Esteeemed Colleagues:

As I write this letter, I look back at the significant accomplishments of the Florida Board of Dentistry (BOD) in the past years and look forward to the many accomplishments that we can achieve this year and the years to come, with the singular focus of providing for the safety of the citizens in Florida.

I would like to thank Bill Kochenour for his many years of service to the public and to dentistry during his tenure on the Board of Dentistry. Bill’s hard work and dedication will always be remembered. I would like to welcome our newest members, Dr. Nicholas White, Dr. Matt Freedman, and consumer member, Fabio Andrade. I look forward to working with each and every member of our Board as we focus on maintaining and improving the practice of dentistry in our state.

The Board of Dentistry has been very active recently. We have been involved with the Department of Health in a multidisciplinary board to identify and improve how controlled substances are prescribed in light of the overwhelming opiate crisis. We are currently focused on fulfilling the requirements of House Bill 21 in prescribing controlled substances in the dental setting.

In addition, in response to Hurricanes Maria and Irma, the Board of Dentistry worked closely with CDCA and other organizations in February to approve the administration of the ADEX exam to displaced Puerto Rican and US Virgin Islands dentists. This was implemented to help them restart their lives in Florida after the devastation in their homeland. The examination was very successful and we’re proud to be a part of this endeavor to help our fellow dental professionals.

Most recently, many of the board members were present for and volunteered at the Mission of Mercy event that was held in Fort Myers, Florida in early March. Almost 2000 patients were treated, with over $1.7 million of free dentistry provided to citizens in Southwest Florida. We would like to thank all of the volunteer dentists and auxiliaries who participated.

This upcoming year we will focus on continuing to be a leader in anesthesia, as many states look to us in developing and maintaining the safest rules in anesthesia when related to the dental setting. We have recently completed training for anesthesia inspectors, where the inspection process was digitized and will be in real time when the in-office inspection process is performed, standardizing and expediting the process for new inspections and re-inspections. We will also be looking at expanding the function of dental auxiliary to keep up with the integration of new technology in dentistry.

I look forward to working with the present Board and all committee members to make this a successful year. I anticipate that we will be able to achieve many of the goals that we have set out as a Board, as well as successfully navigate the current landscape and direction that our legislators have put forth. I am humbled, as well as honored, to serve as Chair of the Board of Dentistry. I will work tirelessly to keep the citizens of Florida safe and to maintain the practice of dentistry at the highest level within this state and the nation. I would like to thank our Executive Director and her staff for all the support and hard work, as well as the Board Counsel and the Department of Health.

Warmest regards,

T. J. TEJERA, D.M.D., M.D.
The members and staff of the Florida Board of Dentistry are pictured after a recent meeting.

(L to R) Naved Fatmi, DMD, Jessica Sapp, BOD Program Operations Administrator, Matthew Freedman, DMD, Claudio Miro, DDS, David Flynn, BOD Legal Counsel, Nicholas A. White, DMD, T.J. Tejera, DMD, MD (Chair), Angela Sissine, RDH, Joseph Calderone, DMD, Nick Kavouklis, DMD, Catherine Cabanzon, RDH, BASDH, Fabio Andrade (Consumer Member), and Jennifer Wenhold, BOD Executive Director.

Inspector Recruitment

Seeking Consultants with General Anesthesia Permit for Orlando Area Inspections

Working as a sedation inspector offers a range of benefits from flexible working arrangements, receiving continuing education hours to networking and seeing how others in your profession work in your field. The Board of Dentistry is looking for dentists who hold a sedation permit to serve as dental consultants to perform new and routine inspections on sedation permit holders. Specifically, there is a need for inspectors in central Florida. Inspectors are compensated and receive two hours of continuing education. For more information or to request an application, please email the board at info@floridasdentistry.gov.
Changes Coming to Expedited Licensure for Spouses of our Active Military who are Dentists!

Effective July 1, 2018, active duty military spouses who hold a dental license in another state may apply for licensure through the Florida Department of Health’s Veterans Application for Licensure Online Response system, otherwise known as VALOR. Changes in Florida’s military licensing laws also eliminated the supervision level requirement for a temporary license for dentists – making it easier to practice in Florida.

For more information, please click here.
Recent Training with Board Anesthesia Inspectors

The Florida Board of Dentistry, in partnership with MQA’s Bureau of Enforcement, successfully deployed software and trained inspectors on tablets who are charged with conducting inspections for licensed dentists who apply for a general anesthesia, moderate sedation or pediatric moderate sedation permits. The training was held at the Alachua Field Office and the University of Florida’s College of Dentistry on February 15, 2018. This was a culmination of a 2-year project designed to modernize and increase efficacy and efficiency to ensure safe administration of dental sedation in Florida. In addition to ensuring the safe administration of dental sedation in Florida, it is anticipated that this project will reduce the time it takes to issue a sedation permit.
Congratulations to Board Anesthesia Inspector, Dr. Jessica Stilley!

