



# SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

# Bulletin

## June 2024

Volume 52, Issue 6

### Inside this issue:

Dentist Faces Legal Action Over Responses to Online Review	4
Executive Director's Notes	8
Congratulations Scholarship Winners	10
Convention Corner	12
Travel Safety Tips	16
MUSC Update	18
SCDA Free HIPAA Webinar	20
Classifieds	22

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## Three Things Every SCDA Member Should Do Before the Start of Summer

By Jim Howell, DMD, SCDA President



Summer (and summer *schedules*) are quickly approaching; the SCDA team wants to keep it simple for you with just three things to do before you're on vacation, by the pool, or OOO on Fridays.

**#1: Register for our 155th Annual Session in Greenville, SC – August 22-24**  
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Digital dentistry will be a major conversation for this year's event. "Bridge to the Future" is our theme, and we're proud that 85 EXHIBITORS are already signed up for exhibit hall.

Thank you to the many exhibitors or sponsors who are eager to support this special event.

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Cytek  
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**Again, the easiest way to register today is via the [website](#).**

### #2 Reserve your hotel room before June 28 for a discount

After you register for the Annual Session, make your hotel reservations quickly!

SCDA has a group rate at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Greenville that expires on June 28. For more information about travel and the hotel, please visit our [website](#).

### #3 Prepare your SCDA Award Nominations

It's time to make your nominations for the awards listed below! Make your nominations using the form available [here](#).

**REQUIREMENTS:** Your nomination form, letter of recommendation, and the nominee's CV must be returned by August 1st to the SCDA office. Nominator must be an SCDA Member.

These awards will be presented during the 2024 SCDA House of Delegates Meeting.

## 2024 SCDA AWARDS

### **George P. Hoffmann, Jr. - Distinguished Dentist Award**

This award is the premier and most prestigious award presented by the South Carolina Dental Association. It is to honor a member or former member for years of outstanding service to the SCDA, the dental profession, and the community. Nominees must have practiced dentistry in South Carolina for a minimum of ten years.

### **Meritorious Achievement Award**

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has demonstrated in recent years significant achievement in dentistry in the areas of professionalism, leadership, academics, research, or health care delivery.

### **James B Edwards Citizenship Award**

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has served the citizens of South Carolina in a manner that reflects a positive image of dentistry. Areas of achievement include humanitarian and religious activities, civic affairs, community service, or cultural contributions.

### **New Dentist Award**

The nominee must be a member in good standing of the SCDA who has been in practice ten years or less or who is under forty years of age. The nominee must have demonstrated leadership qualities through service to dentistry.

### **Dental Team Award**

Team members in a private office. The nominee must be from an office of a SCDA member and nominated by an SCDA member.

The criteria for evaluation include:

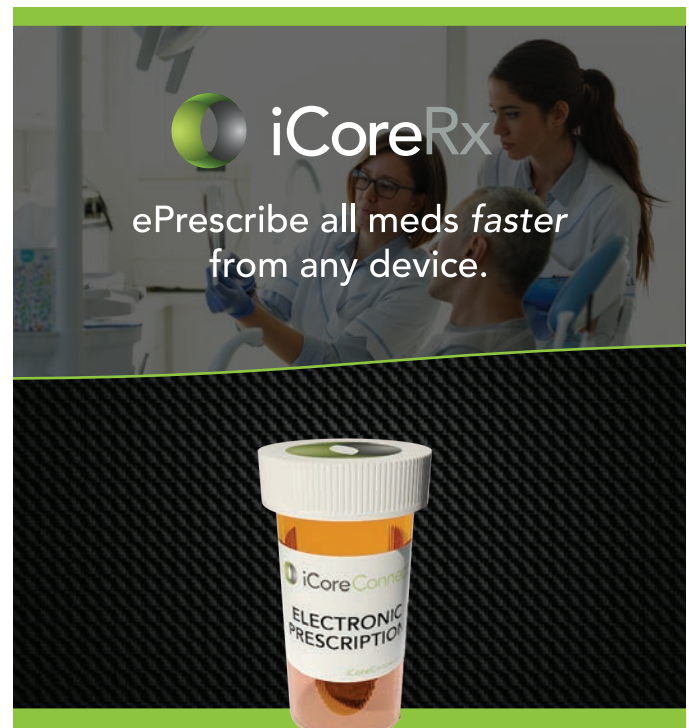
- The nominee demonstrates that he/she holds the profession of dentistry in the highest regard.
- The nominee has five or more years of experience in the dental field.
- The nominee promotes the interest and betterment of the profession through the team concept of dentistry.
- The nominee participates in community activities that bring credit to the dental profession.
- The nominee demonstrates enthusiasm for his/her work and creates innovative ideas about patient relations and managerial modifications that improve the delivery of patient care.

### **Special Recognition Award**

The nominee may be any individual who deserves recognition for special achievement or an extraordinary deed related or unrelated to dentistry. This award provides for special circumstances that do not conform to the other awards.

Prepare your nominations by August 1st using this [form](#).

For questions regarding 2024 award nominations, please contact [scda@scda.org](mailto:scda@scda.org).



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**Award Categories:**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
*Category of Award*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name of Nominee*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Nominee Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Nominee Email Address*

*Please attach your typed letter of recommendation and the nominee's CV.*

*Awards may or may not be granted at discretion of the Board. A sitting Board member may not be nominated.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*SCDA Member Nominating Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name (Print)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

***Your nomination form, letter of recommendation, and the nominee's CV must be returned by August 1, 2024 to the SCDA office. Nominator must be an SCDA Member.***

***These awards will be presented during the 2024 SCDA House of Delegates Meeting.***

# Dentist Faces Legal Action Over Response to Online Review

By Marc Leffler, DDS, Esq., MedPro an SCDA Endorsed Company

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Patient privacy is one of the most crucial aspects of dental care, especially in the present digital landscape. In this case study, a dentist unintentionally discloses protected health information (PHI) about a patient in response to an online review and is subsequently sued.

## Key Concepts

- Responding to online reviews
- Protected health information (PHI)
- Mitigating risk in online conduct

## Background Facts

Dr. C had been in dental practice, in an affluent community, for nearly 10 years. He had completed a formal 1-year post-doctoral training program and had regularly taken courses focusing on the full spectrum of cosmetic dentistry, involving not only the dental restorative component but also the use of injectable dermal fillers in the perioral areas. The state in which Dr. C practiced permitted dentists to employ dermal fillers, so, combining that background with his significant training and experience over years, he felt comfortable providing this service to his patients.

