

01/2010 through 06/2010 MSBDE Update for Mississippi Dental Association 06/2010 Annual Meeting Destin, FL

Miscellaneous Information

08/06/2010
11/05/2010

Currently, William T. O'Brien, III, DDS (District VI) is President; Robert L. Smith, Jr., DDS (District II) is Vice-President; and Carl H. Boykin, DDS (State-at-Large Dentist) is Secretary. They will serve in these positions until 06/30/2010. Effective 07/01/2010, Robert L. Smith, Jr., DDS will be President; Carl H. Boykin, DDS will be Vice-President; and Jeffery D. Hartsog, DMD (District IV) will be Secretary. They will serve in these positions until 06/30/2011.

New appointments for Districts I and VI will be made in 2010 effective 07/01/2010, and new appointments for Districts II and III will be made in 2011 effective 07/01/2011. Following the 07/01/2011 appointments, the Board's structure will remain unchanged until 07/01/2014, at which time the Board will begin its cycle of new appointees with the State-at-Large Dentist position. Board members serve six-year, non-consecutive terms.

All Board meetings are open to the public except when the Board makes a determination that it is necessary to go into Executive Session, and this usually is reserved for personnel matters, ongoing investigations, and disciplinary actions. All disciplinary hearings are held in Open Session; however, the Board's deliberations following the hearing are held in Executive Session. Furthermore, no items will be added to Board meeting agendas as of two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled Board meeting date. Board meeting and licensure examination dates through 12/31/2010 are as follows:

The Board will establish 2011 meeting dates at its 08/06/2010 meeting; afterwards, these dates will be posted on the Board's web site.

The Board's web site address changed in 2009 to <http://www.dentalboard.ms.gov>, and the primary e-mail address for the Board changed to dental@dentalboard.ms.gov. Furthermore, the site's look and feel were completely revamped during this same time period; however, the site continues to have a great deal of information, as well as most, if not all, of the forms utilized by the Board. The laws and regulations are an integral part of the web site, and licensees are encouraged to visit the web site often to keep abreast of any changes effected by the Board. Also, the web site has selected information from the Board's databases to be used for licensure verification and/or recruiting purposes. All of the Board's forms and applications are formatted in Adobe Acrobat PDF forms, which means that applications and forms may be completed on a personal computer using Adobe Reader software—simply fill-in-the-blanks, print the application or form, and submit the document to the Board!

Don't forget to thoroughly review each edition of *The Dental Digest*, which is mailed to all licensees and permit holders. The newsletter always has a variety of important and useful information. All of the Board's amendments to its laws and regulations are reported in its newsletter, and Board determinations as to permissible procedures for licensed Mississippi dentists and dental auxiliaries working under the direct supervision of licensed Mississippi dentists are

noted in the “*Things to Note*” section of each newsletter. If you have questions as to an item appearing in the newsletter, feel free to contact the Board’s office for clarification.

The Board enhanced its database by activating a blast e-mail feature wherein e-mails may be sent from the Board to licensees and permit holders who have provided e-mail addresses to the Board. This feature will enable the Board to more expeditiously provide information to its licensee population as to Board determinations, adoption/amendment of regulations, and important reminders. If you have an e-mail address and have not notified the Board of such, or if you have changed your e-mail address, please notify the Board of this information to ensure you are included in these most important e-mails.

Determinations & Reminders

At its 03/12/2010 meeting, the Board considered documentation, personal appearances, and the results from its 2009 survey regarding whether to allow administration of local anesthesia for licensed Mississippi dental hygienists under the direct supervision of licensed Mississippi dentists. At that meeting, the Board voted to make **no changes to Board Regulation 29 to allow the administration of local anesthesia by licensed Mississippi dental hygienists.**

At its 03/12/2010 meeting, the Board voted to affiliate with the Professionals Health Network (PHN), effective 07/01/2010, for monitoring and treating its impaired dentists and dental hygienists. The PHN will be providing information about its program in the next publication of *The Dental Digest*. In the meantime, however, to learn more about the PHN visit its web site at <http://www.professionalshealthnetwork.com>.

At its 03/12/2010 meeting, the Board approved Delta Technical College (DTC) in Horn Lake, MS as a radiology seminar provider for those applicants applying for Mississippi radiology permits. Dates through 12/2010 for DTC’s radiology seminars are posted on the Board’s web site, <http://www.dentalboard.ms.gov>.

At its 03/12/2010 meeting, the Board considered a request as to whether licensed Mississippi dental hygienists are allowed to use lasers for bacteria reduction and/or reduction of pocket depths. The Board noted this question had been addressed by its 02/24/2006 determination, wherein the Board opined that licensed Mississippi dental hygienists and dental assistants **ARE NOT** allowed to perform sulcular debridement of periodontal pockets using a Diode dental laser.

At its 05/14/2010 meeting, the Board finalized its responses to the 2010 “*Survey of Legal Provisions for Delegating Intraoral Functions to Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists*” from the American Dental Association (ADA). Once the *Survey* has been transmitted to the ADA, a PDF of the *Survey* will be posted on the Board’s web site under Frequently Asked Questions for dental auxiliaries.

At its 05/14/2010 meeting while discussing the aforementioned ADA *Survey*, the Board determined that dental auxiliaries **ARE ALLOWED** to place matrices.

At its 05/14/2010 meeting, the Board voted to amend Board Regulation 45 (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) to require that all dental offices have a minimum of one Automated External Defibrillator (AED) per dental office, and to allow Mississippi dentists until 07/01/2012 to ensure compliance. The Board requested that its Rules and Regulations Subcommittee draft specific language regarding this amendment for discussion and final approval at its 08/06/2010 meeting. Amendments to Board Regulation 45 will be posted on the Board’s web site, reported in *The Dental Digest*, and sent via blast e-mail to all licensees.

The 2010-2012 dental hygiene and radiology permit holder biennial renewal cycle begins 09/01/2010 and concludes 10/31/2010, followed by a two-month penalty phase. All licenses and permits not renewed by 12/31/2010 will be voided on 01/01/2011 for failure to renew. On-line renewal will be available for these licensees and permit holders, and reminders will be provided via the Board’s web site, e-mail blasts, and the *The Dental Digest*.