs. This potential vendor services several other Alabama boards.

Dr. Garver presented his Wellness Report.

Dr. McIlwain discussed the need for the Board to be able to place a license on probation and the inherent differences between this status being utilized for wellness-related issues versus disciplinary issues. Dr. Garver agreed and presented information that the use of probationary status for a minimum of 36 months during a licensee's recovery in the wellness program is essential to ensuring compliance and long-term success. He provided a written report and asked that it be included in the board minutes. Dr. Garver advised that he would present an updated policy/protocol for the Board's consideration after the first of the year.

Director Strickland presented a formal request from Dr. Tim Menees to modify his current Consent Order to remove his license from probation. Prior to discussion, Dr. York requested to be recused from the discussion due to Dr. Menees working in his clinic. Dr. White asked for clarification regarding different degrees of severity for placing a licensee on probation. Dr. Jones asked that the Board continue to follow the current procedures/protocols of the Wellness Committee and allow Dr. Garver time to present his recommendations. After discussion, the Board took no action and noted that this request may be reviewed in a future board meeting.

Dr. Nico Geurs, Dean of the UAB School of Dentistry presented a State of the Dental School review. UAB currently has 105 dental students, which is the largest dental class to date. The school continues to work with the state in encouraging these students to remain in Alabama after graduation. He discussed current faculty vacancies, as well as outreach programs currently being offered to communities around the state. Dr. Geurs thanked the Board for their ongoing discussions and support. Lastly, Dr. Geurs reported that the dental school is the largest provider of dental continuing education in the state and emphasized the importance of in-person training.



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Dr. Sims asked Dr. Geurs if UAB was discussing planting any further remote clinics around the state, such as the new clinics in Dothan and Decatur, possibly in a county with little to no dental coverage. Dr. Geurs stated that the two new clinics were results of specific business requests but agreed with the need to expand dental coverage in underserved areas. Dr. Sims asked about skills requirements to develop competencies. Dr. Geurs stated that requirements were still in place but admitted the challenges of finding endodontic experiences for students.

Dr. Jones called for a break at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Jones called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Mr. Ingram provided a legislative update on current issues being discussed both in the Governor's Office and in the Legislature. He also reflected on the recent Sunset Committee's work and the high number of boards receiving 1-year recommendations.

The Sedation/Anesthesia Sub-committee presented their report and recommendations to the full board. The committee members, Dr. McIlwain, Dr. Sims, Dr. Jones, and Dr. Mike Koslin-chair of BDEAL Anesthesia Committee (absent) met together to develop a working list of approved sedation and anesthesia-related drugs to use within current permit levels. Additionally, this committee met with faculty and staff of the UAB-School of Dentistry to discuss their recommendations and gain input. After discussion, Dr. McIlwain requested that a formal board opinion be drafted by Mr. Dettling. Mr. Dettling advised that once a board opinion is published, the Board would need to create a formal administrative code (board rule) to put the board opinion into law.

The Dental Hygiene Infiltration/Blocks Sub-committee presented their report and recommendations to the full board. The committee members, Dr. Gray, Dr. White, and Dr. York discussed their work and discussions in formulating their recommendations. Ms. Alexander requested the committee not use the term "preceptorship" when referencing the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program (AHPP). After discussion, the committee's recommendation was not to expand a dental hygiene infiltration permit to allow dental nerve blocks. (Report attached)

Mr. Lane sought guidance from the Board on how to respond to a question from a licensee regarding a dentist providing home sleep study equipment. The request centered on a dentist's ability to rent this type of equipment to patients. After a brief discussion, Dr. McIlwain noted that the home sleep study equipment is a medical device that can be owned/rented by a dentist; however, a dentist cannot prescribe or interpret a sleep study. Beyond that, the sense of the Board was that the licensee's question was not addressed by the Dental Practice Act or the Board's rules.

Director Strickland provided follow-up information regarding criteria for site evaluations by the Board. He reported a recent meeting with staff and faculty from UAB-School of Dentistry that confirmed the long-established protocols between the dental school and the Board when requesting site evaluations. Sample Site Evaluation Forms were emailed to board members for reference.

The Board requested a review of current applications for licensure and/or permits. Specifically, the language concerning criminal charges and the language regarding mental health. Director Strickland advised the Board that all applications will be available to them in one working file for



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their review. Additionally, he will collect and provide examples of how other states word their applications regarding these topics.