R had been Dr. C's patient for more than 4 years, seeing him almost exclusively for dental cleanings and the injection of dermal fillers in and around her lips to smooth out the lines and wrinkles that she found esthetically unpleasing. She liked the fact that Dr. C performed this treatment so as to make very subtle changes in her appearance because she "didn't want the whole world knowing" that her facial look was unnatural in any way.

Following R's most recent visit for filler placement, Dr. C's office sent her an email which linked to a popular online rating site with which the office had just begun a relationship. R gave Dr. C the top assessment category and very carefully worded her narrative entry to read, "Dr. C is the best; he does great work and his staff is so friendly." When Dr. C read the review, he was very appreciative of her kind words, and he responded in the public forum, "So happy we could make you even more beautiful with our magic injections." R became incensed when she read Dr. C's response, benign as he might have intended, because she saw her privacy as having been infringed upon by letting everyone who would read it know about her "little secret."

The next morning, R called Dr. C to tell him how upset she was about his posting. She pointed out that she had been very careful to be vague in her own post, to help his online presence while protecting what she had not wanted exposed to the public. Dr. C was repeatedly apologetic, but he was unable to calm his patient down, as she threatened him with various types of legal action. When their conversation ended, he immediately contacted the online site, requesting that his response be taken down, but the site had a number of criteria to be met, each of which took time, before the post could be removed. Dr. C contacted R to explain what he had done, but she became even more upset when he told her it would take some time to remove his post.

## Legal Action

R reached out to an attorney friend of hers, wanting to sue Dr. C for malpractice. But the attorney explained to R that Dr. C had done nothing improper from a dental standpoint, and that she suffered no damage as a direct result of his care. When R asked whether Dr. C had done anything wrong, her attorney said that he might have violated her privacy rights under a federal law known as HIPAA, which protects a patient's personal health information – including that she had been treated and what type of treatment she had received – except if she, as the patient, authorizes such disclosure.

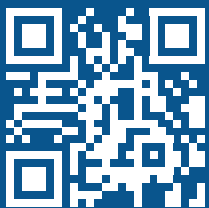
In the days that followed, R filed a formal complaint with the appropriate government agency, as shown to her by her attorney. In a time period which R found excessively long, the agency representative contacted her, and obtained her verbal statement, copies of the online posts, and her authorization to speak with Dr. C about the full set of circumstances.

## Discovery

When Dr. C received a government request for his records regarding R and for an in-person meeting, he contacted an attorney to guide him through the process. At that meeting, under the advice of counsel, he



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explained that he had not intended to do anything but express his appreciation to R for her positive rating and comments, and that he had not realized that he was in violation of any law in doing so.

It was not long before Dr. C's attorney received notice that a significant fine was being levied upon Dr. C, due to his having breached R's private personal health information without her authority to do so. The attorney later explained to Dr. C that his intent was not at issue, but the mere disclosure of that information, without authorization or as part of an exception to the rule, constituted a violation for which he could be validly fined.

Dr. C paid the fine, and then learned that the State Dental Board had been provided with the records and findings, but it opted against taking any further action.

### **Takeaways**

In these days of every restaurant, every hotel, and every concert you eat at, stay at, and attend asking for online reviews of your experiences, it is neither unusual nor surprising for dental offices to do the same. But beware of HIPAA constraints before responding, no matter how terrible or how glowing that review might be. Not only can an investigation and penalty ensue following an unauthorized disclosure based upon responding to a negative online review, but the same result might come to pass even when responding to positive ratings given online.

Dentists are not traditional vendors, but instead health professionals who are vested with the obligation of protecting their patients' privacy, not only ethically but statutorily as well. As such, dentists must not divulge any information about their patients, absent explicit written authority from the patient or a rule exception, which usually – but not exclusively – involves the sharing of health information among multiple providers who are treating the patient and who have a need to know.

So, it cannot be emphasized enough that, before releasing anything about any patient, the dentist must be in possession of a HIPAA-compliant document authorizing the release; in situations where a dentist might believe that sharing medical/dental information with another provider is warranted, the safest approach is a consultation with an attorney familiar with this subject matter. That extra step might be the difference between compliance and a large fine. And even when sharing information appropriately, HIPAA requires that the methods for doing so include reasonable protections against the dissemination of that information to any person or entity other than specifically intended. It should also be noted that, had the situation involved here included negligent treatment which injured the patient, leading to a malpractice lawsuit, the entire set of online events, and potentially the government actions in response, might be a source of intra-lawsuit litigation as to whether the issue could be explored in the usual discovery process and whether a jury might be able to be made aware of the events. That is not to say that it is a given that this issue would become a (distracting) part of a trial, but it is a potential unhelpful wrench that can be eliminated with due consideration in advance. Online responses to online stimuli might feel justified at the moment, but silence is often the better approach to take.

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Note that this case presentation includes circumstances from several different closed cases, in order to demonstrate certain legal and risk management principles, and that identifying facts and personal characteristics were modified to protect identities. The content within is not the original work of MedPro Group but has been published with consent of the author. This document should not be construed as medical or legal advice and should not be construed as rules or establishing a standard of care. Because the facts applicable to your situation may vary, or the laws applicable in your jurisdiction may differ, please contact your attorney or other professional advisors if you have any questions related to your legal or medical obligations or rights, state or federal laws, contract interpretation, or other legal questions. MedPro Group is the marketing name used to refer to the insurance operations of The Medical Protective Company, Princeton Insurance Company, PLICO, Inc. and MedPro RRG Risk Retention Group. All insurance products are underwritten and administered by these and other Berkshire Hathaway affiliates, including National Fire & Marine Insurance Company. Product availability is based upon business and/or regulatory approval and/or may differ among companies. © MedPro Group Inc. All rights reserved. 2/2024

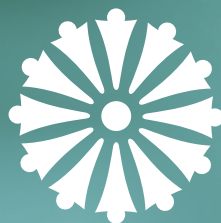
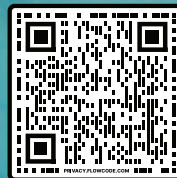
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# FBI Warns of Credible Cybersecurity Threat to Dental Practices

By Phil Latham, SCDA Executive Director



The American Dental Association (ADA) urges all dental practices to remain vigilant after it was contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with information regarding a credible threat to the practices of oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

## Current Threat Information from the FBI

On Tuesday, May 6, 2024, the FBI informed the ADA and the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) of a credible cybersecurity threat to the practices of oral and maxillofacial surgeons. The FBI said that as of that date there were no known cyberattack victims, but the agency is working proactively to raise awareness to help prevent victimization. The FBI suspects the group behind the cyberattacks may be shifting tactics to oral and maxillofacial surgery practices after targeting plastic surgeons last year.

