

**GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY**  
**2 MLK Jr. Drive, SE, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334**  
**February 7, 2025 – Board Meeting Minutes**

**The following Board members were present:**

Dr. Michael Knight, President  
Dr. Greg Goggans  
Dr. Lacey Green  
Dr. Larry Miles, Jr.  
Dr. David Reznik  
Ms. Lisa Selfe  
Dr. Lisa Shilman  
Dr. Brent Stiehl  
Dr. Jeffrey D. Shultz  
Dr. Don Spillers, Jr.  
Dr. Nancy Young  
Dr. JC Shirley  
Dr. Debra Wilson

**Staff present:**

J. Clinton Joiner, II, Executive Director  
Tommy McNulty, Sr. Assistant Attorney General  
Stacy Altman, Deputy Director – Investigations  
Itovia Evans, Deputy Director – Licensing  
Angela C. Johnson – Board Administrative Support  
Kimberly Holland, Compliance and Investigations

**Visitors:**

Pam Cushenan, GDHA  
John Watson, ADSO  
Dr. David McKay  
Wayne Pierce, PD Law  
Dr. Dana Barron  
Mary Brown  
Randy Kluender, GSO  
Luke Ray, AU/ DCG  
Chandra Chatham, Solmetex  
Elizabeth Lewis, GA DPH  
Iris Mason  
Quintina Clark

Jerry Cooper, Promethean Dental Systems  
Jon Hoin, GDA  
Kellie Thimmies, Pro Edge Dental  
Jane Walter, GDA  
LeeAnn Williams, Talbott Recovery  
Dr. Rick Callan, PDS  
Sheriese Ferguson, GDHA  
Landon Hilliard, Dentisafe  
Angela Simmons, Simmons Safe Dental Compliance  
Callie Michael, GSO  
Dr. Armin Ai

**Public Hearing**

Public Hearing @ 10:00 a.m.

**Rule 150-8-.05. Dental Unit Water Quality**

1. A licensed dentist shall use water for nonsurgical procedures that meets United States Environmental Protection Agency regulatory standards for drinking water of five hundred or less colony-forming units or CFUs/mL.
2. A licensed dentist shall be responsible that staff are following dental equipment manufacturer's instructions for use when testing the water delivery system for acceptable water quality. If manufacturer's instructions for use are unavailable, a licensed dentist shall be responsible to ensure that the water delivery system is at acceptable water quality quarterly. A licensed dentist shall be responsible for testing the water delivery system within 30 days of repair or changes to plumbing.
  - a. Effective January 1, 2025, all dental unit water lines must be tested quarterly.
    1. All water lines for each operatory or dental unit can be pooled as one single sample.
    - i. A pooled sample must use an equal amount of water from each water line.
    - ii. A pooled sample can have up to ten water lines included.

- iii. The number of water lines pooled into one sample must be documented.
- 2. All water lines for each operatory or dental unit can be tested individually.
- b. In the event of an unacceptable level of colony-forming units or CFUs, a licensed dentist shall take immediate remedial action. For the purposes of this section, remedial action means any action necessary to reduce the CFUs to five hundred or a lesser number currently recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as acceptable for drinking water.
- c. A licensed dentist shall be responsible for recording the water delivery system testing and maintenance in the form of a log reflecting dates and person or persons conducting the test and reports from an independent testing entity. A licensed dentist shall maintain this documentation for a period of five years.

Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Dr. Goggans commended Dr. Reznik and the members of the Infection Control Committee for their dedication and diligence on this issue. There was discussion on changing the effective date from January 1, 2025, until a later date due to the estimated timeframe to get the Governor's approval and for it to be processed through the Secretary of State's office. Mr. McNulty advised that there is a bill pending right now related to rule changes that would implement the effective dates, so it would depend on when this rule was submitted. It was determined that changing the effective date would require the review process to start over again and would only delay the process even more. The Board agreed to leave the effective date as January 1, 2025, and that the Board would not be going back to review the water lines unless there is an infection control problem with a facility's water lines but going forward the lines would need to be tested as prescribed in the rule.