During the discussion, the Board was reminded that staff are following current statutes and board rules regarding new licensure and renewal of licensure, as directed by Mr. Dettling. All new and renewed licenses/permits will show an expiration date of October 1st. Additionally, staff will mail letters to all licensees who have not renewed their license by November 1st. By statute, all licenses that remain expired on January 1st will revert to a “suspended” status. The Board discussed continued work on increasing communications with licensees. Dr. McIlwain suggested mailing letters to licensees at least twice a year to provide information and request updated contact information.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion to approve board member travel to the Southern Conference of Dental Deans & Examiners scheduled for January 24-26, 2025. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion to approve board member travel to ADEX scheduled for January 3-4, 2025. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Dr. Jones presented her report from the State Committee on Public Health (SCPH).

Dr. Jones presented her report from the National Council of Dental Health Programs (NCDHP).

Dr. Jones presented her report from the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB) Town Hall Meeting.

Dr. Jones, Dr. Sims, and Dr. McIlwain presented their report from the Sedation/Anesthesia Subcommittee’s meeting with the UAB-School of Dentistry, which included current sedation/anesthesia drugs and the roles of dental residents in UAB dental clinics.

Dr. Jones called for a break at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Jones called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m.

Dr. Jones presented Director Strickland’s annual Performance Evaluation. After discussion, Dr. Sims made a motion that the evaluation be tabled until the December 2024 board meeting to allow further review the raw scores and board member comments. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Dr. Gray made a motion that the board members’ packets be made available earlier in the week of a board meeting to allow more time for review. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- Dental License Applications
 - By Credentials



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- Stuart Hudsmith, DDS; Univ. of Tennessee (1994)
 - Sarah Johnson, DDS; Ohio State University (2016)
 - Mark Rowe, DDS; Indiana University (1998)

Dr. Gray recommended approval of the above applicants for Dental Licensure by Credentials contingent upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam. Dr. McIlwain made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- By Regional Exam
 - Chad Hartley, DMD; University of Louisville (2022)

Dr. Gray recommended approval of the above applicant for Dental Licensure by Regional Exam contingent upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam. Dr. White made a motion to approve the application. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- Military Portability License
 - Derek Skousen, DDS; AZ Dental License (Current)
 - Attended University of the Pacific Dental School

Dr. Gray recommended approval of the above applicant for Military Portability License contingent upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam. Dr. McIlwain made a motion to approve the application. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- Dental Hygiene License Applications
 - By Regional Exam
 - Jeong Lee, RDH; Columbus Tech (2024)

Ms. Alexander recommended approval of the above applicant for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Regional Exam contingent upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam. Dr. White made a motion to approve the application. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

- By Credentials
 - Lauren Headley, RDH; Fortis (2019)
 - Lorrie Manning, RDH; Univ. of North Carolina (1985)
 - Jacqueline Marquez, RDH; Loma Linda (2019)
 - Susan McKissick, RDH; Pensacola St. College (2015)

Ms. Alexander recommended approval of the above applicants for Dental Hygiene Licensure by Credentials contingent upon successful completion of the jurisprudence exam. Dr. Sims made a motion to approve the applications. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.



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Director Strickland presented the ADHP Report on behalf of ADHP-Senior Coordinator, Ms. Latham. The class currently has approximately 190 students. There are 2 class meetings in November. The ADHP-Instructor Course presented in Fairhope, AL was well received.

Investigator Youngblood presented his Inspection Report. He advised that both he and Director Strickland are covering Facility Inspections to ensure applications are completed in a timely manner.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-14 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion that case #2024-180 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. York seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-203 be issued a Cease & Desist letter and reported to local authorities. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and the hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-204 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and the hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-205 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-208 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Gray made a motion that case #2024-211 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-212 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. White seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion that case #2024-214 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion that case #2024-215 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.



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Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-228 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. White seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-229 is out of jurisdiction. Dr. Gray seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-231 has no evidence to sustain. Dr. York seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-232 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. York seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-233. Dr. York seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-234. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion that case #2024-235 be administratively closed. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-236. Dr. White seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-237 be administratively closed. Dr. White seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion that case #2024-238 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. York made a motion that case #2024-239 be administratively closed. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.



