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April 29, 2004

MISSOURI DENTAL BOARD

PUBLIC MEMBER MEDIA REPORT

The Missouri Dental Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on April 22-24, 2004, at the Plaza Conference Center, 3257 William Street, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, according to its Public Member, Maxine Thompson.

In open session, the Board discussed or took action on the following matters:

Dr. John L. Sheets read a proclamation from Mayor of Cape Girardeau Jay B. Knudtson proclaiming April 22-24, 2004, as Missouri Dental Board Days.

Lori Bruce of the Missouri Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA), reported that their long-range planning session will be held on July 23-24, 2004, in St. Louis. The annual (MDHA) meeting is on November 12-14, 2004.

Representing the Dental Assistants Association (MDAA), Lee Ann Turnbaugh reported that 27 dental assistants took the Basic Skills examination in St. Joseph, Missouri, with 25 receiving a passing grade. Dental Assistant Educators will meet this summer to work on guidelines regarding who can take the examination including age requirements.

Dr. Jacob Lippert, Executive Director Missouri Dental Association (MDA), reported that House Bill 1422, known as the anesthesia bill, passed the House and is in the Senate. The Dental Practice Ownership Bill, House Bill 1464, moved out of the Senate with several amendments. It has also passed out of Committee in the House with yet more amendments, and it should go before the full House by the end of the last week in April. A study in all 50 states found that \$138 per year is the average licensing fee for dentists. At \$125 per year, Missouri is below the average with Connecticut at \$450 being the highest and \$25 in Utah the lowest.

Sharlene Rimiller, Executive Director of the Missouri Dental Board, presented a financial report noting that the Board's fund balance at the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2004, is projected to be at about the same level as the ending balance in FY-02, the year prior to the first biennial renewal. She sees no licensing fee increases at this point. The Board held a strategic planning session on Thursday morning and worked on an eighteen month plan. House Bill 970, the Dental Board's bill sponsored by Representative Portwood, is almost through both chambers and, if it is successful and is signed by the Governor, the new laws will become effective on August 28, 2004. House Bill 600, which

decrees that professional licenses are revoked if no State taxes are paid and if tax returns are not filed in previous years, is about to affect dentists and dental hygienists with their first renewal this summer since the new law was enacted. The Board has no control over this. She noted that revocation is reportable to the National Practitioners Data Bank and is considered public discipline. Even if the Division is successful in getting the wording changed to suspension, that is still discipline and is a reportable action to the Data Bank. Licensure on-line is happening with one board, but there are no plans at this time to include the Dental Board's next renewal cycle to the on-line system.

Deborah Gerecke, Chairman of the Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists, submitted the draft Index and Glossary for the Statutes and Rules book. This will make finding specific references more convenient. The Board accepted the Advisory Commission's recommendation and will incorporate the Index and Glossary immediately in the Statutes and Rules book. The Board also voted to approve the draft rule on dental hygienists addressing the public that was approved by the Advisory Commission at its last meeting.

In response to an inquiry as to using the services of an EMT-Paramedic to start and administer conscious IV sedation, Dr. John L. Sheets answered that this is legal if the dentist is appropriately licensed. The Paramedic Board needs to change their rule to include dentists.

Representing the Dental Board will be Dr. Rolfe McCoy and ADH Deborah Gerecke the Dental Hygienists Advisory Commission on the Department of Social Services, Division of Medical Services, Independent Review Committee.

President Patricia Lepp reported that the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) is in sound financial health as a result of a 10% examination fee increase plus an increase in the number of candidates taking the examination. There were 601 dental and 995 dental hygiene candidates in 2003 with the dentist failure rate at 14.6% and the dental hygiene failure rate at 16.08%. The fee to take the examination for dentists is \$1,005.00 and for dental hygienists it is \$560.00. Missouri added Dr. H. Fred Christman, III, Deborah Gerecke, and Frances E. Tourdot to the list of CRDTS examiners. Examiners should fill out availability forms as early as possible in order to expedite examiner assignments. Missouri Southern University has requested permission to be designated as an examination site. The application is pending.

Disciplinary hearings were held for three dentists. The deliberation on discipline was in closed session in accordance with Missouri law, but the disciplinary orders are an open record. The orders should be issued within a few weeks and will be available to the public upon request at that time.

Meeting dates of the Missouri Dental Board for 2004 will be August 5-7, 2004, in St. Louis, Missouri, and October 28-30, 2004, in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Missouri Dental Board regulates approximately 3,093 dentists, 607 dental specialists, and 2,505 dental hygienists. Members of the Missouri Dental Board, all of whom were present at this meeting are:

Patricia A. Lepp, R.D.H., President, Dental Hygiene Member,
St. Louis, MO
Eric J. Aubert, D.M.D., Vice President, St. Louis, MO
John L. Sheets, D.D.S., Secretary, Cape Girardeau, MO
Larry W. Jackson, D.D.S., Member, Doniphan, MO
Rolfe C. McCoy, D.M.D., Member, Chillicothe, MO
E. Fred Christman, III, D.D.S., Member, Columbia, MO
E. Maxine Thompson, Public Member, Cameron, MO

For more information regarding the Missouri Dental Board, individuals may write to Missouri Dental Board, P. O. Box 1367, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, or call (573) 751-0040.

CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY

A written copy of this statutorily mandated report was provided to the following radio station and newspapers by mailing same postage prepaid this thirtieth day of April, 2004.

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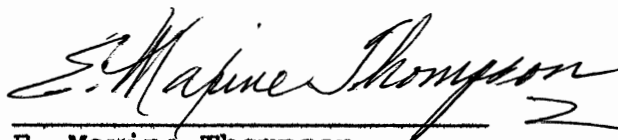
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