AMENDED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MISSOURI DENTAL BOARD
AND PAUL T. BLES, D.M.D.

Come now Paul T. Bles, D.M.D. ("Licensee") and the Missouri Dental Board ("Board") and enter into this settlement agreement for the purpose of resolving the question of whether Licensee's license as a dentist will be subject to discipline.

Pursuant to the terms of § 536.060, RSMo 2000, the parties hereto waive the right to a hearing by the Administrative Hearing Commission of the State of Missouri ("AHC") regarding cause to discipline the Licensee's license, and, additionally, the right to a disciplinary hearing before the Board under § 621.110, RSMo 2000.

Licensee acknowledges that Licensee understands the various rights and privileges afforded Licensee by law, including the right to a hearing of the charges against Licensee; the right to appear and be represented by legal counsel; the right to have all charges against Licensee proven upon the record by competent and substantial evidence; the right to cross-examine any witnesses appearing at the hearing against Licensee; the right to present evidence on Licensee's own behalf at the hearing; the right to a decision upon the record by a fair and impartial administrative hearing commissioner concerning the charges pending against Licensee and, subsequently, the right to a disciplinary hearing before the Board at which time Licensee may present evidence in mitigation of discipline; and the right to recover attorney's fees incurred in defending this action against Licensee's license. Being aware of these rights provided Licensee by operation of law, Licensee knowingly and voluntarily waives each and every one of these rights and freely enters into this settlement agreement and agrees to abide by the terms of this document, as they pertain to Licensee.

Licensee acknowledges that Licensee has received a copy of the investigative report and other documents relied upon by the Board in determining there was cause to discipline Licensee's license, along with citations to law and/or regulations the Board believes was violated.

For the purpose of settling this dispute, Licensee stipulates that the factual allegations contained in this settlement agreement are true and stipulates with the Board that Licensee's license, numbered 011869 is subject to disciplinary action by the Board in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 621, Cum. Supp. 2009 and Chapter 332, RSMo.
Joint Stipulation of Fact and Conclusions of Law

1. The Missouri Dental Board ("Board") is an agency of the State of Missouri created and established pursuant to § 332.021, RSMo 2000, for the purpose of executing and enforcing the provisions of Chapter 332.

2. Licensee, Paul Bles, D.M.D., is licensed by the Board as a dentist, license number 011889. Licensee's Missouri license was at all times relevant herein, and is now, current and active.

3. On June 21, 2019, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs ("Bureau") forwarded a copy of a Settlement Agreement between Licensee and the Bureau. The Settlement Agreement was the result of an expired BNDD license creating a nineteen (19) month gap between expiration and renewal.

4. According to the BNDD Settlement Agreement, Licensee was registered by the Bureau to conduct activities with controlled substances under the Missouri Controlled Substances Registration number 24546, which expired on October 31, 2017. Licensee submitted an application for a new state drug registration on June 5, 2019.

5. Licensee, by conducting activities with controlled substances in the absence of a Missouri Controlled Substances Registration, violated both State and Federal laws.

6. The Bureau found cause to discipline Licensee's Missouri Controlled Substances Registration as a result of Licensee conducting activities with controlled substances in the absence of a Missouri Controlled Substances Registration.

7. Licensee’s actions as described above in paragraphs 3 through 6 constitute cause for the Board’s disciplinary action against Licensee.

8. Section 332.361, RSMo, states in relevant part:

   1. "Any duly registered and currently licensed dentist in Missouri may write, and any pharmacist in Missouri who is currently licensed under the provisions of chapter 338 and any amendments thereto, may fill any prescription of a duly registered and currently licensed dentist in Missouri for any drug necessary or proper in the practice of dentistry, provided that no such prescription is in violation of either the Missouri or federal narcotic drug act."
9. Cause exists for the Board to take disciplinary action against Licensee’s license under § 332.321.2(6), and (15), RSMo, which states in pertinent part:

1. The board may refuse to issue or renew a permit or license required pursuant to this chapter for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section or the board may, as a condition to issuing or renewing any such permit or license, require a person to submit himself or herself for identification, intervention, treatment or rehabilitation by the well-being committee as provided in section 332.327. The board shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal and shall advise the applicant of his or her right to file a complaint with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621.

2. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621 against any holder of any permit or license required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered his or her permit or license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

   ... (6) Violation of, or assisting or enabling any person to violate, any provision of this chapter, or any lawful rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter;

   ... (15) Violation of the drug laws or rules and regulations of this state, any other state or the federal government.

Joint Agreed Disciplinary Order

Based upon the foregoing, the parties mutually agree and stipulate that the following shall constitute the disciplinary order entered by the Board in this matter under the authority of § 621.045.3, RSMo 2000:

10. The terms of discipline shall include that the dental license, license number 011889, be CENSURED.

11. The parties to this Agreement understand that the Missouri Dental Board will maintain this Agreement as an open record of the Board as provided in Chapters 332, 610, 324, RSMo.

12. The terms of this settlement agreement are contractual, legally enforceable, and binding, not merely recital. Except as otherwise provided herein, neither this settlement agreement nor any of its provisions may be changed, waived, discharged, or terminated, except by an instrument in writing signed by the party against whom the enforcement of the change, waiver, discharge, or termination is sought.

13. Licensee, together with his heirs and assigns, and his attorneys, do hereby waive, release, acquit and forever discharge the Board, its respective members and any of its employees, agents, or attorneys, including any former Board members, employees, agents, and attorneys, of, or from, any liability, claim, actions,
causes of action, fees, costs and expenses, and compensation, including but not limited to, any claims for attorney's fees and expenses, including any claims pursuant to § 536.087, RSMo, or any claim arising under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which may be based upon, arise out of, or relate to any of the matters raised in this case, its settlement, or from the negotiation or execution of this settlement agreement. The parties acknowledge that this paragraph is severable from the remaining portions of this settlement agreement in that it survives in perpetuity even in the event that any court of law deems this settlement agreement or any portion thereof to be void or unenforceable.

14. If no contested case has been filed against Licensee, Licensee has the right, either at the time the settlement agreement is signed by all parties or within fifteen days thereafter, to submit the agreement to the Administrative Hearing Commission for determination that the facts agreed to by the parties to the settlement agreement constitute grounds for denying or disciplining the license of the licensee. If Licensee desires the Administrative Hearing Commission to review this Agreement, Licensee may submit this request to: Administrative Hearing Commission, Truman State Office Building, Room 640, 301 W. High Street, P.O. Box 1557, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

15. If Licensee has requested review, Licensee and Board jointly request that the Administrative Hearing Commission determine whether the facts set forth herein are grounds for disciplining Licensee's license and issue findings of act and conclusions of law stating that the facts agreed to by the parties are grounds for disciplining Licensee's license. Effective the date the Administrative Hearing Commission determines that the agreement sets forth cause for disciplining Licensee's license, the agreed upon discipline set forth hereon shall go into effect.

**LICENSEE**

Paul T. Bles, D.M.D.

Date 9/12/19

**BOARD**

Brian Barnett,
Executive Director
Missouri Dental Board

Date 9/17/2019