



ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

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BODEX UPDATE

At the time this is published, the Board will have appeared before the Legislature's Committee of Reference which will recommend to the Legislature the time period the Board should be continued before another Auditor General performance audit is conducted. Additionally, the Arizona Cardinals may still be in the hunt for the Super Bowl!

As a result of the Auditor General's recent performance audit, the Board has implemented or is in the process of implementing several changes pursuant to the Auditor General's recommendations. One change is to better address licensees' noncompliance with the continuing education required for license renewal. The Auditor General recommended that the Board open investigations against licensees who fail to comply and/or revise its administrative rules to give licensees additional time to comply with the continuing-education requirements. The Board opened a rulemaking docket to amend the continuing education rules. The Board has also opened investigations against those licensees who were noncompliant. The Board conducted continuing education audits on five percent of its licensees and, as a result of the audit, 22 investigations have been opened.

A high percentage of the licensees audited failed to comply with the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) requirements which the Board recently changed. Other changes to the continuing education requirements include a restriction on online courses unless a course requires a physical demonstration of skills. Dentists are also required to take either ethics or jurisprudence courses. The Board encourages licensees to familiarize themselves with the Dental Practice Act which is available online at www.azdentalboard.gov. *****

The Board had two vacancies at the end of 2014 and the Governor has reappointed Mr. Charles Jackson as the business entities' representative and appointed Dr. Gregory Waite to replace Dr. Bill Woods. Thank you to Dr. Woods for his service to the Board.

Kudos to all of the Board members as it is a time-consuming commitment and many times stressful when attempting to adjudicate a case. Public meetings sometimes trigger interesting responses from the patients and licensees. Based on some recent events at Board meetings, the Board has a police officer on duty at its meetings.

At its last meeting on December 5, 2014, Board actions included the following:

- Election of 2015 officers: Dr. Michael Hauer, President and Dr. Robert Foster, Vice President;
- Opening a rulemaking docket for proposed revisions to AAC, Title 4, Chapter 11, Article 17— Rehearing or Review;
- Denial of one petition for review or rehearing;
- Approval of two disciplinary consent agreements;
- Approval of eight non-disciplinary consent agreements which included courses in the following:
 - Record keeping
 - Risk Management
 - Endodontics

Prescribing controlled substances
Diagnosis and treatment planning of high risk pediatric patients;

- Issuance of five non-disciplinary letters of concern which included:
Dr. A should document telephonic conversations confirming treatment recommendations.

Dr. B should document the discussion with the patient of the proposed treatment and obtain informed consent prior to treatment.

Dr. C should make sure to provide and document informed consent to ensure the patient understands the need for treatment.

Dr. D should ensure his records are clear, concise and understandable.

Dr. E prior to treatment should document endodontic testing to confirm the pulpal diagnosis and periodontal probings for the tooth to be treated.

As continuously reported and stated, the above letters of concern reflect a high percentage of the issues the Board reviews.....DOCUMENTATION! If it wasn't documented, it didn't happen!

In closing, the Board would like to take the opportunity to thank its outside dental consultants. They are invaluable to the Board in assisting in the adjudication of cases.