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Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-243 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 and be noticed for a hearing to case #2024-244. Dr. York seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. Sims made a motion that case #2024-245 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion that case #2024-246 be noticed for a hearing. Dr. White seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-247. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-249. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. York made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-250. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. McIlwain made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-253. Dr. York seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. York made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-254. Dr. McIlwain seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Dr. White made a motion to issue a non-disciplinary fine of \$500 to case #2024-255. Dr. Sims seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent with the case team leader and hygiene member abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Dettling presented the Attorney's Report. He provided an update regarding the Board's questions regarding live-streaming board meetings after consulting with the Attorney General's Office and the state archives.

Director Strickland presented his Executive Director's Report.

- ADHP-Coordinator, Amanda Young, resigned after the October 2024 board meeting.



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- Binders with pending legislative work product were provided to the Board for review and preparation of the December legislative discussions.
- Board newsletter articles are due by December 2.
- Director Strickland reminded the Board of the recent requirement of the Governor's Office for the agency head to submit a sworn affidavit with the latest information submission. A copy of the sworn affidavit and Mr. Dettling's cover letter was provided to the Board for their reference/review.
- Currently the Board has received 265 complaints/cases for the year. Of these, 166 are administrative complaints. There are 99 standard of care complaints with 17 being from adverse occurrences (two patient deaths).

Dr. Sims made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. White seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Dr. Jones adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Steve Hancock

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Mark McIlwain, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved: _____

Report on Expanding Scope of Practice for Dental Hygienists to Administer Dental Nerve Blocks

Submitted to the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Introduction

Currently, dental hygienists in Alabama are permitted to administer infiltration injections under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. However, there has been growing interest from some members of the dental hygiene community to expand their scope of practice to include the administration of dental nerve blocks (local anesthesia) to offer broader pain management options.

Current Standards and Requirements

In other states where dental hygienists administer dental nerve blocks, extensive training and legal safeguards ensure patient safety. These measures include:

1. **Training and Certification:** Most states require dental hygienists to complete a rigorous two-year program that includes human anatomy, dental anatomy and head and neck anatomy. Their supplementary programs require testing on nerve block administration to ensure a thorough understanding of the practice and its complexities.
2. **Direct Supervision:** Even in states where hygienists may administer nerve blocks, they do so only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist, who is accountable for the procedure's outcome.
3. **Accountability:** Dentists remain the primary healthcare providers responsible for any complications related to the nerve block, even if administered by a hygienist, preserving the dentist's role in patient safety.
4. **Patient Review and Authorization:** Dentists must review and authorize nerve block administration after assessing patient health and suitability, which safeguards against risks of complications.

Considerations for Expanding Scope of Practice in Alabama

While Alabama hygienists demonstrate competence in infiltration anesthesia, several factors present challenges for expanding their role to include nerve block administration:

- **Limited Program Structure:** Alabama is unique in its training pathway, relying heavily on a preceptor model rather than a standardized, accredited two-year program. This preceptor-based program, while effective for current scopes of practice, does not provide the same breadth and depth of training in head and neck anatomy as found in two-year programs offered in Alabama elsewhere in the United States.
- **Testing and Knowledge Assessment:** The existing anesthesia permit program in Alabama does not include nerve blocks in its testing requirements, making it difficult to uniformly assess proficiency among all hygienists. This inconsistency could impact the reliability of ensuring safe practices if nerve blocks were added to their scope.
- **Variation in Educational Standards:** Expanding the scope of practice without aligning Alabama's program to the comprehensive training standards used in other states could

lead to varying skill levels among practitioners. Given the limited formalized education in nerve blocks in Alabama's current model, implementing this change may not align with the Board's commitment to patient safety.

Conclusion

Although Alabama's dental hygienists are capable and skilled, the unique structure of their training model does not currently align with the more extensive programs required by other states for administering nerve blocks. Additionally, the existing testing framework does not include a reliable measure for nerve block proficiency, potentially compromising uniform standards of care. Therefore, it is not recommended at this time that the Board of Examiners of Alabama extend the scope of practice to allow dental hygienists to administer dental nerve blocks.

By maintaining the current scope and continuing to assess educational models, Alabama can prioritize both patient safety and the effective use of the dental team's skills.

