

State Board of Dentistry
Meeting Summary
September 13, 2024

Prosecutorial Report

A dentist has been charged with terroristic threats, disorderly conduct, criminal mischief, and trespassing. The board issued an immediate temporary suspension on his license; subsequently, he failed to complete clinical testing. Consent agreement: The dentist agrees to voluntarily surrender his license. The board approved the consent agreement.

Dentist was an independent contractor with Smile Direct Club and approved orthodontic treatment remotely, without having first seen the patient or supervising the staff who took 3D imaging of the patient. The dentist also failed to communicate with the patient after approving the orthodontia service. The dentist failed to meet standards of care in several ways. The dentist claims that the patient never conveyed a need to meet with him personally. This is the first telehealth case before the board. Consent agreement: \$2,000 civil penalty, approximately \$5,000 in investigation fees, and a public reprimand. The board rejected the consent agreement as too lenient.

Regulatory Report

Licensure by Endorsement: The proposed annex was published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin in July 2024 for public comment. The board will approve the final proposed rulemaking once the Independent Regulatory Review Commission submits its comments.

Committee Reports

Regulatory Committee: The committee met in August to discuss regulating mobile dentistry in Pennsylvania and recommends that several issues need addressed:

- Determine authority of the board to regulate mobile dentistry.
- Ownership of mobile dental units: the committee does not believe that ownership should be restricted to dentists.
- Define “dental facilities” in the board regulations in order to include mobile units in the requirements found in the section for registration of fictitious names.
- Practice locations: the committee does not believe there should be any restrictions on where mobile units are located because dentists are not always accessible even in high-density areas.
- Standards of care must be met, especially when maintaining patient records and providing information for patients to access follow-up care. The committee envisions that mobile units would have to provide information during registration that addresses continuity of care issues.

The board directed Counsel to draft an annex with proposed rulemaking addressing these issues.

Scope of Practice: No report

Probable Cause Committee: No report

Licensure Committee: No report

2024 Meeting

November 15

2025 Meetings

January 10

March 14

May 9

July 18

September 19

November 14