While this current threat is focused on oral and maxillofacial surgeons, the FBI is concerned that the practices of general dentists and other specialists could also eventually be targeted.

Cybercriminals often use social engineering scams — such as [phishing](#) (email), SMSishing (through text or instant messaging apps) and vishing (using phone calls and voicemail) — to gain access to sensitive personal data such as electronic protected health information. Spear phishing refers to a phishing email appearing to be from a trusted contact. For example, a threat actor may use phishing to impersonate a credentialing agency. Through these scams, threat actors try to convince people to reveal sensitive information, or to click on a link, open an attachment or visit a website that causes malware to be deployed. This malware can lead to ransomware, which blocks system and/or file access until money is paid.

The FBI provided an example in which the threat actor poses as a new patient or says they want to become a patient at the practice to obtain new patient forms online. Once the forms are received, the threat actor will then contact the practice to report they are having trouble submitting them online and ask if they can scan the forms and email them instead. The threat actor then emails the “forms” as an attachment. When the attachment is opened malware is deployed in a phishing scheme.

The FBI requests dental practices that experience any fraudulent or suspicious activities to report them to the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center at [ic3.gov](https://ic3.gov).

## Precautions Practices Can Take

The Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) recommends four [vital ways](#) to protect your practice from cyberthreats:

- Teach your team to recognize and avoid phishing
- Require strong passwords
- Require multifactor authentication
- Update all business software

The following resources are also available to support healthcare professionals:

- A [CISA.gov](https://cisa.gov) toolkit aids healthcare practices in building cybersecurity foundations and implementing more advanced, complex tools to stay secure and ahead of current threats.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Knowledge on Demand](#) resource offers five free cybersecurity trainings that align with the top five threats named in HHS' Health Industry Cybersecurity Practices. HHS also offers information on how the HIPAA security rule can help defend against cyberattacks.
- The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology's [Security Risk Assessment Tool](#), a resource designed to help medium and small providers conduct a security risk assessment as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Information Security and Health Sector Cybersecurity Coordination Center's [“Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and the Health Sector”](#) guide shares how health care entities help protect against AI-enhanced cyberthreats.
- Additional resources can be found at [ADA.org/riskmanagement](https://ada.org/riskmanagement)

As the nation's largest organization of dentists, the ADA is advocating on behalf of all dentists at the federal level to [recommend several measures](#) to protect and ensure the resilience of health care infrastructure against cyber threats. The ADA will continue to lead this charge and provide cybersecurity updates as they become available, all in service to you and your patients. Please visit [ADA.org](https://ada.org) to see the many ways the ADA advocates on behalf of dentists nationwide.

© American Dental Association, May 8, 2024





*We are pleased to announce...*

**James Bradley Wisner D.M.D.**  
has acquired the practice of  
**James Paget Hentz Jr., D.M.D.**  
Charleston, South Carolina

**Rebeca Yutzy Zechmann, D.D.S.**  
have acquired the practice of  
**Sidney Reza Rismani, D.M.D.**  
North Charleston, South Carolina

*We are pleased to have assisted  
in these practice transitions.*

## Practices For Sale

**MILLION-DOLLAR PRACTICE OPPORTUNITY:** This GP is located in a free-standing building on a quaint street in Charleston. The office has 5 ops in 1,900 sq. ft. with digital x-ray and an IT-Pro Laser Scanner. The practice has a mixture of PPO and FFS patients. This practice operates on 4 doctor days and 8-10 hygiene days per week. This practice opportunity is only for a dentist-to-dentist transition, this is not available for a DSO sale **Opportunity ID: SC-02107**

**QUALITY OF LIFE PRACTICE:** GP convenient to all the amenities of Columbia and a stone's throw from an outdoorsman's paradise. This practice has over 1,500 active PPO/FFS patients and is located in a beautiful, free-standing building. The office is 2,050 sq. ft. with 5 ops, 3 equipped and 2 plumbed, digital x-ray, Pan and is in excellent condition. The practice operates on 4 days per week and collected \$585K in 2023. **Opportunity ID: SC-01998**

**\$890K SOUTHEASTERN, SC:** GP in a free-standing building of 1,700 sq. ft. with 5 ops, 2 of which are hygiene. The practice is all digital with paper charts, but compatible with digital charting. This practice is a mixture of FFS and PPO with some Medicaid. The practice collected \$890k in 2022 while working 4 days a week. Real estate is available. Owner financing is available. **Opportunity ID: SC-01980**

**MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR OPPORTUNITY:** Metro Columbia GP located in a retail center with foot traffic and great visibility. The office has 10 fully equipped ops with digital x-ray, digital Pan, CEREC and runs on EagleSoft. The practice operates on 15 hygiene days and 10 doctor days per week. The practice has an excellent community reputation and over 3,500 active FFS/PPO with 10% being Medicaid. The office does offer ortho, including Invisalign. This is an amazing opportunity to own a well-run practice with room for growth. **Opportunity ID: SC-01872**

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## Congratulations Scholarship Winners!



Congratulations to Mary Clary Award winner Bailey Raines, Dental Assisting. Dr. Kathryn Freedman, Dental Programs and SCDA Member was able to present her award!



Congratulations to Mary Clary Award winner for Dental Hygiene Meghan Pringle. Dr. Kathryn Freedman, Dental Programs and SCDA Member was able to present her award!



Congratulations to Mary Clary Award winner for Dental Hygiene. Dr. David Moss was able to present her award!

### THANK YOU

Dear SCDA Foundation,  
I am sincerely grateful for your generous scholarship. I am honored to be selected as a recipient! I am one step closer to achieving my goals and making an impact in the world of dentistry. Thank you so much!

Warm regards,  
Savannah Steese

Dear SC Dental Care Foundation,

I am deeply grateful for the generous \$10,000 scholarship you have awarded me for dental school. Your support will significantly alleviate the financial burden of my education and allow me to focus on my studies with greater dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you for investing in my future and believing in my potential.

