

**STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY**  
**Minutes**  
**April 5, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Dr. Robert Findley called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in the Rooms 4 and 5 of the Conference Center, Indiana Government Center South, 302 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, and declared a quorum in accordance with Indiana Code § 25-14-1-12(a).

**Board Members Present:**

Robert D. Findley, D.D.S., President  
Ted M. Reese, D.D.S., Vice President (arrived at 9:30 a.m.)  
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.  
Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

**Board Members Not Present:**

Jeffrey L. Snoddy, D.D.S.  
Crunchy Wells, D.M.D

**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

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

Sammons/Kolkman  
Motion carried 8-0-0

**III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of December 8, 2023 as amended.

Williamson/Kolkman  
Motion carried 8-0-0

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of February 9, 2024 as amended.

Sammons/Williamson  
Motion carried 8-0-0

**VI. PERSONAL APPEARANCES**

**A. PROBATION**

1. **Kurt Richeson, D.D.S., License No. 12010186A**

Cause No. 2012 ISBD 0016

Dr. Richeson appeared as requested to discuss his ongoing probation. He stated that his practice was going well. He has one and half years left in the IDA Well Being Program. Dr. Richeson's next appearance will be in April 2025.

2. **Brent Swinney, D.D.S., License No. 12010095A**

Cause No. 2023 ISBD 0003

Mr. Swinney appeared to discuss his ongoing probation. He informed the Board that his probation is going well and provided the Board with the reports on his progress. The Board discussed his SoberLink reports and the positive reading. Dr. Swinney stated that he had a blueberry muffin that may have caused a false positive result. He stated that he contacted Mr. Kelley about the result, and he was retested later which was negative.

**B. APPLICATION**

1. **Nena Arreola (LDH)**

Ms. Arreola appeared as requested to discuss why she did not disclose her background. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she was involved in a bad relationship which led to the incident of the arrest which involved alcohol. She stated that she had resolved all items with the arrest and her case was dismissed. She stated that she did not disclose the arrest as it did not come back on previous background checks. Ms. Arreola stated that she thought being dismissed meant that it would no longer be on her record.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to approve Ms. Arreola's dental hygiene application.

Reese/Sammons  
Motion carried 9-0-0

2. **Ikponmwosa Desmond Ibizugbe (LDH)**

Ms. Ibizugbe did not appear as requested. She will be rescheduled.

**C. REINSTATEMENT**

1. **Melody Reveal, DDS, License No. 12010516A**

Ms. Reveal did not appear as requested. She will be rescheduled.

**D. RENEWAL**

1. **Lindsay Adams, LDH, License No. 13007035A**

Ms. Adams appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding an arrest since she last renewed her license which expired in 2022. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she has been in a bad relationship since 2015, and that her ex-partner was selling drugs through the mail. She stated that she was arrested for conspiracy for the situation, and that there was a long court case in which she had been offered a plea deal. She provided the Board a summary of her education at IU and work

under Dr. Oyler's office in Zionsville. She indicated that she has not worked on a full-time bases but was mostly subbing prior to the expiration of her license. She also stated that she has worked with Dr. Oyler but they clashed on ethical issues.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Ms. Adam's dental hygiene license upon submission of thirty-eight (38) hours of continuing education that was completed from 2020 to 2024 within the next thirty (30) days. The staff was directed to file a complaint in regard to the pending charges with the Office of the Attorney General.

Rader/Sheline  
Motion carried 8-0-1 Nowakowski abstained

**2. Sonia Alex, DDS, License No. 12010252A**

Dr. Alex appeared as requested with counsel, Mike Grubbs. She stated that she appeared previously before the Board in 2022 for this incident and was renewed. She informed the Board that her North Carolina license has been voided since 2023. She stated that she self-reported on her renewal the surrender of her North Carolina license and the investigation against her Michigan license for this incident. The Board inquired if there were any other incidents pending against her licenses. Dr. Alex stated there was not. She has two practices in Indiana that she owns where she only engages in clinical supervision. She stated that she does not work in those practices.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Alex's dental license.