Tampa Periodontist, Dr. Jessica Stilley, Becomes No. 1 International Bestselling Author for Her Book “The Million Dollar Smile”

“The Million Dollar Smile: Changing Lives with Cosmetic Dentistry” with contributions by Dr. Jessica Stilley has become a bestseller in the United States, Canada, and the UK. This book is designed to provide patients with the most up-to-date expert information on state of the art dental treatments to improve their smile.”

Tampa Bay top-rated periodontist, Dr. Jessica Stilley, has reached #1 on the Amazon.com Bestsellers List with her book “The Million Dollar Smile: Changing Lives with Cosmetic Dentistry.” The book gives patients real world, practical information to help them in obtaining the best possible restorative and cosmetic dental work.

To read more about Dr. Stilley’s achievement, please click here.

The Florida Board of Dentistry was established to ensure that every dentist and dental hygienist practicing in this state meets the minimum requirements for safe practice. The practice of these professions is a privilege granted by the State. The Board of Dentistry is responsible for licensure, monitoring and ensuring the safe practice of dentists and dental hygienists in their service to the people of Florida.
In 2018, Florida passed the Controlled Substances Bill that establishes prescribing limits, requires continuing education on controlled substance prescribing, expands required use of Florida’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, EFORCSE®, and more.

Required Continuing Education

Each prescribing practitioner who is registered with the United States Drug Enforcement Agency, is required to take a Board-approved continuing education course, unless the practitioner is already required to complete such a course under his or her practice act.

The course must be completed by January 31, 2019, and at each subsequent licensure renewal.

Prescription Limits for Acute Pain

A prescribing practitioner may prescribe up to a 3-day supply of a Schedule II opioid to alleviate acute pain. However, a prescribing practitioner may prescribe up to a 7-day supply for acute pain if the prescriber:

- determines more than a 3-day supply is needed based on the professional judgment of the prescriber;
- indicates “acute pain exception” on the prescription; AND
- documents the justification for deviating from the 3-day supply limit in the patient’s medical record.

To learn more, visit flhealthsource.gov/FloridaTakeControl
Florida’s Department of Health’s Prescription Drug Monitoring Program E-FORCSE® is partnering with Appriss Health, the service provider of E-FORCSE, to provide an electronic health recordkeeping (EHR) integration option to all health care providers in the State utilizing a service called PMP Gateway. The PMP Gateway facilitates communication, information transfer, integration, and support for the state approval process and the EHR or Pharmacy Management System (PMS) vendor development process.

Integrating E-FORCSE within an EHR provides a streamlined clinical workflow for providers and dispensers. The integration eliminates the need for providers to pull-up the E-FORCSE browser, successfully log-in, and enter their patient’s name and date of birth. Instead, the EHR or PMS automatically initiates a patent query, validates the provider’s credentials in E-FORCSE and returns the patient’s prescription history directly with the provider’s HER or PMS.

NarxCare, an Appriss Health developed product will also be included. This tool equips prescribers and pharmacists in identifying possible drug misuse and abuse through additional analytics of the PDMP data.

**PMP Gateway Procedure for Electronic Health Recordkeeping System Integration**

Please review Integration Request Form and Gateway License Agreement before starting process.

**STEP 1**
- Eligible entity completes the adobe fillable Integration Request Form. Be sure to identify the primary contact person who will lead the project.

**STEP 2**
- Eligible entity returns the executed Integration Request Form to the department at e-forcse@flhealth.gov for review. E-FORCSE shall review the request and notify the eligible entity if the request has been approved or denied by electronic mail. If approved, E-FORCSE will notify the Appriss Integration Specialist.

**STEP 3**
- Approved entity downloads and completes the Gateway License Agreement. Integration pricing is directly negotiated with Appriss Health.

**STEP 4**
- An Appriss Integration Specialist will contact you to confirm the details within your integration request and discuss next steps.
- A technical meeting will be scheduled between the entity’s software vendor and Appriss Health, the E-FORCSE service provider.
- Approved entity’s Health IT Vendor codes to PMP Gateway using Appriss Health’s API toolkit (if applicable).
- If integration is already completed with the Health IT Vendor then the Health IT Vendor delivers code to approved entity to imitate appropriate testing.

**STEP 5**
- Appriss notes E-FORCSE testing is complete.
- E-FORCSE authorizes approved entity in PMP Gateway console and integration is complete.

For technical assistance, please contact our PDMP Help Desk at (877) 719-3120. For more information visit [www.e-forcse.com](http://www.e-forcse.com)