With the most appreciation,  
Jesse Raybon

To South Carolina Dental Association Foundation,

Thank you so much for the scholarship! I am so appreciative of the foundations willingness to give. This was such a great surprise, I am so thankful.

Best,  
Jesse Mullinn





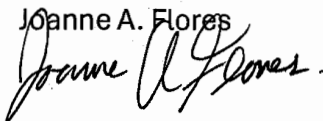
I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for being selected as a recipient of the Mary M. Clary award. It is with immense appreciation that I thank you for your generosity and support.

My name is Joanne A. Flores, and I am currently pursuing a degree in the Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program at Trident Technical College. Receiving this scholarship has filled me with great joy and relief, knowing that I have the financial support to continue my education and pursue my dreams. The impact of this scholarship goes beyond financial assistance; it signifies a vote of confidence in my abilities and potential. With this support, I am more motivated than ever to excel academically and contribute positively to my community. Receiving this scholarship has reignited my belief in myself and my abilities. It has reminded me that with dedication and perseverance, I can achieve anything I set my mind to. With this scholarship, I am more motivated than ever to excel academically and contribute meaningfully to my field. It has inspired me to aim higher and strive for excellence in everything I do.

Thank you once again for your generosity, belief in my potential, and for reminding me of the opportunities that lie ahead. I am deeply grateful for your support and the confidence you have placed in me.

Sincerely,

Joanne A. Flores



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## Convention Corner

By Dr. Anna Louise Hicklin, Social Chair

What a pivotal and exciting year for the SCDA 155th Annual Session! We predict that maintaining important traditions while also adding new components will result in a banner year. There is so much going on behind the scenes to ensure you will LEARN...RECONNECT...and, most importantly, HAVE FUN!

What you can expect to stay the same is the top-notch quality of programming. Last month, Daniel Hall, the Program Chair, described the impressive lineup of speakers and a wide variety of content offered. One obvious difference this year is the location- Greenville! While most meetings have traditionally been at our beautiful coastline, we are excited this year about our mountain-bound session. Also, you will notice the time of the year has shifted strategically. We hope that once things are "buckled down again" after a busy summer, we can take a deep breath and enjoy the meeting. Some of the most thrilling differences are the SOCIAL EVENTS! To be expected, we will have plenty of opportunities to gather through exhibit hall socials, morning coffees, programmed lunches, and lots of fun parties...



Thursday is packed with social time- to be kicked off with a Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall with raffle prizes, directly followed by an MUSC Alumni Reception. Then you are free to enjoy dinner out on the town with your team or a group of friends- but don't stay away too long- we have an afterparty for docs and staff complete with dessert, drinks, and a DJ (with karaoke!). For those who have attended ADPAC receptions with Peter as the DJ- this will rival those parties (IYKYK)!

I'm most excited about Friday night- imagine being whisked away to prohibition times to an exclusive speakeasy, the "Carolina Crown Club." This swanky cocktail party will be located on an upscale penthouse floor at [The Avenue](#) with incredible downtown views. An amazing band, delicious food, and an open bar with a featured drink will round out this very special night for docs and their guests- you absolutely do not want to miss this one of a kind event! Feel free to come in whatever dressy attire you wish, but "live a little" and bring your best 1920's style.

Downtown Greenville is buzzing on the weekends! "[Downtown Alive Thursdays](#)" (5:30-8:30pm) and "[Main Street Fridays](#)" (5:30-9:30pm) are centered in NOMA Square, directly adjacent to our hotel. You will enjoy free live music and many food, beverage, and retail vendors. Also you do not want to miss the "[TD Saturday Market](#)" along Main Street (8am-12pm). You can't walk down Main Street without something going on!

Greenville is also adventure-friendly for those who enjoy the outdoors! Most notably, [Falls Park](#) and the [Swamp Rabbit Trail](#) are walking distance from the hotel, and there are options to rent bikes if desired (or bring your own!). Some options are [reedyrides.com](#) and [greenville.bcycle.com](#).

We believe that bringing a level of excellence to our state meetings is not only important to providing wonderful member benefits, but also ensures loyalty to the association for our future generations. Help us make this "Bridge to the Future" the best year yet- register today! [scdaannualsession.com](https://scdaannualsession.com)



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Dear SCD A Member Benefits & Foundation,

Thank you SO MUCH for your generous \$25,000 scholarship towards my educational debt!!!

I was shocked and full of emotion when I heard Dr. Ellis read your letter on the stage!

Most of all I am grateful for individuals such as yourself who further the dental fraternity, and uphold the principles of beneficence!!! May God

Bless each and every person who has laid their hand on my education through this scholarship!



...with  
sincere  
appreciation.

I look forward to seeing you all soon at the 155th SCD A Annual Session in my hometown of Greenville! I hope you will find the research I present with Dr. Camisi to be informative and useful.

God Bless - Kai Standid  
D4

To the SC Dental Care Foundation,

I wanted to say thank you so much for the \$7,500 Scholarship!! What a tremendous blessing your donation has been to me! I am blown away by your generosity. I am placing the fund towards my student debt and a professional camera to document my cases through D4!

Thank you for investing in my future as a dentist!

Ernie Teniel

Dear SC Dental Care Foundation,

Thank you SO much for my scholarship!! It is such an honor to receive this. Thank you for giving back to dental students. I can't wait to give back and make an impact in SC when I become a dentist.

Thank you for all you do!

-Ashlea Willis  
MUSC D4 student

Dear SCD A Member Benefits,

I would like to thank each of you for awarding me with the 2024 Scholarship. This scholarship will help me tremendously with my dental school tuition. I am very thankful to have been selected and am looking forward to my last year at MUSC. Thank you again. I greatly appreciate it.

-Elizabeth Buckley



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## Travel Safety Tips in Current Times

By Medjet, an SCDA Endorsed Company

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*Even the most intrepid travelers these days seem to have added concerns about their health and safety while traveling. With COVID, we saw the first ever global paralysis of air travel for health reasons, and today, with ever-increasing geopolitical tensions, riots erupting in France, Italy and Ecuador, and the US State Department Advisories elevating, even for "safe" places like the Bahamas due to increased crime, it's not surprising that many people are wondering how to lessen their risks, and prepare better for health and security emergencies while traveling. If an incident did occur, and did impact your health or safety on a trip, what are the smart steps to take? You might not know the answer, but you can turn to someone who does.*

**Contact the US Consulate in an emergency:** Consular personnel at U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad and in the U.S. are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to provide emergency assistance to U.S. citizens. Specific contact information is always listed at <https://www.usembassy.gov/>, and there's also a great app, the Smart Traveler app, the State Department offers (Apple and Google Play stores) where you can enroll in STEP (their program that lets local consulates know when you'll be in their area) and you can set up real-time alerts for issues arising in your area of travel (like protests, strikes, impending natural disasters and other safety concerns.)