Kolkman/Glickman  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**3. Ritika Bhatia, DDS, License No. 12013739A**

Dr. Bhatia appeared as requested to discuss her yes response to a malpractice incident since she last renewed. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that the malpractice action occurred in the state of Ohio when she was a new graduate in 2021 while she was working at Aspen Dental. Dr. Bhatia stated the extraction process to the Board and that she did refer the case to an oral surgeon. The case was settled for \$25,000. She is now working at Lakewood Family Dental. Since the incident occurred, she has worked on her technique and if she becomes uncomfortable, she will not take the case. She stated that she did not renew her Ohio license. The matter was not reported to the NPDB as it was not settled through insurance.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Bhatia's dental license.

Sheline/Kolkman  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**4. John Castor, DDS, License No. 12008298A**

Dr. Castor appeared as requested with his counsel Ann Cowger to discuss his yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since he last renewed. He provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. In February of 2022, his friend and his girlfriend were involved in an altercation at his home which resulted in the police being called. They arrived

and took the girlfriend away but returned with a search warrant. After a search he was charged with possession of marijuana. He stated that he has been involved in the Indiana Wellness program since 2021 and entered into a three-year contract. He stated that this arrest did occur while he was enrolled in the program, and he was unaware that the grinder was in his house or what it contained. He attested to being sober since 2021 and that he has completed an inpatient program with random screenings. Candance Backer of the Indiana Well-Being program attested to the contract Dr. Castor had signed, and that he never tested positive for marijuana. She stated that Dr. Castor has completed a professional boundary course and attends counseling and AA meetings. She stated that he was found non-compliant with his contract when the arrest occurred, but he did sign a new contract.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Castor’s dental license.

Nowakowski/Kolkman  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**5. Shalabh Chauhan, DDS, License No. 12013056A**

Dr. Chauhan appeared as requested to discuss his yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since he last renewed. He provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. He informed the Board that he was arrested for a DUI in July 2022 after he attended a family get together. He stated that he thought he was able to drive as his kids were with him and his wife. He stated that this is his first incident, and he has not drank since. He informed the Board that his criminal probation ended in January of 2023.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Chauhan’s dental license.

Kolkman/Sheline  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**6. Byron Cohee, DDS, License No. 12008206A**

Dr. Cohee appeared as requested with counsel Laura Iosue to discuss his yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since he last renewed. He provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. He informed the Board that he had directed his office manager to put money into his office staff’s retirement funds on a regular basis. When the office manager left his practice, he took on that responsibility, and did not put money into the fund on a regular basis, which resulted in a criminal matter. He stated that he never took any money out. He stated that this matter has been resolved and that it does not have anything to do with his dental practice standards. He stated that in retrospect, he should have had an accountant handle the matter.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Cohee’s dental license.

Nowakowski/Kolkman  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**7. Brittany Eirwin-Maquedo, DDS, License No. 12011855A**

Dr. Eirwin-Maquedo appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding a malpractice incident since she last renewed her license. She provided the Board with a statement and

supporting documentation for them to review. She stated that the initial incident occurred in 2017 and was finally resolved this year. She settled for \$300,000 as there were allegations of dislocating the jaw with a failure to refer to a specialist. She provided the Board with the dental filling procedure she performed and stated that the patient did not follow up with her after it was completed. She informed the Board that she does work in a small town, and she is the only dentist.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Dr. Eirwin-Maquedo's dental license.

Kolkman/Williamson  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**8. Stephen Hall, DDS, License No. 12009719A**

Dr. Hall did not appear as requested. He will be rescheduled.

**9. Elyse Janke, LDH, License No. 13007471A**

Ms. Janke appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since she last renewed. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She informed the Board that she obtained an OWI in 2023 as she was going through a divorce. Ms. Janke stated that she was pulled over where it was discovered she had cocaine in her possession. She stated that she has not taken any substances since the arrest occurred and she is attending therapy. Ms. Janke is currently on criminal probation until 2025. She informed the Board that her employer is aware of the incident, and that this is her second OWI.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Ms. Janke's dental hygiene license on probation with the following terms:

- Licensee's dental hygienist license is granted on **INDEFINITE PROBATION**. Licensee shall not be eligible for probation withdrawal until she provides proof that her criminal probation has been discharged.
- Licensee must submit written self-reports to the Board to apprise the Board of her process with her substance abuse treatment program on a **QUARTERLY** basis until such time as the probation is withdrawn from her license.
- Licensee must comply with all statutes, rules, and regulations governing her dental hygienist license.