Submitted by: Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama sub-committee for expanding the scope of practice for dental hygienists

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Statement of Financial Position

As of September 30, 2024

| | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Bank Accounts | |
| 1000 Hoover First Com Money Market | 741,902.09 |
| 1100 HOOVER FIRST COMMERCIAL | 3,601,652.19 |
| Total Bank Accounts | \$4,343,554.28 |
| Accounts Receivable | |
| 1200 Accounts Receivable | 257,358.32 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | \$257,358.32 |
| Other Current Assets | |
| 1250 Allowance for Doubtful Accts | -33,428.00 |
| Total Other Current Assets | \$ -33,428.00 |
| Total Current Assets | \$4,567,484.60 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| 1601 Fixed Asset - LAND | 190,995.00 |
| 1602 Building | 879,005.00 |
| 1604 Office Furniture & Equip. | 162,395.33 |
| 1605 Vehicles | 71,404.65 |
| 1606 Software | 225,966.60 |
| 1650 Accumulated Depr. | -395,541.36 |
| 1700 Right-to-use Leased Assets | 4,320.00 |
| 1750 Accum Amortization Leased Asset | -2,349.90 |
| Total Fixed Assets | \$1,136,195.32 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$5,703,679.92 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | |
| 2000 Accounts Payable | 564.00 |
| Total Accounts Payable | \$564.00 |
| Credit Cards | |
| 2001 Synovus Visa | 551.58 |

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Statement of Financial Position

As of September 30, 2024

| | TOTAL |
|--|-----------------------|
| Total Credit Cards | \$551.58 |
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| 2100 Lease Payable | 1,440.00 |
| 2110 Current Por of Lease Financing | 2,160.00 |
| 2329 FICA Withholding | 290.73 |
| 2330 Federal Withholding | 9,176.84 |
| 2331 State Withholding | 2,955.09 |
| 2500 Accrued SEP Contributions | 75,548.52 |
| 2600 Accrued Compensated Absences | 170,755.63 |
| 310 Def. Revenue Dental | 708,750.00 |
| 311 Def. Revenue Controlled Sub. | 230,100.00 |
| 312 Def. Revenue Hygiene | 246,400.00 |
| 313 Def. Revenue GA Permit | 47,100.00 |
| 314 Def. Revenue PA Permit | 11,700.00 |
| 315 Def. Revenue Teaching Permit | 2,000.00 |
| 316 Def. O C S Permit | 18,600.00 |
| 318 Def Rev Special Teaching Permit | 4,350.00 |
| 320 Def. Hygiene Infiltration Permi | 34,200.00 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | \$1,565,526.81 |
| Total Current Liabilities | \$1,566,642.39 |
| Total Liabilities | \$1,566,642.39 |
| Equity | |
| 3000 Opening Bal Equity | 720.63 |
| 4000 Revenue Over (Under) Expenses | 1,349,011.08 |
| 4680 Beginning Reserve Fund Balance | 2,386,274.64 |
| 4800.1 Beginning Op Fund Balance | -3,152.92 |
| Net Revenue | 404,184.10 |
| Total Equity | \$4,137,037.53 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$5,703,679.92 |