**Give yourself peace of mind via Medjet.** The premier global air-medical transport, travel security and crisis response membership program, Medjet offers travelers with unmatched peace of mind. With a **MedjetAssist** membership, Medjet arranges and pays for hospital-to-hospital medical transfer of a member if injury or illness occur during domestic or international travel, more than 150 miles from home. Unlike health or travel insurance, which typically transports to the "nearest acceptable facility" if deemed "medically necessary," a Medjet member is transferred to their home country hospital of choice, regardless of medical necessity, for the cost of the membership and nothing more.

With safety concerns being a growing reality for today's business and leisure travelers, consider **MedjetHorizon**. Members receive all the renowned air medical transport benefits of a MedjetAssist membership, plus worldwide travel security, crisis response and evacuation services. Members have access to a 24/7 security network for in-country response to a wide range of safety concerns and threats while traveling, including: terrorism, kidnapping for ransom, political threat, hijacking, natural disaster, disappearance, violent crime, wrongful detention, blackmail and extortion, and pandemic.

Medjet Vice-President and COO John Gobbels points out that MedjetHorizon can respond as soon as a member feels uneasy; there is no need to wait for hard triggers, like government issued mandates or evacuation orders. Many emergency response benefits kick in only after a "qualifying security event" has taken place, says Gobbels - for instance, after the State Department has issued a Travel Warning, or after the event that was merely threatening has escalated into a dangerous situation.

### Travel Safety Tips

- Have a health, security and crisis management back up plan like Medjet
- Sign your passport and leave copies of itinerary and passport data page
- Enroll in the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)
- Carry a cell phone programmed with emergency numbers





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## MUSC, SCDA, and SC Board of Dentistry: Envisioning the future of dentistry in South Carolina

By Dr. Sarandeep Huja, Dean, James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine



Dear SCDA member:

On April 26, **MUSC's** James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine was pleased to host a roundtable forum with leaders from the college, the **South Carolina Board of Dentistry**, and the **South Carolina Dental Association**.

Each organization has a unique mission to serve the dental profession in South Carolina. By working together, we strengthen our responsiveness in addressing future challenges and oral health needs.

Among our most emergent topics were the role and training of lab technicians, licensure compacts and exams, dental hygiene programs, dental assisting programs, teledentistry, and continuing education.

I wish to thank all the participants from across the state for a highly fruitful collaboration. It is our intention that this meeting will continue annually, with much progress in the near future.

From the Board of Dentistry, our group included Dr. Carolyn Brown, Mrs. Becky Marchi, Dr. Tom McDonald, and Dr. Bill Stewart. The SCDA was represented by Mr. Mark Brown, Dr. Deidre Crockett, Dr. Thomas Edmonds, Dr. Jim Howell, and Mr. Phil Latham. From the College of Dental Medicine, were Dr. Tariq Javed (not pictured), Dr. Ray Kessler, Dr. Amy Martin, Dr. Karen McPherson, and me.



In other news, I wish to recognize the college's **ADA Faculty Ambassador**, Dr. John Comisi, associate professor in our Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences. As the immediate SCDA past president, I think he needs no introduction here! A new initiative of the ADA, the faculty member helps our students understand the benefits provided by the ADA to its membership and supports the development of future leaders in our profession. Dr. Comisi plans to initiate several programs in the coming months to promote the ADA and the value it offers our students. I am continually appreciative of the beyond-the-classroom dedication our faculty extend to our students.



Get the most up to date information on dentistry along with great things to share for your office! Join our group today [www.facebook.com/scdental](https://www.facebook.com/scdental). You can also follow us on Twitter @SCDentalAssoc!



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NMLS# 239459

## SCDA Webinar: 2024 HIPAA Compliance Training

June 21, 2024 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Date: June 21, 2024  
Time: 9:00 am- 10:00 am  
Location: Zoom

Speaker: Nancy Ware  
Senior HIPAA Compliance Specialist – Total Medical Compliance

Nancy Ware is a seasoned HIPAA Senior Compliance Specialist with over 20 years of experience in healthcare compliance and privacy regulations. Nancy has worked with both Covered Entities and Business Associates and is well versed on the requirements each must follow. She has started compliance programs from the ground up and revamped existing programs. With a deep understanding of the ever-evolving healthcare landscape, she is dedicated to helping organizations navigate the complex realm of HIPAA and ensure they meet the highest privacy and security standards. Nancy stays up to date with the latest developments and amendments in HIPAA regulations, ensuring that our clients are well-informed about any changes that may have an impact on their operations.

By working closely with our clients, Nancy strives to foster a culture of privacy and security within their organizations, all while ensuring compliance with HIPAA's Privacy Rule, Security Rule, Breach Notification Rule, and other relevant requirements.

In her free time, Nancy enjoys spending time with her family, preferably at the beach. She is an avid hockey fan and has been waiting a long time to see the NY Rangers bring home another Stanley Cup!

Credit Hours: 1 Hour Presentation

Cost: Free for SCDA Members/\$100.00 for Non Members

Session Description: Join us for an in-depth training session designed to equip you with the essential knowledge and practical skills needed to navigate HIPAA compliance confidently. By the end of this course, you will:

- Define fundamental HIPAA terminology, ensuring clarity and understanding throughout the compliance process.
- Understand the basic elements of the Privacy Rule, including patient rights, covered entities, and permissible uses and disclosures of protected health information (PHI).
- Grasp the foundational components of the Security Rule, gaining insight into safeguarding PHI through administrative, physical, and technical safeguards.
- Describe the role of a Business Associate in the healthcare ecosystem, recognizing their responsibilities and obligations under HIPAA.
- Differentiate between a Breach and an Incident, enabling prompt and appropriate response in the event of a security incident.
- Gain familiarity with HIPAA enforcement mechanisms, including penalties for non-compliance and recent enforcement trends.
- Implement practical privacy and security tips to enhance office and patient protection, ranging from access controls to data encryption and beyond.

