



SOUTH CAROLINA DENTAL ASSOCIATION

Bulletin

July 2023

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President's Message

By John C Comisi DDS, SCDA President



Welcome to July!!!

The year is zooming by for all of us.

Both Hockey and Basketball have crowned their Champions. The 4th of July is quickly upon us and the Baseball All Star Game is set to play in Seattle on July 11. Definitely a great time of the calendar year!

Here at MUSC the clinics are humming with our D3 and D4 students. Our freshman class has one month under their belts and living in the Gross Anatomy Labs (y'all remember that?), and our D2 class is off for the summer, their last full summer off for a LONG time during their education at the College.

Faculty? No, there is no formal time off, we are here working in the clinics and preparing for the Fall semester.

The SCDA has also been busy.

The Association recently held a Dental Team Labor Shortage Summit. This meeting, moderated by Dr. Amy Martin brought together representatives from all nine technical schools, the State Board of Dentistry, the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant Associations, and the Executive Committee of the SCDA. Presentations and panelist sessions helped all of those in attendance get a better understanding on this issue and all agreed that more collaborative efforts are needed to help overcome this difficult time we are all experiencing regarding workforce. From this a working document will be created to help our technical schools, our State Board, CODA and our State Legislators in the development of immediate and long term solutions.

Our June Board meeting discussed many important issues including our continued legislative efforts such as our Bloodborne Pathogens Bill, Teledentistry, E-Prescribe, Botox and others. We had presentations from Dr. Sarandeep Huja, Dean of the Dental College regarding the various ongoings at the College including the James B. Edwards Endowed Chair in Oral Surgery, presented to Dr. Marty Steed, the activities at the West Ashley Medical Pavilion Clinic and the Ryan White Clinic that provides "real world" practice opportunities to our students. He also discussed a new Nexton Clinic that will be in operation sometime in late 2024 as part of the MUSC Health network. He also discussed the implementation of and use of EPIC as the electronic health record in our dental clinics, to bridge the medical dental aspects of the practice of dentistry. The Dean also discussed the new departmental restructuring, the reason for it and the implementation of such.

Planning is underway for the 2024 Annual Meeting which will be held in Greenville, SC in August 2024. This will be another outstanding meeting.

Always at your service,
John C Comisi, DDS

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Medication Access and Training Expansion

By Phil Latham, SCDA Executive Director



This particular article was run in the May SCDA Bulletin, however the American Dental Association (ADA) has some additional information regarding the new law which applies to prescribers of controlled substances and the frequently asked questions have been updated, which can be assessed below.

The law is referred to the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act and requires prescribers, including dentists, to complete eight hour of one time training on safely prescribing controlled substances (Schedules II, III, IV, and/or V) in order to receive or renew your registration with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

It is very likely that you also received an email from the DEA in April also notifying you of this new requirement, which goes into effect on June 27, 2023.

To help dentists comply, the ADA has created a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document addressing common questions we have heard from members, including:

- Does this new federal training requirement affect me?
- What am I required to do?
- How much time do I have to satisfy the new training requirement?
- Do I need to maintain records showing I have completed the training?
- How will I know what courses will satisfy the requirement?
- Will training hours completed prior to the law's passage count toward the new requirement?
- Will I have to complete the 8 hours of federally required CE on a cyclical basis?
- Will CE credits that are accepted for state licensure count toward the new federal requirement?
- Can my state impose additional CE requirements?
- Am I required to complete training on topics that are outside of my scope of practice?
- Do I have to use a specific CE provider? Will ADA CERP credits count?
- Does the ADA offer CE on safe controlled substance prescribing?

The ADA will update the FAQ regularly to answer new questions and share additional information and the SCDA will continue to help notify the membership of any changes regarding this new law.

You can also visit the DEA Diversion Control Division's website for more updates at deadiversion.usdoj.gov.



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Hidden in Plain Sight: How an Office Manager Stole \$370,000

By Prosperident an SCDA Endorsed Company

Dr. David Hughes is going public; he's an orthodontist practicing in Virginia who is a victim of employee theft; over a period of about 6 years, his office manager stole \$370,000! The sentencing of [Lisa Anselm](#), his former office manager happened in March/2023, and both Dr. Hughes and his Prosperident Examiner, Wendy Askins were there in the courtroom when the embezzler was led away in handcuffs.

