

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
February 19, 2021  
1:00 P.M. ET**

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and that an audio file of the meeting will be posted to the board's website.

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Nick White, DMD, Chair  
T. J. Tejera, DMD, MD  
Brad Cherry, DDS, MD  
Christine Bojaxhi, DMD  
Thomas McCawley, DDS  
Jose Mellado, DMD  
Angela Johnson, RDH  
Karyn Hill, CRDH, BS  
Fabio Andrade, Consumer Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Claudio Miro, DDS  
Sara Bernard, BS, JD, Consumer Member

**COURT REPORTER**

For the Record  
(850-222-5491)

**STAFF PRESENT**

Jessica Sapp, Executive Director  
Paulette Schofill, Program Administrator

**BOARD COUNSEL**

Lawrence Harris  
Senior Assistant Attorney General

**PROSECUTION SERVICES**

Rose Garrison, Assistant General Counsel  
Ellen Carlos, Assistant General Counsel  
Andrew Pietrylo, Chief Legal Counsel

Dr. Claudio Miro was recused due to participation on the probable cause panel and did not participate.

Mr. Harris proceeded with opening comments and affirmed that the present members reviewed the case before them.

Prosecution Services summarized the case and summarized the Administrative Law Judge's recommended penalty.

Florida Board of Dentistry  
Meeting Minutes  
February 19, 2021

## II. DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

### A. Recommended Order

- i. Tatyana Stepanchuk, DMD  
Case No. 2018-00406  
DOAH Case No. 20-2517PL  
(PCP: 3/13/20 – Miro, Britten, Cabanzon)

Dr. Stepanchuk was present. She was represented by Linda McCullough, Esq. Ms. Carlos summarized the case. On March 16, 2020, the Department filed an Administrative Complaint charging Respondent with the following violation(s): **Count I:** Section 466.028(1)(x), Florida Statutes for failing to meet the minimum standards of performance in diagnosis and treatment by failing to utilize an appropriately sized implant by placing an implant which was too small for patient's ridge; by failing to place the implant in the correct location by placing the implant in the distal root socket in the area of tooth 19, and therefore too far from adjacent tooth 20; by failing to place the implant at an angle that would allow the implant to be restored and/or limit stress in the implant by placing the implant at a high angle; and/or by failing to obtain a post-operative radiograph to assess the final position of the placed implant. **Count II:** Section 466.028(1)(m) and (mm), Florida Statutes, and rule 64B5-17.002(1), F.A.C. for failing to keep written dental record and medical history record justifying the course of treatment of the patient by failing to document the measurements of patient's edentulous site in the area of tooth 19 prior to placing an implant in that area.

On March 26, 2020, Respondent filed an Election of Rights in which she disputed the allegations and requested a formal administrative hearing.

The case was referred to the Department of Administrative Hearings and assigned Case No. 20-2517PL. Count I: As set forth in the findings of fact, the Department was unable to establish that the Respondent violated the standard of performance as alleged in Count I. On November 18, 2020, the Administrative Law Judge recommended the Board of Dentistry enter a Final Order dismissing Count I of the administrative complaint. As set forth in the findings of fact, the Department met its burden to establish, by clear and convincing evidence, that Respondent failed to record the results of her physical palpation and measurement of patient's edentulous site in the area of tooth 19 as alleged in Count II of the administrative complaint. On November 18, 2020, the Administrative Law Judge recommended the Board of Dentistry enter a Final Order determining that Respondent failed to document the physical measurements of patient's edentulous site in the area of tooth 19; and imposing an administrative fine of \$750.00

The Petitioner filed exceptions to the Recommended Order. After hearing from the Department and Respondent, the following action was taken based on the oral presentation and written statements submitted:

Before presenting the first exception, the Department addressed a statement made by the Respondent's counsel in her opening statement regarding references or citations to the hearing transcript. The Department made no references or citations to the transcript because the proposed exceptions pertain to the administrative law judge's conclusions of

law as set forth in the recommended order. Upon presentation of the exceptions it will become clear that the recommended order is the only citation needed to explain and justify the proposed exceptions.

Motion: by Dr. Tejera to accept Exception 1 based on the reasons stated by Petitioner in their written exception.

Second: Dr. White

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: by Dr. Tejera to accept Exception 2 based on the reasons stated by Petitioner in their written exception.

Second: Dr. Cherry

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: by Dr. Tejera to adopt the conclusions of law to adopt all findings of facts and conclusions of law as amended by the petitioner's exceptions.

Second: by Mr. Andrade

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: by Dr. Tejera to accept Exception 3 which includes an additional Level I Implants course to be completed by Respondent.

Second: Dr. Mellado

Vote: Unanimous

Following discussion, the following action was taken by the board:

Motion: by Dr. White to adopt the Recommended Order

Second: Dr. Mellado

Vote: Unanimous

Motion: by Dr. Tejera that the \$750 fine be paid within 90 days and that the Level I Implants course be completed within 6 months.

Second: by Dr. White

Vote: Unanimous

The Department has filed a motion for costs, Respondent objected and filed an opposing motion. The Department requests the Board accept an oral motion to bifurcate the issue of costs.

Motion: by Dr. White to bifurcate the Motion for Costs.

Second: Dr. Tejera

Vote: Unanimous

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

There be no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.