Educational Objectives:

- Define fundamental HIPAA terminology essential for effective communication and compliance within healthcare settings.
- Understand the basic elements of the Privacy Rule as outlined in HIPAA, including patient rights, covered entities, and permissible uses and disclosures of protected health information (PHI).
- Grasp the foundational components of the Security Rule under HIPAA, encompassing administrative, physical, and technical safeguards necessary for protecting PHI.
- Describe the role and responsibilities of a Business Associate within the context of HIPAA compliance, emphasizing their obligations regarding PHI handling and protection.
- Differentiate between a Breach and an Incident according to HIPAA definitions, enabling accurate identification and appropriate response to security events.
- Gain familiarity with HIPAA enforcement mechanisms, including penalties for non-compliance and recent enforcement trends, to ensure adherence to regulatory requirements.
- Apply practical privacy and security tips to enhance office and patient protection, promoting compliance with HIPAA standards and mitigating security risks effectively.

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## Positions Available - Dentists

**St George/Santee/Holly Hill, SC-** Looking for dentist to expand our staff at growing dental group. 4-5 days per week. Prefer to live within 25 miles of practice. 8 dental hygienists/19 op practice. Contact 843-560-2226 or [drgaris@bellsouth.net](mailto:drgaris@bellsouth.net)

An excellent opportunity for a Dental Associate to join a thriving & prosperous pediatric dental practice in Charlotte area. **15 dental chairs, 6 private rooms, 3 bay areas.** Guaranteed starting salary \$250,000 per year with medical benefits, vacation, malpractice insurance, ce and holiday. [pedodds@pedodoctor.com](mailto:pedodds@pedodoctor.com).

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We are seeking a new Associate Dentist to join our practice. We can offer competitive pay, benefits and a flexible schedule. We are seeking to fill a position in our **Greenville** location and new West Columbia location. Please reach out if interested or have any questions 304-839-3867 or [tdbrittanye@gmail.com](mailto:tdbrittanye@gmail.com).

Seeking an **Associate Dentist in Lexington SC** to join our practice. We offer competitive pay, benefits, bonus structure and a flexible schedule. Full and part time candidates considered. If interested or have questions, contact via text, phone 304-839-3867 or email [tdbrittanye@gmail.com](mailto:tdbrittanye@gmail.com).

Seeking an Associate Dentist to join our practice in **West Columbia**. We can offer competitive pay, benefits, bonus structure and a flexible schedule. Full and part time candidates considered. If interested or have questions, please contact via text, phone or email [tdbrittneye@gmail.com](mailto:tdbrittneye@gmail.com).

Established, busy, private **pediatric** dental office looking for FT associate, with the potential for partnership. Competitive compensation/benefits package, plus a healthy work/life balance. Office is 5 minutes from the beach! Motivated individuals interested in providing children with the highest quality, patient centric, compassionate dental care, email [pdpd@pawleyspediatricdentist.com](mailto:pdpd@pawleyspediatricdentist.com).

**Pedodontist or a general dentist** that loves treating children. Guaranteed salary with comprehensive benefits package including 401k with match and more. 2-5 years of pedo experience preferred. Digital with radiographs and EMR (Dentrix). 10 op facility. Business and clinical team to support you and help you succeed. [mhuffman@westerncarolinadental.com](mailto:mhuffman@westerncarolinadental.com).

High tech locally owned general practice in need of a part time **Endodontist**. Tailored schedule is available. 1 day/week. Office is located in Goose Creek. 14 miles from Downtown Charleston. Fotona Lightwalker laser on site training available. [Ccd.manager@carolinacompletedental.com](mailto:Ccd.manager@carolinacompletedental.com).

We are looking for a **Dentist** who enjoys checking hygiene. We are looking for someone who can cover 1-4 times per month on checking only hygiene. We do see children and teenagers. Please email [irmokidsdental@gmail.com](mailto:irmokidsdental@gmail.com) for more information.

Looking for a dentist to join our 20+ year established and fast-growing private practice in **Myrtle Beach, SC**. Specializing in general, restorative and cosmetic dentistry. Molar endodontic and implant experience a plus. We are 100% fee for service practice. Send resume/CV to [kristen@drrearden.com](mailto:kristen@drrearden.com).

Unique associateship opportunity for a **general dentist** who enjoys surgery and helping those in need. We are an energetic emergency and surgery based practice that provides exodontia, implants, iv sedation, PRE, ridge augmentations, biopsies and various other dentoalveolar surgeries. Compensation is very competitive. [Brandon@columbiadentalhealth.com](mailto:Brandon@columbiadentalhealth.com).

FT/PT Associate Dentist Opportunity in highly visible, established, busy, advanced digital practice located near **Charleston, SC**. Must be proficient in all phases of general dentistry. 1-2 years experience or GP residency preferred but not required. Competitive pay, high growth potential w/ owner/equity possibility. Focus on Pt Patient Care and delivering excellence. Available Immediately. Please send CV to [gillytooth@gmail.com](mailto:gillytooth@gmail.com).

Seeking PT/FT Oral Surgeon or GP with Advanced Surgical and Implant Skill near **Charleston, SC** Brand new facility with state of the art technology and fully digital workflow. CBCT, Digital Scanner, 3D Printing. Fee for Service Practice focused on delivering high levels of surgical and implant care as well as IV sedation dentistry. [gillytooth@gmail.com](mailto:gillytooth@gmail.com).

Dentist needed in **Spartanburg SC** looking for full time or part time General dentist for growing practice competitive compensation. If interested or have questions, please contact via 864-582-4441 or email Melissa at [info@hillcrestfamilydentistry.com](mailto:info@hillcrestfamilydentistry.com). Please submit cover letter and CV.

**Greenville, SC** Associate needed- FT or PT Associate Dentist opportunity for multi location practice. Must be proficient in all aspects of general dentistry. A minimum of 1-2 yrs experience or GPS preferred. Live, work and play in the fast growing upstate. [bellavistadentalsc@gmail.com](mailto:bellavistadentalsc@gmail.com).

Associate Dentist- Advanced Dental Center (**Florence SC**). Part time 3-day work week, earning potential up to \$275,000 (based on experience). Health insurance, malpractice, membership & ce reimbursement and so much more. [John@oakpoint.us](mailto:John@oakpoint.us).