"I learned the hardest way possible" says Dr. Hughes, who hired Prosperident to investigate the fraud happening in his practice. The distraction from work and personal life took its toll, and he knows he will never get that time back. Dr. Hughes was focused on production-new patients and building referrals- he didn't have his eyes on the financial oversight needed.

Prosperident is endorsed by the South Carolina dental association as dentistry's embezzlement experts. As a member, you will benefit from the evaluation process your board has already completed, and a discount that has been negotiated.

"I made the mistake of assuming my accountant would catch this. They're not there to verify if what is given to them are real numbers- they simply work with what is given." Prosperident's [Wendy Askins](#), Supervising Examiner, led the investigation and worked closely with Dr. Hughes and his team to gather the data and cross reference from several sources to look for the evidence. During the sentencing hearing the Judge used the evidence in the Prosperident final report for his decisions.

Wendy shared her emotions in the moment watching the 58-year-old Anselm be handcuffed and led away. "It was surreal- I felt compassion for this woman who at 58 will have limited means of ever being employed again, and also vindication- we uncovered the evidence: the numerous ways she worked the system to steal from Dr. Hughes and not get caught."

Wendy Askins is well known for her passion to uncover embezzlers. In her distinguished career as a fraud investigator, she has uncovered millions of embezzled dollars.

When asked what he's learned, Dr. Hughes says he already started Wendy's recommendations of implementing new systems to ensure financial oversight. "You won't get your money back, and you won't get your sleep back" he stated, but he's moving forward to close the gaps in his practice that made him vulnerable to an embezzler. Dr. Hughes recommends [Prosperident's Owner Proactive Strategies](#) education service : Just like in dentistry , setting up good habits of brushing and flossing now is much better than the alternative!

To watch the Prosperident Webinar (we highly recommend) on this case, click on this [link](#). If you have concerns that embezzlement may be happening now in your practice, or you want to protection from theft, then call the true experts in fighting embezzlement: Prosperident. Save yourself thousands of dollars and many sleepless nights!

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Congrats to our Graduates and a Leadership Update

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



Dear SCDA member:

It is always both a pleasure and honor to share updates with the South Carolina dental community during the graduation and white coat season.

It could be said that the 2023 academic year is one for the record books with, a very strong performance by our students on the Integrated National Board Dental Exam, many planned and actualized curriculum enhancements, significant progress toward the long-anticipated integration of the Epic health record system, and the simultaneous rollout of the college's restructure initiatives.

We graduated the Class of 2023. Their hard work, and that of our incredible faculty and staff, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic, is evidenced by their 98% first-time pass rate on the Integrated National Board Dental Exam and their successful transition to private practice and residency programs.



Rising third-year dental students received their white coats. At the White Coat Ceremony on June 9, our third-year dental students took the Dentists Pledge, marking the beginning of the clinical portion of their education.



We welcomed 78 students in the incoming Class of 2027. As the state's only dental school, we have profound responsibility to prepare the next generation of leaders and providers for the oral health needs of the future. For the sixth year in a row, we have succeeded in holding tuition steady, thanks in large part to our generous alumni, friends and state support.

We announced an advancement in the college's organizational structure for the new academic and fiscal year. The goal of the department restructure is to enhance the fulfillment of the college's mission, ensure continuous quality improvement, and position the college as THE dental college known for innovation and education as it rises to national prominence. The college will function effectively and efficiently with better alignment of clinical, education, and research collaborations through a new academic department structure. Following the delivery of a 2022 external consultant's report and further engagement with faculty and staff, MUSC's leadership and Board of Trustees approved a three-department structure with three to four divisions and approximately 22 faculty in each department. Much of the existing structure is legacy-based, rather than functionally aligned. The new structure allows the college to achieve

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imperatives of expansion and integration with greater impact. The restructure will facilitate enterprise-wide opportunities for growth and build clinical and educational synergies across all work units. It takes effect July 1.