Kolkman/Rader  
Motion carried 8-0-1 Williamson recused.

Let the record show that Ms. Janke agreed to the probation.

**10. Julie McElwee, LDH, License No. 13003493A**

Ms. McElwee appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since she last renewed. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she obtained two (2) DUIs since she last renewed. She informed the Board that she got divorced and fell into alcohol. Ms. McElwee stated that she completed an inpatient program in 2022 and is completing therapy and AA. She stated that she

has consulted with a doctor in 2023 who proscribed medication for her. She stated after that she started living with her parents, and she resumed drinking again, which led to her second DUI after she got into a fight with her family. She stated that she has plead guilty to the charges and that she is participating in self-care, religion, and seeing a psychiatrist. She stated that her charges are still being processed in court and she has an expected court date on May 6<sup>th</sup>. She stated that she completed the criminal probation for the first DUI arrest but has not completed the criminal probation for the second arrest.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Ms. McElwee's dental hygiene license on probation with the following terms:

- Licensee's dental hygienist license is granted on **INDEFINITE PROBATION**. Licensee shall not be eligible for probation withdrawal until a minimum of **TWO (2) YEARS** have elapsed since the date of this order, or until any criminal probation resulting from her current pending plea agreement has been discharged, whichever occurs first.
- Licensee must submit written self-reports to the Board to apprise the Board of her process with her substance abuse treatment program on a **QUARTERLY** basis until such time as the probation is withdrawn from her license.
- Licensee must make **PERSONAL APPEARANCES** at every second Board meeting throughout the term of her probation.
- Licensee must comply with all statutes, rules, and regulations governing her dental hygienist license.

Rader/Williamson  
Motion carried 9-0-0

Let the record show that Ms. McElwee agreed to the probation.

**11. Kristin Rousseau, LDH, License No. 13008753A**

Ms. Rousseau appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since she last renewed her license. She provided the Board with a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she was arrested for an OWI in 2021 and has resolved all matters with the court. She stated that it took a while to get through the courts due to COVID. The Board had no questions for Ms. Rousseau.

**Board action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Ms. Rousseau's dental hygiene license.

Rader/Sheline  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**12. Irene Smith, LDH, License No. 13008969A**

Ms. Smith did not appear as requested. She will be rescheduled.

**13. Naline (Keough) Thomas, LDH, License No. 13007926A**

Ms. Thomas appeared as requested to discuss her yes response regarding an arrest that occurred since she last renewed her license. She provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. She stated that she was charged with a domestic battery charge in 2023 and stated that she was not aware of the level of her arrest until after she completed a blood screening at the hospital. She stated that she entered into a pre-trial diversion agreement that will be resolved in August 2024. Ms. Thomas informed the Board that she had been drinking after a long day and entered into an argument with her husband in front of her children. She stated that her husband took the children in order to leave the argument, but that she grabbed his shirt to stop him from leaving. She stated that a neighbor saw the incident and reported it to the police. She stated that she has never been in trouble before and completed therapy and anger management courses.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to renew Ms. Thomas' dental hygiene license.

Kolkman/Sheline  
Motion carried 6-2-0 Glickman and Rader opposed

The Board discussed whether a complaint needed to be filed with the Office of Attorney General. They determined that this case was different than the previous case, and a complaint is not warranted.

## V. ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

### A. Abd Al Hadi Kawaiah, DDS

Cause No. 2024 ISBD 0002

Re: Appeal of Denial of Licensure

**Parties Present:**

Respondent present with counsel Amanda Couture  
Lindy Myer, Court Reporter, Accurate Reporting

**Participating Board Members:**

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

Ted M. Reese, D.D.S.

Richard R. Nowakowski, D.D.S.

Annette J. Williamson, D.D.S.

R. Daron Sheline, D.D.S.

Edward Sammons, D.D.S.