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE 2023-2024

October 2023 - September 2024

As of September 30, 2024

| | Total | | | |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Remaining | % of Budget |
| Revenue | | | | |
| 4501 Annual Dental Renewal Registration | 874,275.00 | 912,550.00 | 38,275.00 | 95.81% |
| 4502 Annual Hygiene Renewal Reg | 306,345.00 | 323,960.00 | 17,615.00 | 94.56% |
| 4503 Controlled Sub Initial Fee | 24,000.00 | 18,000.00 | (6,000.00) | 133.33% |
| 4503.1 Controlled Sub Renewal Fee | 298,470.00 | 315,150.00 | 16,680.00 | 94.71% |
| 4503.2 Contr Sub STATE Ini/Renew | (13,430.00) | 21,750.00 | 35,180.00 | -61.75% |
| 4504.1 Teaching Permit Initial | 1,500.00 | 1,000.00 | (500.00) | 150.00% |
| 4504.2 Teaching Permit Renewal | 7,050.00 | 5,000.00 | (2,050.00) | 141.00% |
| 4504.3 Special Teaching Per Initial | 900.00 | 1,200.00 | 300.00 | 75.00% |
| 4504.4 Spec Teaching Perm Renewal | 1,200.00 | 5,700.00 | 4,500.00 | 21.05% |
| 4505 ADHP Dentist/Inst Cert Fee | 6,225.00 | 15,000.00 | 8,775.00 | 41.50% |
| 4508 ADHP (All Rev exc ed fee) | 172,375.00 | 210,000.00 | 37,625.00 | 82.08% |
| 4508.1 ADHP Education Fee | 98,500.00 | 120,000.00 | 21,500.00 | 82.08% |
| 4508.2 ADHP Application Fee | 70,500.00 | 72,000.00 | 1,500.00 | 97.92% |
| 4509 Dental-Reg Initial App Fee | 17,500.00 | 7,000.00 | (10,500.00) | 250.00% |
| 4510 Dental-Reg Initial Cert Fee | 2,175.00 | 1,750.00 | (425.00) | 124.29% |
| 4510.1 Dental Hygiene-Reg Ini Cert Fee | 3,300.00 | 1,750.00 | (1,550.00) | 188.57% |
| 4511 All Licenses Reprint Fee | 725.00 | 1,250.00 | 525.00 | 58.00% |
| 4512 Dental Hygiene Reg Ini Ap Fee | 63,550.00 | 65,000.00 | 1,450.00 | 97.77% |
| 4515.1 Reinstatement for Dental | 20,500.00 | 15,000.00 | (5,500.00) | 136.67% |
| 4515.2 Reinstatement for Hygienist | 9,175.00 | 6,000.00 | (3,175.00) | 152.92% |
| 4516 State Privilege License Money | 14,032.95 | 14,000.00 | (32.95) | 100.24% |
| 4517 Interest income - Checking | 127.73 | 120.00 | (7.73) | 106.44% |
| 4518 Parenteral Sed P Fee Renewal | 14,700.00 | 15,900.00 | 1,200.00 | 92.45% |
| 4519 General Anesthesia P Renewal | 59,520.00 | 62,400.00 | 2,880.00 | 95.38% |
| 4521 Other Income Account | 12,443.37 | 1,000.00 | (11,443.37) | 1244.34% |
| 4527 Disciplinary Fines | 178,062.50 | 185,000.00 | 6,937.50 | 96.25% |
| 4527.1 Administrative Costs | 44,125.96 | 55,000.00 | 10,874.04 | 80.23% |
| 4527.2 ADPWC Monitoring Fee | 22,075.00 | 25,000.00 | 2,925.00 | 88.30% |
| 4527.3 Non-Disciplinary Fines | 80,573.00 | 18,000.00 | (62,573.00) | 447.63% |
| 4528 Initial GA Evaluation Fee | 43,200.00 | 54,000.00 | 10,800.00 | 80.00% |
| 4528.1 Initial PA Evaluation Fee | 13,500.00 | 13,500.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| 4529 OCS Reg Fee Renewal | 32,895.00 | 53,550.00 | 20,655.00 | 61.43% |
| 4530 Dental Lic by Credentials | 85,865.00 | 100,000.00 | 14,135.00 | 85.87% |
| 4530.1 Hygiene Lic by Credentials | 11,200.00 | 22,400.00 | 11,200.00 | 50.00% |
| 4531 Returned Check Charges (NSF) | 6,967.00 | 3,000.00 | (3,967.00) | 232.23% |