FT or PT Associate Dentist needed for a well-established private practice in Market Common district in **Myrtle Beach**. We're a family practice that provides IV/oral sedation, dental implants, grafting and surgical extractions. Fully trained & highly experienced team. Income potential is excellent. Email CV to [lisa@marketcommondentistry.com](mailto:lisa@marketcommondentistry.com).

This is a **once in a lifetime opportunity** to join a quality focused, fee for service, group practice in a high growth area. Please visit [brickyarddentalgroup.com/associateship](http://brickyarddentalgroup.com/associateship) to apply or to learn more about this opportunity.

Excellent opportunity and competitive compensation for new graduate or experienced dentist. We are looking for full or part time dentist to join our rapidly growing practice in the lovely **Forest Acres** community in Columbia SC. 803-738-2424 or email [cdcsmls@live.com](mailto:cdcsmls@live.com).

Busy and growing dental practice in beautiful **Fort Mill, SC** is looking for an associate general dentist to join our expanding team. Competitive and excellent pay for qualified candidate. Experience is preferred but not mandatory. State of the art facility, computerized and paperless. For more information or please contact [beth@friendlydentalgroup.com](mailto:beth@friendlydentalgroup.com).

We're looking for a dentist to join our multi-specialty **Columbia** area. Modern office with CBCT, digital scanner, 3D printer, and implant system. Busy practice seeing a cash pay patient base. Huge income opportunity and sign-on bonus. Mentorship opportunities and defined path to ownership. 919.410.5216 or [abakefield@ammons dental.com](mailto:abakefield@ammons dental.com).

Come work with us and achieve greatness. We are seeking a FT dentist to join our busy general practice in **Columbia, SC**. Simply Smile is an updated practice with an energetic atmosphere. We offer great benefits, compensation, and the ability to work independently with a supportive and trained staff. Mon-Fri. new grads welcome. Send resume to [simplysmile7457@gmail.com](mailto:simplysmile7457@gmail.com).

**Orthodontist** (Charleston, SC) Full time, competitive pay, 401k, health insurance, malpractice, membership & ce reimbursement, ownership and so much more! Contact Kelly Kakkuri [kkakkuri@oakpoint.us](mailto:kkakkuri@oakpoint.us).

Midlands Technical College in Columbia, SC, is looking for a **Dental Hygiene Program Director**. Program offers graduates an Associate's degree; starting 20 new students each year. Qualifications: Master's degree, Licensed Dental Hygienist, or Dentist licensed to practice in SC. Applications located online at SC.Gov, under "Find A Job."

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Passionate dentist wanted to join **Columbia's** thriving West Vista Dental. Exciting Associate Dentist opening in patient-centric practice. Work with experienced professionals, enjoy clinical autonomy and growth opportunities. Contact John Petty at [john@oakpoint.us](mailto:john@oakpoint.us) to join our team and deliver exceptional oral care in a welcoming environment. [john@oakpoint.us](mailto:john@oakpoint.us)

**Periodontist-** Full or Part time position available, we have an excellent team. We are adding to our growing specialist office. Please forward CV. All applications will be confidential, will consider new grads. [management@teethds.com](mailto:management@teethds.com).

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**Myrtle Beach-** Flexible opportunity for PT or FT schedule. Child friendly family practice seeking compassionate dentist to work with children and adults of all ages. Enjoy the ability to work independently with supportive staff. Mon-Fri, new grads welcome. Send resume to [mendez\\_marlene@yahoo.com](mailto:mendez_marlene@yahoo.com).

Fantastic opportunity for high earning potential! **Seneca Family Dentistry** is seeking a part-time or full-time Associate Dentist. We are a privately owned general dentistry practice located steps from Lake Keowee and 10 min to Clemson! Established office with exponential growth! Beautiful facility with state-of-the-art equipment, wonderful patient base and great support staff! Contact: [Dmdword@gmail.com](mailto:Dmdword@gmail.com) or 864-423-9190

Dentist needed in **Spartanburg SC** looking for FT or PT General Dentist for growing practice, competitive compensation. If interested or have questions, please contact with cover letter and CV 864-582-4441 or [info@hillcrestfamilydentistry.com](mailto:info@hillcrestfamilydentistry.com).

Prisma Health Dentistry welcomes applications from exceptional candidates to serve in a full-time, **clinical track faculty role**. This position will provide multidisciplinary comprehensive oral health and urgent care. Completion of a CODA approved Residency Program is required. Please send CV to [carrie.dover@prismahealth.org](mailto:carrie.dover@prismahealth.org) if interested.

Looking for a **dentist** to join our 23+ years established and fast-growing private practice (Non-DSO) in Myrtle Beach, SC. Specializing in general, restorative and cosmetic dentistry. Molar endodontic and implant experience is a plus. We are a 100% fee for service practice. Send resumes/ CV to [Kristen@DrRearden.com](mailto:Kristen@DrRearden.com).

Full time opportunity for a dentist in **Upstate** South Carolina. Along with 8 weeks vacation and free days off you can average a 2 1/2 day work week with full time pay. Competitive salary, 401K, health, disability and malpractice, licenses and DEA renewals. Please email [rundvu@gmail.com](mailto:rundvu@gmail.com).

Join Denmark Dentistry in **Denmark, SC** as an Associate Dentist! We offer a technologically advanced, patient-focused environment with a clear to path to partnership. Enjoy comprehensive benefits, continuous education, and a supportive community. Whether you're experienced or a recent graduate, we provide the perfect platform to enhance your dental career. [rboerger@imagendentalpartners.com](mailto:rboerger@imagendentalpartners.com).

**FT Associate Dentist-** Ideal candidate will be motivated and committed to delivering exceptional patient care. We are a well established family practice that tries to keep up with the latest techniques and services. We also invest in our team and technology. If you love to learn and want to surround yourself with a fun collaborative environment, we are the practice for you. [Lakewyliessdentist.com](mailto:Lakewyliessdentist.com), email CV and cover letter to [smile@carolinafamilydentistry.com](mailto:smile@carolinafamilydentistry.com).