Matthew Kolkman, D.D.S.

Twyla Rader, L.D.H.

Tammera Glickman, Consumer Member

**Case Summary:** Dr. Kawaiah's application for dental license by examination was denied on March 7, 2024 due to Ind. Code 25-1-9-16. He stated that he is currently practicing in the state of Vermont. He informed the Board that he has an extensive dental history and education across the world. He stated that that his children are currently practicing in Indiana, and he would like to be support to them. He stated that when he applied, he did disclose the discipline against his Canadian license. Dr. Kawaiah stated that the discipline was due to an advertising issue. He stated that it was alleged that the advertising that was displayed for his practice made him look like he was an orthodontist. He stated that he resolved the issue with Canada as he had to

address the issue to each province. He stated that the second disciplinary issue occurred in Canada after a patient submitted a complaint against him after a root canal procedure, alleging that there was a quality-of-care issue. Dr. Kawaiah provided the Board with details on how he was providing dental services to remote areas in Canada which made travel difficult to provide follow up care. He stated he then moved to Aruba where the healthcare system had their own challenges. He stated that there was a political party in charge there that forced foreign trained dentists out. He stated that after he could not get his Aruba license back, he moved to Vermont and was granted a license there.

Dr. Couture stated that she understands the Board's concerns, and she provided the Board with a summary of Dr. Kawaiah's education and training to provide a clearer timeline for their consideration. She stated that Dr. Kawaiah was not given much information on why specifically he was denied, but that he is present to allay any concerns the Board has.

The Board inquired into where Dr. Kawaiah obtained his education and training. Dr. Kawaiah stated that he obtained degrees in Montreal, France, and UCLA in California. The Board inquired into Dr. Kawaiah's current practice as his mailing address is listed in Texas, but he is working in Vermont. He stated that he has applied for licensure in Texas, Vermont, and Indiana, but that Vermont had responded first. He stated that his Texas license is still being processed. The Board requested clarification on the allegations of falsified records against his Canadian license. Dr. Kawaiah stated that because he worked in many remote locations that only where they did not have an electronic record system, only paper. This caused a delay on occasion when a patient or province investigation board requested copies of his dental records. He stated that he did not plead guilty to the allegations and only paid the fine in order to avoid having the case dragged out longer. He stated that it would take over six months to obtain all the records being requested as he would have to travel to each remote location to get the paper records.

He stated that his Vermont license does not have any complaints against it. Ms. Couture submitted Exhibit 1 which are copies of Dr. Kawaiah's education and discipline. The Board accepted the exhibit. He requested that the Board grant him a license to practice so he can be with his family in Indiana.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to grant Dr. Kawaiah's appeal.

Kolkman/Sheline

Motion did not pass 3-6-0 Findley- nay, Reese- nay, Nowakowski- nay, Williamson- nay, Rader- nay, Sammons- nay.

A motion was made and seconded to uphold the denial.

Reese/Rader

Motion passed 6-3-0 Glickman, Kolkman, Sheline nay

The Board stated that if Dr. Kawaiah applies again for licensure in the future, they might consider his application again provided he had a few years of practice in the United States with no discipline.

## **VI. MOTION TO DISMISS**

There were no motions to discuss.

## **VII. APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW**



## A. Applications

### 1. Aury Bailon (LDH)

Ms. Bailon's application by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her dental hygiene license in the state of Florida is considered equivalent to an Indiana license. The Board noted that she did not attend a CODA accredited dental hygienist program which is required to obtain an Indiana license. It was determined that the license would not be considered equivalent.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Bailon's application.

Reese/Sammons  
Motion carried 9-0-0

### 2. Naser Khan (DDS)

Dr. Khan's application by reciprocity was submitted for review of the discipline that occurred against his Ohio dental license. He is currently licensed in the states of Ohio and Illinois and has provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Khan's dental application due to the Ohio disciplinary action against his license.