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE 2023-2024

October 2023 - September 2024

As of September 30, 2024

| | Total | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Remaining | % of Budget |
| 4532 OCS Initial App Fee | 3,445.00 | 3,375.00 | (70.00) | 102.07% |
| 4533 Dental Reg Initial App Fee | 60,250.00 | 57,500.00 | (2,750.00) | 104.78% |
| 4540 Special Purp Dental Lic Fee | 1,800.00 | 0.00 | (1,800.00) | 0.00% |
| 4617 Mobile Dent Facility P Initial | 0.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 0.00% |
| 4617.1 Mobile Dent Facility P Renewal | 1,004.00 | 1,000.00 | (4.00) | 100.40% |
| 4617.2 Portable Dental Permits Initial | 1,750.00 | 1,500.00 | (250.00) | 116.67% |
| 4617.3 Portable Dental P Renewal | 4,200.00 | 1,500.00 | (2,700.00) | 280.00% |
| 4618 Mobile Dental Facility/Portable Dental C | 29.00 | 0.00 | (29.00) | 0.00% |
| 4620 Hygiene Infiltration P Initial | 10,550.00 | 13,700.00 | 3,150.00 | 77.01% |
| 4620.1 Hygiene Infiltration P Renewal | 36,675.00 | 18,750.00 | (17,925.00) | 195.60% |
| 4800 Overpayments | (3,830.00) | 0.00 | 3,830.00 | 0.00% |
| Total Revenue | 2,699,995.51 | 2,840,755.00 | 140,759.49 | 95.04% |
| Gross Profit | 2,699,995.51 | 2,840,755.00 | 140,759.49 | 95.04% |
| Expenditures | | | | |
| 6100.4 ADHP Education Director | 24,000.00 | 24,000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| 6114-0 Board Member Compensation | 80,604.01 | 100,000.00 | 19,395.99 | 80.60% |
| 6114.1 Board Meeting Supplies | 1,277.36 | 500.00 | (777.36) | 255.47% |
| 6198-0 Bonus | 2,600.00 | 4,000.00 | 1,400.00 | 65.00% |
| 6201-0 Payroll Expenses | | | | |
| 6201.1 Payroll Taxes | 65,396.51 | 70,000.00 | 4,603.49 | 93.42% |
| 6201.2 Wages - Staff | 771,001.23 | 716,574.86 | (54,426.37) | 107.60% |
| 6201.3 Payroll Tax Penalty | 1,540.24 | 0.00 | (1,540.24) | 0.00% |
| Total 6201-0 Payroll Expenses | 837,937.98 | 786,574.86 | (51,363.12) | 106.53% |
| 6202-0 Pension Plan | 97,105.31 | 96,000.00 | (1,105.31) | 101.15% |
| 6203-0 Medical Insurance | 131,071.80 | 140,000.00 | 8,928.20 | 93.62% |
| 6204-0 Workman Comp. Ins. | 8,976.00 | 8,600.00 | (376.00) | 104.37% |
| 6205.1 Quickbooks Software | 3,478.44 | 9,000.00 | 5,521.56 | 38.65% |
| 6300-0 Travel - In-State | 23,749.48 | 45,800.00 | 22,050.52 | 51.85% |
| 6400-0 Travel - Out-of-State | 40,098.28 | 50,000.00 | 9,901.72 | 80.20% |
| 6500.1 Building Maintenance & Repairs | 8,224.33 | 10,000.00 | 1,775.67 | 82.24% |
| 6500.2 Building Security | 2,794.37 | 500.00 | (2,294.37) | 558.87% |
| 6500.3 Grounds Maintenance | 7,800.00 | 9,000.00 | 1,200.00 | 86.67% |
| 6500.4 Building Supplies | 2,101.82 | 4,000.00 | 1,898.18 | 52.55% |
| 6500.5 Renovations and Replacement | 288,165.06 | 345,000.00 | 56,834.94 | 83.53% |
| 6503.1 Controlled Sub State Fee | 0.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 | 0.00% |
| 6600.1 Rentals & Leases/Offsite Mtg | 80,049.20 | 100,000.00 | 19,950.80 | 80.05% |
| 6600.2 New Office Space | 3,339.78 | 6,000.00 | 2,660.22 | 55.66% |

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama
Budget vs. Actuals: FYE 2023-2024
October 2023 - September 2024
As of September 30, 2024