#### **Positions Available- Staff**

Looking for a New Dental Team member, for a **Full time Dental Hygiene** position in wonderful Irmo, SC! 32-36 hours a week, 8a.m.-5p.m. Monday-Friday (60min recares/ 80min New Patients) Exceptional Pay!!!! Sign on bonus!! Please call/text- 1 (843) 593-6428 [info@foxdentalstaffing.com](mailto:info@foxdentalstaffing.com)

Looking for a New Dental Team member, for a Full time **Front Desk** position in Beautiful Bluffton, SC! Please call/text- 1 (843) 593-6428 Join the team. We are looking for More Dental Team members, both temporary (Full-time) and Permanent (Full-time) positions in SC, NC and GA! [info@foxdentalstaffing.com](mailto:info@foxdentalstaffing.com)

Looking for a New Dental Team member, for a temporary **Dental Hygiene** position in the beautiful town of Beaufort, SC! 7:30am - 4:00pm. Fun & Energetic Environment. Eaglesoft & Dexis. 60min recares/80min New Patients/ 30 min

child prophyl. Competitive Pay. All Proper PPE Provided. Please call/text- (843) 593-6428 [info@foxdentalstaffing.com](mailto:info@foxdentalstaffing.com)

Full time **certified dental assistant** position in a busy pediatric dental office. Duties include taking digital dental radiographs, chair side assistance to the dentist during a variety of treatment procedures. Must be a dynamic team player. Only certified Dental Assistants need to apply. Email resume and references to [dmd4kids@bellsouth.net](mailto:dmd4kids@bellsouth.net).

A state of the art- paperless dental practice is seeking a highly energetic **RDH** to complete our team. General office of 18+ years that uses itero scan for invisalign braces- Eaglesoft digital x-rays. Your uniforms, CE and medical insurance will be provided. Send resume to 147 Charlotte Ave. Rock Hill, SC 29730.

Once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of Maxillofacial Prosthodontics and Head and Neck Surgery Team! Together, we will improve quality of life of patients with complex dental and maxillofacial needs. Duties include but are not limited to taking CBCT, 3D intraoral scans, **assisting chairside** and in OR Email resume or CV and references to [leeby@musc.edu](mailto:leeby@musc.edu).

**Irmo, SC-** Dental hygienist needed. Full time/ part time, Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm, lunch 12-1. Competitive pay with experience. [acm5765@aol.com](mailto:acm5765@aol.com).

We are looking for a **DAII** to join our team. Applicant should be a people-person and willing to help out in all aspects of office life. Compensation based on experience. Benefits include PTO, paid holidays, health insurance and 401K. [info@smilesinthesun.com](mailto:info@smilesinthesun.com).

We are looking for a **patient coordinator** to join our team in Indian Land. Applicant should be a people person and have experience with Eaglesoft. Compensation based on experience. Benefits include PTO, paid holidays, health insurance and 401K. [info@smilesinthesun.com](mailto:info@smilesinthesun.com).

Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach is seeking a **dental assistant** with great customer service. Four days/28 hours a week position. Must have graduated from an accredited dental assisting program or have a minimum of two years of chairside work experience. Submit a resume and cover letter to [ashlee.franklin@olmoutreach.org](mailto:ashlee.franklin@olmoutreach.org).

We are seeking an energetic individual to step into the role of PT/FT **dental hygienist**. We are privately owned, FFS office and we offer competitive pay. Please send all resumes and references to [info@lugoffsmiles.com](mailto:info@lugoffsmiles.com).

**Dental assistant and front desk** position available. Our office hours are Monday-Thursday. We take pride in being an individual/solo practice. Surgical and implant experience preferred. X-ray certification needed. Health benefits are available. Please e-mail all resumes to [info@drdonaldhogan.com](mailto:info@drdonaldhogan.com) or fax 803-788-4409.

**Dental Hygienist-** Exciting opportunity to join a longstanding practice with a full range of dental service. The office has state-of-the-art technology, including 3D CBCT! 4 day work week, strong new patient flow, guaranteed base pay with bonus opportunity. Retirement plan matching, CE, paid time off and holiday pay. [cpowell@ammons dental.com](mailto:cpowell@ammons dental.com).

Columbia- Well established private practice seeking **FT RDH** who is passionate about patient care, oral health and is a team player. State of the art technology including ultrasonics, digital xrays, intra oral scanning, in office milling, 3D printing and CBCT. Full benefits. M-Th 8-5 [frontdesk@fivetowersdentistry.com](mailto:frontdesk@fivetowersdentistry.com).

Barnwell SC- Established practice with up-to-date facility and equipment looking for a **hygienist** seeking good work/life balance for a private practice. 401k matching, paid holidays, four day work week. Please send resumes to [nellie@stillandreeddentistry.com](mailto:nellie@stillandreeddentistry.com)

Indian Land- Two dentist office seeking a **hygienist** to join our team! We strive for excellent quality with an emphasis on prevention and maintenance. Applicant should have experience with digital x-rays and Eaglesoft, and be comfortable educating and discussing treatment plans. Benefits include PTO, paid holidays, health insurance and 401K. [suncitydmd@hotmail.com](mailto:suncitydmd@hotmail.com).

#### **Practices/Office Space Available**

**Satellite dental office:** 52 foot trailer. One operatory fully equipped white coastal chair. One operatory plumbed and ready. Lab, reception, business office, 1 full bathroom. Available to be donated to a legitimate charity for their use as a dental clinic call 803-617-8701.

Spectacular GP for sale in **Columbia, SC** only 8 miles from downtown! Practice is collecting over \$650,00 with 4 operatories with tons of room for growth. Fully digital, amazing location. Extremely low overhead with high profit margin. To find out more about this practice, please contact Bradley at 803-463-6636.

A profitable periodontal practice situated in the **Upstate** Region of South Carolina, where 2022 collections totaled nearly \$1 million seeing patients 4 days per week. The one-story, stand-alone facility is 2,200 sq. ft., with 4 fully-equipped operatories. CS 8200 3D Neo Edition. Contact [matt.kosciwicz@mccgillhillgroup.com](mailto:matt.kosciwicz@mccgillhillgroup.com) for more information.

FSBO- Excellent starter practice or satellite office opportunity! Established practice in **Sumter, SC** with 4 equipped ops. Fully digital with Planmeca x-rays and I-tero digital scanner. Avg 300k/yr on 3 days/week. Owner willing to stay for transition period. Any reasonable offers considered. Email [bestdentist@ftc-i.net](mailto:bestdentist@ftc-i.net).

Office building for sale in vibrant downtown **Laurens, SC**. Established father/son general dental practice at this location for 70+ years. Contact Adam Taylor, Keller Williams Greenville Central 864-981-0222 or [realadamtaylor@kw.com](mailto:realadamtaylor@kw.com).

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