

# South Carolina Dentistry News

**LLR** An online newsletter published by the South Carolina Board of Dentistry.

## Mission Statement

To protect the public health, safety, and welfare in the State of South Carolina by the licensure and regulation of dentists, dental hygienists, and dental technicians.

## Board Members

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Rock Hill, SC; District 5  
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Member

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Member

**Philip M. Prickett, DMD**  
Mount Pleasant, SC; District 1  
Member

## **Board Member News 2018**

The Board welcomes two new members: **Dr. Charles Bumgardner**, District 2 and **Dr. Donald Marler**, District 3. The Board has 11 members comprised of eight dentists, two dental hygienists, and one public member.

Board seat elections in 2018 have occurred for District 4 and 6. Results will be announced this fall. The Public Member seat is vacant. The Dentist at Large and Hygiene at Large members' terms end on December 31, 2018.

## **Special Note**

The Board appreciates the time, energy, and commitment of past president, Dr. Arthur Bruce, District 3. His leadership continues as an inspiration in service to the Public and the State.



*Dr. Arthur Bruce and fellow 2018 State Dental Board members.*

## **Dental Board at Work for You**

The Board has been busy over the past several months. Pursuant to Governor McMaster's Executive Order 2017-09, the Board conducted a review of its existing regulations. The Board formed a number of committees to work on implementing changes to the regulations identified by the Board. The Board thanks its committees and members of the public for their time, effort, interest, and diligence throughout this process.

Several Board members have sacrificed time and resources to participate in the spring meeting of the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB), a national association for dental boards. These meetings give members the opportunity to hear and participate with experts and researchers on topics of importance to the dentistry profession, present and future.

## License Renewal for 2019 – 2021 Began on September 25, 2018; Random CE Audit Penalty Free “Before” January 1, 2019

The biennial renewal for 2019-2021 is September 25, 2018 to February 28, 2019. To avoid late fees, renew online or have your registration *postmarked* no later than December 31, 2018. After that date, late penalties will apply for licensees who have not renewed. Licenses not renewed before March 1, 2019, will lapse. If your license lapses, you may only reinstate your license by taking the licensure examination or by appearing before the board to provide a satisfactory reason for your failure to renew. Individuals will incur substantial late fees for lack of timely renewal. It is your responsibility to ensure your license is reviewed by the deadline. Remember that any malpractice suits must be reported on your license renewal application.

If you do not receive a courtesy license renewal notice in the mail, please contact the Board of Dentistry to obtain the renewal registration. If you are selected for an audit, you will be required to submit verification of CE classes taken during the 2017-2019 renewal period.

### **Reminder on Continuing Education Requirements**

All dentists shall complete a minimum of fourteen (14) continuing education hours per year or twenty-eight (28) continuing education hours over two (2) years; dental hygienists shall complete a minimum of seven (7) continuing education hours per year or fourteen (14) over two (2) years; dental technicians shall complete a minimum of four (4) continuing education hours per year or eight (8) continuing education hours over two (2) years, in order to be eligible for license renewal or re-registration. Upon licensing by examination, dentists, dental hygienists and dental technicians shall be exempt from continuing education requirements for the first license renewal period.

- (a) All licensed dentists and dental hygienists must have at least two (2) hours of their required continuing education dedicated to sterilization and infection control.
- (b) It is the responsibility of the dentist to ensure auxiliary personnel exposed to blood and other body fluids obtain, and maintain documentation, for two (2) hours biennially of continuing education for sterilization and infection control.
- (c) As part of the biennial continuing education requirement, a dentist authorized pursuant to state and federal law to prescribe controlled substances shall complete at least two (2) hours of continuing education every two (2) years related to approved procedures of prescribing and monitoring controlled substances listed in Schedules II, III, and IV. **This is a new requirement for this renewal period.**
- (d) **For dentists utilizing sedation, all such dentists must complete four (4) hours in pharmacology, anesthesia, emergency medicine or sedation every two years as part of the continuing education requirements.**

**Please be sure to refer to the Dental Practice Act and Regulations for a complete listing of your continuing education obligations.**

### **New Laws Impacting Your Practice!**

**S.918** passed the General Assembly on May 9, 2018, and was signed by the Governor on May 15, 2018. This law establishes limitations on initial opioid prescriptions for acute pain management or postoperative pain management and designates exceptions to those limitations.

**H.3826** requires written prescriptions for controlled substances to be written on tamper-resistant prescription pads, with exceptions. Prescription orders transmitted by fax, orally, or electronically are exempt from the tamper-resistant prescription pad requirements. **This act became effective July 16, 2018.**

The full text of these statutes is posted on the Dental Board website under “Laws/Policies” at <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/Dentistry/>.

### **Topics of Interest to You**

**Board Complaints** - Each year, the Board receives various complaints. Of the 36 allegations received during the first quarter of 2018, the leading complaints were “Substandard Patient Care” followed by “Unprofessional Conduct”.

In accordance with Regulation 39-11, “The dentist’s primary obligation of service to the public shall include the delivery of quality care, competently and timely, within the bounds of the clinical circumstances presented by the patient. Quality of care shall be a primary consideration of the dental practitioner. Furthermore, since dentists have an obligation to use their skills, knowledge and experience for the improvement of the dental health of the public and are encouraged to be leaders in their community, dentists in such service shall conduct themselves in such a manner as to maintain or elevate the esteem of the profession.”

**Sedation Permits** are now required for Dentists administering Moderate Parenteral/Moderate Enteral and Deep/General Sedation. If you are outsourcing your anesthesia to a SC Anesthesiologist, CRNA or Dental Anesthesiologist, you must submit a permit application. No permit is required for minimal sedation or nitrous oxide administration.

## South Carolina Board of Dentistry Statistics as of November 16, 2018

Profession	Number in SC to date
Licensed General Dentists and Dental Specialists	3521
Licensed Dental Hygienists	9145
Registered Dental Laboratory Technicians	225
Registered Orthodontic Technicians	8
Mobile and Portable Dental Unit Permits	51
Dental Sedation Site Permits issued (Applications received 175)	130

### Where Do I Find Exam Dates?

Consult the Dentistry Board website or contact the Board office at (803) 896-4599 for Dental Specialty Boards, Local Infiltration Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide Monitoring exams and Dental Technician exam dates.

### General Information on the Dental Board and Meetings

The Board is a dedicated coalition of dentists, dental hygienists and a public member whose first charge is the public safety of the citizens of South Carolina. With the exception of the public member, the Board members are active in the daily practice of dentistry. All seven of the congressional districts are represented on the Board. In addition, some members are appointed at-large.

The Board welcomes and invites communication from licensees and other members of the public. Board meetings are open to the public. Meeting dates, agendas, and Board minutes are available for the first quarter of 2018.

### Board Policies/Guidelines

The Board of Dentistry has the authority and jurisdiction over licensing and the practice of dentistry in South Carolina directed by its statutes and regulations. The Board also has policies/guidelines to support the laws on its website. You may find it useful to refer to these when you have questions on different topics. Some of the policies include patient dental records, CE/CPR compliance, and office ownership.

### Next Board Meetings

LLR, Kingstree Building  
January 18, 2019; 9 a.m.  
April 4, 2019; 9 a.m.  
July 12, 2019; 9 a.m.  
October 11, 2019; 9 a.m.

**Board of Dentistry**  
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The South Carolina Board of Dentistry website is <http://llr.sc.gov/POL/Dentistry/>