Kolkman/Rader  
Motion carried 9-0-0

### 3. Tarannum Marya (DMD)

Dr. Marya's application by reciprocity was submitted for review of their background. They provided a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. On February 15, 2024 she entered into a plea agreement of which the charges were reduced to reckless driving and placed on probation with terms and conditions. She is currently licensed in the state of Illinois. The Board noted that Dr. Marya's education does not appear to be equivalent to an Indiana license. They noted that their UCLA program is not CODA accredited.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Dr. Mayra's dental application.

Kolkman/Sammons  
Motion carried 9-0-0

### 4. Maria Suarez Melandri (LDH)

Ms. Melandri's application by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her license in the state of Florida is considered equivalent to an Indiana license. The Board noted that she did not attend a CODA Accredited dental hygienist program which is required to obtain an Indiana license. It was determined that the license would not be considered equivalent.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Melandri's dental hygiene application.

Rader/Sammons

Motion carried 9-0-0

**5. Sushmitha Narne (LDH)**

Ms. Narne's application by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her license in the state of Florida is considered equivalent to an Indiana license. The Board noted that she did not attend a CODA Accredited dental hygienist program which is required to obtain an Indiana license. It was determined that the license would not be considered equivalent.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Narne's dental hygiene application.

Rader/Williamson  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**6. Maria Pulido (LDH)**

Ms. Pulido application by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her license in the state of Florida is considered equivalent to an Indiana license. The Board noted that she did not attend a CODA Accredited dental hygienist program which is required to obtain an Indiana license. It was determined that the license would not be considered equivalent.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Pulido's dental hygiene application.

Rader/Reese  
Motion carried 9-0-0

**7. Lacedric Tolliver (DDS)**

Dr. Tolliver's application by examination was submitted for review of the discipline against his Texas dental license. Dr. Tolliver is currently licensed in the state of Illinois and Texas. Dr. Tolliver provided the Board with a statement and supporting documentation for the Board to review. The Board wished to have more information regarding the procedure that led up to the settlement agreement and requested an appearance to provide clarification.

Application was tabled for a board appearance.

**8. Stefhanie Carmona Chacon (LDH)**

Ms. Chacon's application by reciprocity was submitted for review to determine if her license in the state of Florida is considered equivalent to an Indiana license. The Board noted that she did not attend a CODA Accredited dental hygienist program which is required to obtain an Indiana license. It was determined that the license would not be considered equivalent.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to deny Ms. Chacon's dental hygiene application.

Rader/Reese  
Motion carried 9-0-0

## **B. Continuing Education**

### **1. Ace Apple Consulting and Education**

Ms. Rader noted that she is familiar with the individual who is presenting the CE for this sponsor. She noted that they were very knowledgeable, and she has presented CE presentations before for other sponsors. The Board noted no concerns with the application.

Board Action: A motion was made and seconded to approve Ace Apple Consulting and Education as a CE Sponsor.

Rader/Kolkman  
Motion carried 9-0-0

### **2. Indiana Dental Prosthetics**

CE sponsor is already approved. The sponsor accidentally applied for a new license, rather than renewing. IPLA stated they would reach out to the provider to renew their license.

### **3. Prospective Dental Design**

CE sponsor is already approved. The sponsor accidentally applied for a new license, rather than renewing. IPLA stated they would reach out to the provider to renew their license.

### **4. Vesper Institute**

Dr. Kolkman noted that the resume of the presenter looked good, and it appears that they will be presenting training in IV sedation. It was noted that the presentation is already PACE approved, which is already an approved sponsor. The Board discussed if it was necessary to approve this sponsor as they are a PACE provider.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to table the application, have IPLA contact the sponsor regarding clarification on if the sponsor needs Board approval.

Kolkman/Sammons  
No vote.

The Board discussed the presentation of IV sedation training. The Board speculated if the CE Sponsor is trying to promote their training as a certification of training to be used to obtain a sedation permit. Dr. Findley proposed requesting having them to appear to provide this clarification. Dr. Kolkman stated an appearance is not necessary as the Indiana statute outlines what is considered appropriate for sedation training to obtain a sedation permit.

A motion was made and seconded to request an appearance to provide clarification.

Findley/Sheline

8-1-0 Kolkman opposed.