| | Total | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Remaining | % of Budget |
| 6600.3 Equipment Rental/Lease | 1,942.79 | 0.00 | (1,942.79) | 0.00% |
| 6700.0 Bad Debt Expense | 3,990.00 | 0.00 | (3,990.00) | 0.00% |
| 6700.1 Utilities - Telephone | 446.98 | 0.00 | (446.98) | 0.00% |
| 6700.3 Utilities - Power | 17,480.61 | 18,000.00 | 519.39 | 97.11% |
| 6700.4 Utilities - Internet | 4,788.00 | 5,000.00 | 212.00 | 95.76% |
| 6700.5 Utilities - Water/Sewer | 1,384.70 | 2,500.00 | 1,115.30 | 55.39% |
| 6700.6 Communications | 5,797.00 | 8,000.00 | 2,203.00 | 72.46% |
| 6800 Professional Services General | 9,281.51 | 5,000.00 | (4,281.51) | 185.63% |
| 6800.1 Membership Dues/Subscriptions | 22,338.60 | 25,000.00 | 2,661.40 | 89.35% |
| 6800.2 ADHP Instruc Costs | 43,607.72 | 75,000.00 | 31,392.28 | 58.14% |
| 6800.3 ADHP Extra Assistance | 6,008.75 | 500.00 | (5,508.75) | 1201.75% |
| 6800.4 Anesthesia Committee Chairman | 24,000.00 | 24,000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| 6800.5 Wellness Committee Chairman | 84,375.96 | 85,000.00 | 624.04 | 99.27% |
| 6800.6 External Auditors | 23,168.50 | 17,500.00 | (5,668.50) | 132.39% |
| 6801 Board Attorney Fees (GC) | 118,254.68 | 157,500.00 | 39,245.32 | 75.08% |
| 6801.1 Attorney General's Office | 1,613.76 | 2,000.00 | 386.24 | 80.69% |
| 6801.2 Board Attorney Fees - Other | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00% |
| 6840 Consultants | 84,000.00 | 84,000.00 | 0.00 | 100.00% |
| 6899.1 Evaluator Fees (for all evals) | 18,600.00 | 30,000.00 | 11,400.00 | 62.00% |
| 6899.2 Hearing Officer Fees | 950.00 | 2,000.00 | 1,050.00 | 47.50% |
| 6899.5 Website Charges | 594.00 | 2,000.00 | 1,406.00 | 29.70% |
| 6899.6 ADHP Materials and Supplies | 5,596.43 | 3,000.00 | (2,596.43) | 186.55% |
| 6900 Office Expense | 13,529.74 | 15,000.00 | 1,470.26 | 90.20% |
| 6900.1 Recycle/Paper Disposal | 901.10 | 800.00 | (101.10) | 112.64% |
| 6900.2 Legal Fees & Record Acq | 5,054.58 | 3,500.00 | (1,554.58) | 144.42% |
| 6902 NPDB HIPDB Lic Bkgrd | 207.50 | 250.00 | 42.50 | 83.00% |
| 6903 SAVE | 250.09 | 400.00 | 149.91 | 62.52% |
| 6906 Printing & Supplies | 2,709.00 | 2,000.00 | (709.00) | 135.45% |
| 6910 Postage Fees | 999.06 | 4,000.00 | 3,000.94 | 24.98% |
| 6924 Insurance Other | 13,447.00 | 19,000.00 | 5,553.00 | 70.77% |
| 6944 Computer Updates | 2,303.04 | 12,000.00 | 9,696.96 | 19.19% |
| 6944.1 Computer Support | 12,247.00 | 20,000.00 | 7,753.00 | 61.24% |
| 6944.2 ADHP Conf & Storage | 1,946.76 | 2,200.00 | 253.24 | 88.49% |
| 6944.3 Computer Expenses - Other | 2,052.08 | 6,000.00 | 3,947.92 | 34.20% |
| 6944.4 i-Gov Charges | 55,003.00 | 75,000.00 | 19,997.00 | 73.34% |
| 6950 Bank & CC Service Fees | 1,394.00 | 2,200.00 | 806.00 | 63.36% |

Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama

Budget vs. Actuals: FYE 2023-2024

October 2023 - September 2024

As of September 30, 2024

| | Total | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Remaining | % of Budget |
| 6951 NSF | 5,509.50 | 2,000.00 | (3,509.50) | 275.48% |
| 6951.1 Refunds | 31.60 | 0.00 | (31.60) | 0.00% |
| 6999 Misc. Payroll Entries | 24,924.74 | 8,000.00 | (16,924.74) | 311.56% |
| 7100.1 Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance | 14,022.07 | 8,000.00 | (6,022.07) | 175.28% |
| 7100.2 Vehicle Fuel | 11,946.42 | 12,000.00 | 53.58 | 99.55% |
| 7400 Equipment | 2,134.52 | 3,000.00 | 865.48 | 71.15% |
| Total Expenditures | 2,292,206.01 | 2,481,224.86 | 189,018.85 | 92.38% |
| Net Operating Revenue | 407,789.50 | 359,530.14 | (48,259.36) | 113.42% |
| Other Expenditures | | | | |
| 9901 External Theft | 3,605.40 | 0.00 | (3,605.40) | 0.00% |
| Total Other Expenditures | 3,605.40 | 0.00 | (3,605.40) | 0.00% |
| Net Other Revenue | (3,605.40) | 0.00 | 3,605.40 | 0.00% |
| Net Revenue | 404,184.10 | 359,530.14 | (44,653.96) | 112.42% |