

STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Minutes
October 4, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Dr. Robert Findley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in room W064, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, and by Zoom and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 25-14-1-12(a).

Board Members Present:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., President
Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S., Secretary/Designee
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D
Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Board Members Not Present:

State Officials Present:

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Dana Brooks, Assistant Board Director, Professional Licensing Agency
Bradley Repass, Litigation Specialist, Professional Licensing Agency
Leif Johnson, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General

The video recording can be found on:

<https://www.youtube.com/@INProfessionalLicensingAgency>

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended.

Williamson/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of August 2, 2024.

Sammons/Williamson
Motion carried 11-0-0

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

A. Mark Pefley, DDS., License No. 12009056A

Cause No. 202408-DEN-0014

Re: Administrative Complaint

Parties Present:

Respondent not present

Ian Matthew, Deputy Attorney General for the State of Indiana

Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)

Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.

Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.

R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.

Edward Sammons, D.D.S.

Twyla Rader, L.D.H.

Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.

Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.

Crunchy Wells, D.M.D

Kevin Ward, D.D.S.

Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about August 22, 2024 an Administrative Complaint was filed against Dr. Pefley. Mr. Matthew stated that adequate notice has been given for Dr. Pefley to appear, or have counsel appear on his behalf. He requested that the Board issue a Notice of Proposed Default.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to issue a Notice of Proposed Default in the matter of Dr. Pefley.

Sammons/Kolkman

Motion carried 11-0-0

B. Kathleen S. Laughlin, LDH., License No. 13002469A

Cause No. 202408-DEN-0010

Re: Appeal of Denial of Licensure Renewal

Parties Present:

Respondent present

Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)

Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D
Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about July 23, 2024, the Board denied Ms. Laughlin’s request to renew her dental hygiene license. On or about August 6, 2024, she submitted a petition appealing the Board’s decision. Ms. Laughlin stated that she has met all the terms of her criminal probation and discussed with the Board why she needs her license to practice. She submitted Exhibit 1, which are copies of her court documentation. The Board accepted her exhibit. She indicated that she has not completed the required continuing education as she is not currently practicing. The Board noted that in order to maintain an active license, she has to complete the continuing education requirements, regardless of if she is actively practicing.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to grant Ms. Laughlin’s appeal and renew her dental hygiene license pending receipt of completed continuing education for the renewal cycle which must be submitted within six (6) months.

Rader/Snoddy
Motion carried 9-2-0
(Nowakowski - nay, Wells – nay)

C. Arlette Alcantara-Mondragon
Cause No. 202408-DEN-0016
Re: Appeal of Denial of Dental Hygiene Licensure

Parties Present:
Respondent not present
Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:
Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)
Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D

Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Case Summary: On or about August 21, 2024 Ms. Alcantara-Mondragon’s application for dental hygiene was denied as she failed the examination more than three (3) times. On or about August 28, 2024 the Board received a petition appealing the Board’s decision. The Board noted that adequate notice has been given for Ms. Alcantara-Mondragon to appear to discuss her petition.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to issue a Notice of Proposed Dismissal in the matter of Ms. Alcantara-Mondragon.

Nowakowski/Kolkman
Motion carried 11-0-0

D. Awais Idris Mufti

Cause No. 202408-DEN-0015
Re: Appeal of Denial of Dental Licensure

Parties Present:

Respondent present
Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)
Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D
Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Board Witness:

Cindy Vaught, Board Director, Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

Case Summary: On or about August 21, 2024 the Board denied Dr. Mufti’s dental application he failed the examination more than three (3) times. He stated that he graduated from an accredited dental program in 2023 and is currently licensed in Colorado. He requested that the Board accept his appeal of denial in order to switch his application to reciprocity.

Cindy Vaught attested that the Board has switched applicant obtainment methods before. She stated that he would not need to submit any additional documentation, and his eligibility could be assessed after the Board's decision.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to reverse the Board's decision to deny, switch his application to applying by reciprocity, and approve his application pending passing the jurisprudence examination in the matter of Dr. Mufti.