Dr. Schultz asked Dr. Reznik when a line that is connected to a sterile handpiece that is stationary and the only thing that gets changed is the IV fluid, how does this rule affect those lines and would they need to become disposable after every case. Dr. Reznik responded that the dentist would still need to check the water because of the lines. The lines are where the biofilm forms. If they are disposable, you would not need to do this, but you would be getting rid of the tubing. The tubing is the issue. Dr. Schultz asked if a surgeon had a handpiece with a liter bag of fluid that would last for fifteen patients and the tubing is changed would it still require the surgeon to test the water line. Dr. Reznik responded that there would still be a possibility of biofilm forming. Dr. Knight asked what if the surgeon used a closed system and bags of saline. Dr. Reznik said if it is used on multiple patients biofilm could still form. Dr. Reznik advised that testing or disposing of it could still be needed because the surgeon would be using it for multiple patients.

Dr. Shirley commented that he agreed with Dr. Reznik's response to Dr. Schultz and Dr. Knight's question. He added that the intent of the rule is for non-surgical procedures. Dr. Reznik agreed and advised that the rule reads "a licensed dentist shall use water for nonsurgical procedures...". Dr. Schultz agreed that even if you think it is sterile you cannot let anything like that sit for over 24 hours.

Dr. Knight asked if the public had any comments. Dr. Knight recognized Ms. Angela Simmons for comment.

Ms. Simmons advised that she is a compliance consultant for dentistry. In her role as a compliance consultant, she visits dental practices and advises of possible risks for employees and patient safety. She assists dental practices with information on the legal, regulatory, and financial responsibilities of owning a dental practice. She advised that she sees the biggest risk as ambiguity in the rules. Ms. Simmons indicated that she would like to see clear standards or instructions that would not favor one manufacturer or another so that all would know what is required for testing. She thanked Dr. Reznik and the Board for leading the way in water safety.

Dr. Knight recognized Ms. Kellie Thimmes, with Pro Edge Dental, for comment.

Ms. Thimmes introduced herself as the Director of Education for Pro Education which is located South of Denver, Colorado. She advised that she also goes around the nation to different practices consulting on water lines and helping practices with infection prevention. She thanked Dr. Reznik and the Board for starting the conversation about water line safety and testing. She hopes that with the addition of this rule it will lead the way for other states to follow.

Dr. Shultz asked how many states have legislation similar to this rule. Dr. Reznik responded that Washington was the only other state and that the language of this rule was adopted from Washington's rule. Dr. Reznik advised that the language, with the exception of what licensed dentists "must do" with regard to water testing was changed to "be responsible for", came from Washington state.

Dr. Knight recognized Mr. Jon Hoin, with the Georgia Dental Association (GDA) for comment.

Mr. Hoin also thanked Dr. Reznik and the Board for their dedication to patient safety. He commented that GDA appreciates the Board's focus on limiting the burden on dental practices and making sure that the rule is both practically implementable and as well as able to ensure patient safety. He advised that GDA is in support of this rule.

Ms. Pam Cushenan, with the Georgia Dental Association (GDHA) commented that GDHA also appreciates the Board's effort in the creation of this rule and is supportive of the rule.

Dr. Shirley made a motion to adopt the rule without any changes. Dr. Wilson seconded, and the Board voted to adopt the rule.

Dr. Knight asked if there were any further public comments. There were none. No written responses were received. The Public hearing concluded at 10:36 a.m.

### **Open Session**

Dr. Knight established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

#### **Introduction of Visitors**

Dr. Knight welcomed the visitors and asked that they introduce themselves.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Goggans made a motion to approve the Public and Executive Session minutes from the January 10, 2025, meeting. Dr. Reznik seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Report of Licenses Issued**

Dr. Green made a motion to ratify the list of licenses issued. Ms. Selfe seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Presentation from AG's Office on Medicaid Fraud**

Ms. Mary Bryan, Assistant Attorney General, gave a presentation to the Board about Georgia's Medicaid Fraud Division which is also known as Georgia Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU).

The mission of the Georgia MFCU is to serve the public, uphold and enforce the law, investigate

and prosecute fraud and abuse by providers in the Georgia Medicaid program and to protect vulnerable patients from abuse. The MFCU is spreading awareness about issues that are occurring and is seeking collaboration with the Board.

