

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Rules Hearing Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2021
Sheraton Orlando North
600 N. Lake Destiny Road
Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 660-9000
1:00 P.M. ET**

Participants in this public meeting should be aware that these proceedings are being recorded 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
Claudio Miro, DDS
T.J. Tejera, DMD, MD
Bradley Cherry, DDS, MD
Christine Bojaxhi, DMD
Thomas McCawley, DDS
Karyn Hill, CRDH, BS
Jose Mellado, DMD
Angela Johnson, RDH
Fabio Andrade, Consumer Member, Vice Chair

COURT REPORTER

Magnolia Court Reporting
Cindy Green
407-896-1813

STAFF PRESENT

Jessica Sapp, Executive Director
Paulette Schofill, Program Administrator
Traci Zeh, Program Administrator

BOARD COUNSEL

Lawrence Harris
Senior Assistant Attorney General

PROSECUTION SERVICES UNIT

Rose Garrison, Assistant General Counsel
Ashlin Morgan, Assistant General Counsel
Andrew Pietrylo, Chief Legal Counsel

Board chair, Dr. Nick White, opened the meeting by recognizing outgoing board members, Ms. Catherine Cabanzon and Dr. Naved Fatmi for their service on the Board. He also recognized outgoing board counsel, David Flynn, and thanked him for providing counsel to the Board for the last ten years.

II. REQUEST FOR PUBLIC RULE HEARING

**A. The Use of Lasers by Dental Hygienists
Rule 64B5-16, F.A.C.**

i. Presentation by Catherine Cabanzon, RDH, BASDH

Ms. Cabanzon presented a brief history of the Council on Dental Hygiene's laser proposal. Her presentation shared the various proposed language that had been brought forward beginning in October of 2017 through November of 2020.

After her presentation, Dr. Cherry had questions regarding the training requirements and potential risks to a patient's airway.

ii. Presentation by Dr. Thomas McCawley

Dr. McCawley's presentation addressed the efficacy and safety of the procedure.

After his presentation, Dr. Mellado had concerns regarding the safety of the procedure.

Ms. Hill discussed studies regarding the efficacy of other procedures currently being used.

iii. Presentation by the Academy of Laser Dentistry

Dr. James Carreiro, Secretary of the Academy of Laser Dentistry and Dr. Sam Low, Professor of Periodontology, University of Florida presented on behalf of the Academy of Laser Dentistry.

Dr. Mellado asked if the Academy of Laser Dentistry has been certified by an independent body and if they were promoted by the American Dental Association or the American Academy of Periodontology. Dr. Mellado reiterated the need for multi-centered studies to demonstrate efficacy.

iv. Presentation by the Florida Dental Hygienists' Association

Robin Poole, RDH, President of the Florida Dental Hygienists' Association presented on behalf of the Florida Dental Hygienists' Association.

Dr. Mellado thanked Ms. Poole for her presentation and for the important services that dental hygienists provide. He asked for them to come with studies that show the benefits of this procedure.

Mia Geisinger, Professor University of Alabama Birmingham addressed the board in opposition based on efficacy.

Dr. Joe Calderone, Board Liaison for the Florida Dental Association addressed the board in opposition based on efficacy and safety issues.

Dr. Naved Fatmi addressed the Board in support.

Dr. Andy Brown, President of the Florida Dental Association addressed the Board in opposition.

Ms. Cabanzon addressed the Board in support and reiterated that this rule would be under direct supervision.

Ms. Angie Brown addressed the Board in opposition based on efficacy issues. She also indicated that protecting the public is multi-faceted and patients being charged an extra fee for a procedure that is not effective is not protecting them.

Ms. Terri Beck waived her time in support.

The Board indicated future discussion when the requested additional studies that show efficacy and empirical evidence can be brought forward.

After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: by: Dr. Tejera to adjourn the meeting at 3:50 p.m.
Second: Dr. White
Vote: Unanimous

III. ADJOURNMENT