Kolkman/Wells
Motion carried 11-0-0

E. Benjamin Adams, DDS., License No. 12010430A
Cause No. 202408-DEN-0009
Re: Appeal of Denial of Dental Renewal

Parties Present:

Respondent present
Joshua Robertson Respondent's counsel present
Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

Participating Board Members:

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., (Hearing Officer)
Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.
Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.
R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.
Edward Sammons, D.D.S.
Twyla Rader, L.D.H.
Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.
Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D
Kevin Ward, D.D.S.
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

Respondent Witnesses:

Becky Sprague
Angela Burke, D.D.S.

Case Summary: On or about July 23, 2024 the Board denied Dr. Adam's request to renew his license. On or about August 12, 2024 Dr. Adam's submitted a request to appeal the Board's decision. He indicated that he was currently incarcerated at the time of his renewal appearance but was represented by counsel. He provided the Board an update on his current criminal matters, and discussed how it did not impact his practice as a dentist. He discussed the steps he has taken to ensure that a similar situation does not occur.

Dr. Burke was called as witness. She attested to Dr. Adam’s character as a professional colleague who has worked with him.

Rebecca “Becky” Sprague was called as witness. She attested to Dr. Adam’s character as a dental office manager.

The Board took notice of the exhibits on file for review which include copies of the current court records, and letters of recommendation.

Mr. Robertson stated that he is aware of the Board’s concerns regarding the charges as they do fall under the convictions of concern laws; however, he indicated that there are mitigating circumstances for the Board to consider in Dr. Adam’s case.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to grant Dr. Adam’s appeal and approve Dr. Adam’s license renewal on probation with the following terms:

- Indefinite probation for the duration of the criminal terms.
- 2 Compliance officer visits while on probation for the first year, and upon the Board’s request for the following years if still on probation.
- Personally appear every other meeting while on probation.
- Follow all terms of the criminal terms set forth by the courts.

Kolkman/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES

A. PROBATION

There were no probation appearances.

B. APPLICATION

1. Jet Dental – Brian Danielewicz, DDS LLC – Mobile Dental Application

Jordan Smith, CEO of Jet Dental, appeared via zoom. He discussed with the Board about the Indiana mailing address and discussed their mobile unit setup. He discussed the different processes that Jet Dental completes for different States, and how they maintain records. The Board discussed if tele-dentistry would occur, Mr. Smith indicated that it would not. He stated that an Indiana dentist would be present for all events, and if one was not available the event would be cancelled.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Jet Denta’s mobile dental application.

Kolkman/Wells
Motion carried 7-4-0

(Snoddy, Rader, Nowakowski, and Findley – nay)

2. Mohammad AlSadi (DDS)

Dr. AlSadi appeared as requested via zoom to discuss his application for licensure by reciprocity. He is currently licensed in the state of California. The Board reviewed the California requirements for dental licensure and if the requirements are considered equivalent to Indiana. Dr. AlSadi attended the University of De LaSalle in Mexico which is not an accredited program. Based upon the reciprocity statute it is not considered equivalent for licensure.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. AlSadi's application for dental licensure.

Sammons/Kolkman
Motion carried 11-0-0

3. Omar Alnofi (DDS)

Dr. Alnofi appeared as requested via zoom to discuss his application for licensure by reciprocity. He is currently licensed in the state of California. The Board reviewed the California requirements for dental licensure and if the requirements are considered equivalent to Indiana. Dr. AlSadi attended the University of De LaSalle in Mexico which is not an accredited program. Based upon the reciprocity statute it is not considered equivalent for licensure.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Alnofi's application for dental licensure.

Kolkman/Rader
Motion carried 11-0-0

4. Michelle Campbell (LDH)

Ms. Campbell was scheduled in error to appear.

5. Jewel Emery (LDH)

Ms. Emery appeared as requested via zoom to discuss why she did not disclose her background on her applications. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She indicated that she was unaware that it was on her record as she was not convicted.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Emery's application for dental hygiene licensure.