### **Petitions for Rule Waiver or Variance**

**Rule Waiver Request from Natalie Rose West:** The Board discussed this request for waiver of Rule 150-5-.05(4)(d). Ms. West requested a waiver from the requirement of attending CE in person due to her husband's military deployment.

Dr. Stiehl made a motion to grant the petition based on the special circumstances noted in the petition. Dr. Spillers seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Rule Waiver Request from Dr. Howard Choi:** The Board discussed this request for waiver of Rule 150-3-.01(7)(d). Dr. Choi requested a waiver to allow for licensure accepting an examination before June 30, 2009. The Board reviewed the petition and discussed whether there exists evidence of a hardship. The Board found that no hardship existed and further found that a rule variance or waiver was not the correct vehicle by which to address the hardship.

Ms. Selfe made a motion to deny the petition. Dr. Stiehl seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition. In denying this petition, the Board determined that the appropriate method of licensure in this situation is licensure by credentials.

**Rule Waiver Request from Dr. Ryan Mooneyham:** The Board discussed this request for waiver of Rule 150-3-.01(7)(j). Dr. Mooney requested a waiver to allow for licensure accepting an examination from slot preparations of restorative dentistry.

Dr. Wilson commented that he made a good argument, but the Board does not accept slot preparation examinations. Dr. Stiehl agreed that the Board does not accept them. The Board was reminded that this was the oral surgeon who spoke with the Board at the Augusta meeting in December and he was advised by Dr. Maron to submit a waiver for review. Dr. Spillers commented that as an orthodontist he had to take the dental board just like everyone else did he voted to deny the request.

Dr. Shirley commented that if the Board wanted to accept slot preparation exams, then the Board should change the rule. There was a discussion about looking into the rule. Dr. Knight reminded the Board that this discussion is based on this individual at this time.

Ms. Selfe made a motion to deny the petition. Dr. Reznik seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition.

**Rule Waiver Request from Dr. Sequon Scott:** The Board discussed this request for variance of Rule 150-3-.01(7). Dr. Scott requested a variance to allow for licensure accepting ADEX examination results before January 1, 2021. Ms. Selfe made a motion to approve the petition. Dr. Green seconded, and the Board voted to approve the petition.

### **Correspondence**

#### **Email from Suzanne Newkirk – Question about Rule 150-5-.08 Use of Dental Diode Laser by a Dental Hygienist**

The Board discussed this correspondence seeking guidance on whether or not students nearing graduation would be eligible to take part in diode laser education. Ms. Newkirk commented in her correspondence that she would also like to see all Georgia dental hygiene programs incorporate

diode laser education into their curriculum so that students will be proficient upon graduation.

Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Ms. Selfe advised that she does not have a problem with allowing the students to take the course. Dr. Shirley commented that it is consistent with what is allowed for training students in sedation.

Ms. Selfe made a motion to approve the request. Dr. Green seconded, and the Board voted to approve the request.

**Email from Dr. Keith Kitchens - Inquiry Regarding Scope of Practice for Radiofrequency Microneedling**

The Board discussed this correspondence seeking guidance on whether the performance of radiofrequency microneedling is permissible under the Georgia Board of Dentistry's rules for supervision and scope of practice. Dr. Kitchens also requested details on the required supervision, training, or certification necessary to perform it within a dental office setting.

Dr. Goggans commented that this request is cosmetic and that this is not within the Board's purview. The Board does not sanction radiofrequency microneedling. It is not within the scope of the practice of dentistry.

Dr. Knight directed the Board Staff to respond to the correspondence as discussed.

**General – Dr. Michael Knight**

No report.

**Internal Committee Reports**

**Infection Control Committee – Dr. David Reznik, Dr. JC Shirley, Dr. Nancy Young, Dr. Debra Wilson, Ms. Lisa Selfe, RDH**

No Report.

**External Committee Reports**

**Electronic Database Review Advisory Committee (PDMP) Report – Dr. Lisa Shilman**

No Report.

**CRDTS Steering Committee Report – Dr. Brent Stiehl**

No Report.