## VIII. DISCUSSION

### A. Compliance Fund Update

Dr. Findley informed the Board members that the Compliance Fund MOU has been signed by both the Office of Attorney General and IPLA. He stated that he met with Lindsey Hyer, Ted Reese, and Lief Johnson to discuss the matter. Mr. Johnson affirmed the details of the meeting including IPLA not taking out any discretionary funds. Dr. Reese noted that the State still is in charge of overseeing the funds, and the Board can request to see the reports. Mr. Johnson stated that Ms. Hyer provided information on the investment of the fund. Dr. Reese stated that the Board will want to keep receiving the Compliance Fund reports, which should include the investment reports.

Dr. Sammons inquired if they could start sending out Compliance Officers. Ms. Glickman stated that the Office of Attorney General would need to have contracts with the Compliance Officers. Dr. Findley stated they will talk about sending out the Officers once the Board has the contracts completed. He noted that the compliance officers should have their contracts signed within thirty (30) days after the signing of the MOU. He noted that IPLA should receive a copy of the contracts. The Board members discussed how they would get feedback from the Compliance Officers.

### B. Radiation Safety Recommendations

Dr. Kolkman stated that the ADA made an update on their standards regarding radiation safety and recommendations. Currently those standards are overseen by the Indiana Department of Health. The IDA has put out information on these new standards on their website. It was stated that the understanding is that the Indiana Department of Health disagrees with these updates, citing concerns in prison settings. The IDA stated they noted concerns on a few cases they were aware of that are currently being reviewed and debated by the Indiana Department of Health.

Ms. Rader noted that there are changes in the Indiana code which covers other areas than specifically, but that there are a number of changes in the code that would impact Dentistry in a non-obvious manner. Dr. Findley inquired to the IDA if they could help with the changes that are occurring in Denal Radiology to communicate the Board's concerns.

Dr. Kolkman inquired if a formal statement from the Board with suggestions on rule changes addressing their concerns could be considered. The Board discussed various lines of inquiries on practice concerns, and the impact on the practice. Dr. Findley noted that it is not a concern at this point. Dr. Nowakowski stated that there is no harm in leaning on the IDA in this matter.

The IDA noted there have been some public concerns with safety for the staff because of cumulative exposure. Ms. Rader noted her agreement with that concern and provided some examples for discussion.

It was still noted concerns from Dr. Sammons and Dr. Kolkman who wished to have the Board reach out to the Department of Health. The Board members debated if it was their business to reach out.

**Board Action:** A motion was made and seconded to forward to the Dental Director of the Department of Health a copy of the article the Board received and requests an official response.

**IX. REPORTS**

**A. Office of the Attorney General**

Amy Osborne, Deputy of the Office of the Attorney General, provided a report to the Dental Board. She stated that currently there have been 78 complaints opened this year and 57 current consumer complaints open with a duration of 6.9 months. There have been 5 Consumer complaints closed within the past 30 days. She stated that complaints by county information are based upon where the dentist is located. The majority of complaints have been in the area of professional incompetence, professional malpractice, and unprofessional conduct.

Litigations stands at 4 cases opened this year and 2 open cases. This year they have closed 1 litigation case with a duration of 9.5 months. The current open litigation cases are in the areas of client abandonment, and professional malpractice.

The Board asked Ms. Osborne about the current Compliance Fund MOU. She stated that it has been signed and implemented. She stated that the compliance officer can only be directed when it is part of a complaint, and their duties are not for general monitoring of offices. The Board members inquired if they have a concern about a specific individual, could the compliance officer investigate. Ms. Osborne stated that would only occur if a complaint was filed against the practitioner and the Office of Attorney General's office has filed litigation against the individual. The Board inquired if there was a way to address the Board's concerns if they are concerned about the practice of a dentist, would that be a duty of the compliance officer. Ms. Osborne stated that the compliance officer would only be able to investigate if a complaint was filed and it would depend on the terms of the administrative probation order.

**X. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

The Board members inquired if Jet Dental has addressed their concerns. Ms. Rader stated that she reviewed their website which no longer lists services in Indiana.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, and having completed its duties, the meeting of the State Board of Dentistry adjourned at 2:52 p.m. by consensus.

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Robert Findley, D.D.S., President