Rader/Nowakowski
Motion carried 11-0-0

6. Ivan Georgese (DDS)

Dr. Georgese appeared as requested to discuss his application for licensure by reciprocity. He is currently licensed in the state of California. The Board reviewed the California requirements for dental licensure and if the requirements are considered equivalent to Indiana. Dr. AlSadi attended the University of De LaSalle in Mexico which is not an accredited program. Based upon the reciprocity statute it is not considered equivalent for licensure.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Georgese's application for dental licensure.

Sammons/Nowakowski
Motion carried 11-0-0

C. REINSTATEMENT

1. Rachael Boyd, LDH, License No. 13006979A

Ms. Boyd appeared as requested via zoom to discuss the reinstatement of her license that expired in 2020. She submitted copies of her continuing education and supporting documentation for the Board to review.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Boyd's application for reinstatement upon passing the jurisprudence examination.

Rader/Sheline
Motion carried 11-0-0

D. REINSTATEMENT

1. Rachel Koh, DDS, License No. 12012723A

Dr. Koh did not appear as requested. She submitted her renewal after March 1, 2024. She Answered positive regarding a malpractice action since last renewal. Dr. Koh will need to appear to discuss her pending renewal.

Dr. Koh will be rescheduled to appear at the December 6, 2024 meeting.

E. Kimber Cobb, RDH, Executive Director

Ms. Cobb provided the Board with an update on the Council of State Government (CSG) Dental and Dental Hygiene Compact. She responded to questions from the Board.

VI. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW

A. Applications

1. Emanuela Negrescu (DMD)

Dr. Negrescu's application for dental licensure by examination was submitted for review. His application was reviewed for attempting the CDCA Prosthetics examination three (3) or more times. The Board noted that he is required to pass the examination in three (3) attempts of less.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Negrescu's application for dental licensure.

Kolkman/Sammons
Motion carried 11-0-0

2. Madison Struck, LDH – LA Permit

Ms. Struck's application for a dental hygiene anesthesia permit was submitted for review of her anesthesia training documentation. The Board noted that the documentation submitted does not show she has met the requirements. Her program will have to submit a letter that outlines what she has completed.

Ms. Struck's application was tabled.

3. Divija Takkalapelly (DDS)

Dr. Takkalapelly's application for dental licensure by examination was submitted for review. Dr. Takkalapelly graduated in 2008 from the NTR University of Health Sciences which is a nonaccredited college. He completed a post-doctoral program at the Georgia School of Orthodontics from 2021 to 2024. The Board discussed if the two-year program meets the statutory requirements. The applicant must show completion of one of the following: (a) An accredited institution that reasonably ensures a level of competency equal to that of graduates of accredited dental colleges, as determined by the board; (b) A general practice residency program at an accredited institution; or (c) Advanced education in a general dentistry program from an accredited institution. Based upon review it does not meet the statutory requirement.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Takkalapelly's application for dental licensure.

Kolkman/Sheline
Motion carried 11-0-0

B. Continuing Education

1. Indiana Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

This application was previously approved.

VII. DISCUSSION

A. Compliance Fund and Compliance Officers Update

Dr. Findley provided an update of the Compliance officers. The compliance fund printout was not ready for review but will be ready for the December 6, 2024 meeting.

B. 24-6-5 Electronic Meeting Policy

The Board reviewed the Electronic Meeting Policy. Doug Boyle, IPLA Communications Director, provided clarification for the Board.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Electronic Meeting Policy.

Sammons/Sheline
Motion carried 11-0-0

C. Election of Officers

The Board discussed the election of Board officers.

A motion was made and seconded to elect Dr. Findley as Board president for another year.

Sammons/Sheline
Motion carried 11-0-0

A motion was made and seconded to keep Dr. Nowakowski as Vice President for another year.

Sheline/Snoddy
Motion carried 11-0-0

D. Website Information - Request for Practice Ruling

Doug Boyle, IPLA Communications Director, provided the Board clarification on the

Practice Ruling option on the IPLA website.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Office of the Attorney General

Amy Osborne, Deputy Attorney General, presented her report to the Board.

IX. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no old/new business to discuss.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the State Board of Dentistry adjourned at 1:50 p.m. by consensus.