**CRDTS Examination Committee Report - Dr. Ami Patel**

No Report.

**Dental College of Georgia Liaison Report – Dr. Michael Knight**

Dr. Young advised that the Dental College is still in the process of expanding to Savannah. The College is communicating with Georgia Southern for the use of their building. The Savannah location will not be a new school, but it will be a new building for its existing programs. The College is looking to start the first class in the Savannah location in 2028. The first class will have 50 students per class.

Dr. Spillers asked will the Augusta location still accept 96 students when the Savannah location begins. Dr. Young responded that the Augusta location will be increasing the class size by 14 in

2026 for a total of 110 students.

**CDCA-WREB-CITA Steering Committee Report – Dr. Ami Patel, Dr. JC Shirley, Ms. Misty Mattingly, RDH**  
No Report.

**GDHEA Liaison Report – Dr. David Reznik, Ms. Lisa Selfe, RDH**  
No. Report

**Attorney General’s Report – Mr. Tommy McNulty**  
No Report.

**Executive Director’s Report – Director J. Clinton Joiner, II**  
No Report.

**Legal Services – Director J. Clinton Joiner, II**  
No Report.

**Miscellaneous**

**Request for Approval of Laser Procedures for Today’s Dental Hygienist Course – Dr. Laura Braswell**

The Board discussed Dr. Braswell’s proposed laser course. Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Ms. Selfe commented that she reviewed the proposed syllabus and that it was consistent with other programs and that she recommends approval. Dr. Reznik agreed with Ms. Selfe in recommending approval.

Dr. Reznik made a motion to approve the course syllabus. Dr. Wilson seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion to approve the course.

**Request for Approval of Health Clinic in Calhoun, GA**

The Board had discussion about Adventist Medical Evangelism Network (AMEN)’s request to provide free dental services in Calhoun, GA on April 27, 2025.

Dr. Knight asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or concerns.

Dr. Shirley asked what the Board needs to approve specifically. He stated that the correspondence does not mention how many people would be involved, the scope of the treatments, the number of doctors and why the group is requesting to use volunteer dentists from out of state. Dr. Reznik advised that his concern with these programs is the infection control perspective.

The Board discussed approving the event but that the dentist(s) or dental hygienist(s) providing services must apply for a volunteer license or be currently licensed to practice dentistry or dental hygiene in the State of Georgia and whose license is unrestricted and in good standing. The Board also discussed that all of the volunteers must be familiar with the laws and rules governing the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene in the State of Georgia.

Dr. Spillers made a motion to approve the event with Georgia licensed dentists and hygienists. Ms. Selfe seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion to approve the event with Georgia licensed dentists and hygienists.

Dr. Knight directed the Board Staff to respond to the correspondence as discussed.

### **Talbott Recovery Presentation**

Ms. Lee Ann Williams spoke to the Board on the programs offered by Talbott Recovery.

The founder of the program, Dr. Talbott, is a pioneer in educating medical professionals about substance abuse and offering substance abuse treatment programs for medical professionals. Dr. Talbott created the first treatment program specifically designed to meet the requirements of healthcare professionals suffering from the disease of addiction. Since the road to substance abuse recovery can be different for every individual Talbott Recovery, offers a wide range of therapeutic techniques that include support networks, group therapy, individual therapy, procedural learning, psychoeducation groups, relapse prevention, life skills, family therapy and spirituality groups. They have a trauma psychiatrist, neuropsychologists and dual boarded addiction psychiatrists on staff who treat mental health issues. They take most health insurance except Medicaid and Medicare.

### **Discussion**

#### **Supervision of Dental Hygienists at Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)**

The Board discussed Dr. Challa's question about whether or not a dental hygienist would be allowed to work on patients who have previously been provided a treatment planned for root planings, sealants and/ or do prophylaxis/fluoride without the supervision of a public health dentist should the dentist have to take off for personal reasons.

Dr. Reznik provided background information on the group and its mission. He is part of a dental access group for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities that provides dental care to about two hundred and twenty thousand adults and children with intellectual disabilities in the state. Dr. Challa's question is whether or not a dental hygienist can work with general supervision with this patient population.

Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 150-5-.03(4)(b) states: " (4) The requirement of direct supervision shall not apply to: ... (b) The performance of dental hygiene duties at approved dental facilities of the Department of Public Health, county boards of health, or the Department of Corrections, or the performance of dental hygiene duties by personnel of the Department of Public Health or county boards of health at approved off-site locations."

The Board discussed whether or not this program was qualified to be a public health facility. It is not a private practice. It is a state funded program. The rule specifically names departments that qualify. It was determined that the Board could make a statement that DBHDD facility qualifies as a public health facility for the purpose of this rule.

Dr. Goggans made a motion for the Board to make a statement that the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) facilities qualify as a public health facility for the purposes of Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 150-5-.03(4)(b). Ms. Reznik seconded, and the Board voted in favor of the motion.

Dr. Green made a motion and Dr. Reznik seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19(h), § 43-11-47(h), § 43-1-2(h) and § 50-14-3(b)(2). Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Dr. Michael Knight, Dr. Greg Goggans, Dr. Lacey Green, Dr. JC Shirley, Dr. Don Spillers Jr., Dr. Larry Miles, Dr. David Reznik, Ms. Lisa Selfe, Dr. Lisa Shilman, Dr. Brent Stiehl, Dr. Jeffrey S. Shultz, Dr. Debra Wilson and Dr. Nancy Young.

## Executive Session

### Appearances

- None

### LOC Recommendations

G.S.	E.P.	R.E.	D.B.
F.N.	S.J.V.	F.H.	

### Investigative Committee's Referral Case List:

DENT250115	DENT25092	DENT250308	DENT250310
DENT250316	DENT250322	DENT250394	DENT250184
DENT250300	DENT250341	DENT250119	DENT250156
DENT250159			

### Attorney General's Report – Mr. Tommy McNulty

#### Signed Orders

J.T.H.	K.M.	L.C.
--------	------	------

### Open Cases

P.T.	K.G.P.	P.B.K.	S.S.
T.R.	S.M.	M.P.	A.G.
D.J.	J.H.	J.T.	

### Executive Director Report – Mr. Clint Joiner

- Update on budget request

### Legal Services – Mr. Clint Joiner

No Report.

Dr. Knight gave the Board an update on the budget.

No votes were taken in Executive Session. Dr. Knight declared the meeting back in Open Session.

## Open Session

Ms. Selfe made a motion to approve all recommendations based on deliberations made in Executive Session as follows:

### LOC Recommendations

- G.S. – Request to Terminate Probation Approved
- F.H. – Reinstatement Approved; Consent Order removed
- E.P. – Reinstatement Approved
- R.E. – Dental Reinstatement Denied – Referral to AG: Public Consent Order with 3 years' probation, \$1,000 fine and LEAP course.
- D.B. – Request for Early Termination of Probation Approved
- F.N. – Application for Faculty License Approved
- S.J.V. – Application for Dental Licensure by Credentials – Tabled for applicant to provide documentation that Arizona Dental Board complaint has been resolved



**Applications**

S.S.	Dental Exam Applicant	Approved
D.R.	General Anesthesia	Schedule appearance with Sedation Committee
S.P.	Sedation Extension Request	Extension approved to obtain evaluation
E.F.	Sedation Evaluation	Approved
A.S.	Dental Reinstatement	Approved
M.R.M.	Faculty License	Approved

**Investigative Committee's Referral Case List:**

Case #	Description	Recommendation
DENT250115	Unprofessional Conduct	Refer to AG for Revocation
DENT250292	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250308	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250310	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250316	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250322	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250394	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250184	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250300	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT250341	Unprofessional Conduct	Letter of Concern
DENT240119	Standard of Care	Close No Action
DENT250156	Standard of Care	Close No Action
DENT250159	Standard of Care	Close No Action

Dr. Green seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Georgia Board of Dentistry will be held on Friday, March 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Georgia Board of Dentistry, 2 MLK Jr. Drive SE, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Minutes recorded by Angela C. Johnson, Board Administrative Secretary  
 Edited J. Clinton Joiner, II, Executive Director