[Dr. Sompop Bencharit](#), assistant dean for Innovation, and chair, Department of Reconstructive and Rehabilitation Sciences will be supported by division chiefs Dr. Monica Cayouette, Division of Pre-Doctoral Prosthodontics, and Dr. James Loe, Division of Restorative Services.

[Dr. Theresa Gonzales](#), chair, Department of Advanced Specialty Sciences, will be supported by division chiefs Dr. Martin Steed, Division of Surgical Services & Applied Technology, and Dr. Hua-Hong (Ben) Chien, Division of Regenerative Sciences & Periodontology. Dr. Gonzales will serve as interim chief of the Division of Applied Craniofacial Sciences, supported by section heads Dr. Christel Haberland in pediatric dentistry and Dr. Timothy Tremont in orthodontics.

[Dr. Amy Martin](#), chair, Department of Biomedical & Community Health Sciences, will be supported by the following division chiefs: Dr. Theodore Ravenel, Division of Emergency Services, who will be supported in pre-doctoral endodontics by section head Dr. Chin-Lo (Ellen) Hahn; Dr. Joni Nelson, Division of Population Oral Health; and Dr. Charles Ferguson, Division of Diagnostic Sciences & Services. Dr. Martin will serve as interim chief of the Division of Basic Science Research.

We have many strong and experienced leaders among our faculty, and I remain grateful to all my colleagues. It is a privilege to serve alongside them.

Our MUSC dentistry referral portal is at <https://muschealth.org/medical-services/dental/referring/referral-form>.

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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 fore service practice. Send resume/CV to kristen@drrearden.com.

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Managing Dentist/Owner. 4 Day Work Week. Autonomy over team and treatment planning. Focus on surgery, dentures and implants. Implant Training included!! \$250,000 base salary + 100% of Monthly Profit. skellett@affordablecare.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. 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.

Associate Dentist needed in **Seneca/Clemson**. Privately owned general dentistry practice looking to hire full-time associate dentist. Established office with exponential growth. New facility with state-of-the-art equipment (Primescan, sprintray 3d printer, Conebeam, etc). Fantastic opportunity for high earning potential. Average 80 new pts per month. Dmdword@gmail.com or 864-423-9190.

General Dentist needed for **Summerville** area. We can be flexible for a pt or ft position. This office has a well trained team. There is lots of room for growth. Mentorship is available. All applications will be confidential. Please forward cv to southcarolina904@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.

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.

Seneca, SC practice is seeking an associate dentist with outstanding clinical skill. We're privately owned, patient-driven, and searching for the right dentist to join our growing practice. All digital, CEREC, excellent support staff. Full or Part time. DrJosh@senecadentist.com

Irmo, SC- Dentist needed for February and possibly part of March to fill in for dentist after surgery. 1 to 4 days per week available. \$750 per day minimum. acm5765@aol.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 to apply or to learn more about this opportunity.

Fort Mill SC- PT associateship position open, Wed-Fri. Daily base vs production guaranteed. Restorations, crowns, bridges, extractions, partials. cbmcdonalddds@gmail.com.

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. If interested or have questions text 803-447-6373 or email cdcsmiles@live.com.

The MUSC JBE College of Dental Medicine seeks applications for a full-time faculty position - the **Director for the Nexton Dental Clinic**. This is a full-time, non-tenure position. Requirements: At least 10 years clinical experience, proficiency in Digital Dentistry technology. The candidate will provide direct clinical care and instruct students. garvins@musc.edu

Dentist needed in Summerville! Associate sought with ultimate hope of ownership. You started dental school to help people. It was hard, but you never gave up. You have a license, we have a 116 year established practice built around the idea you started on. Let's talk! drrahn@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.

dentistsofdevine.com- All digital practice with CAD/CAM, EPIC software, partnership opportunity, CE courses, \$15K welcome bonus, full benefits, malpractice, all lab costs covered. Lauren.haney@pacden.com

Seeking Associate with buy-in option- We're a private dental practice in **Seneca, SC**, known for providing exceptional dental care to our patients. Our practice is equipped with state-of-the-art technology & offers a wide range of services. To apply, submit resume, cover letter and relevant documents to maliafredricksondds@hotmail.com.

Exciting opportunity to join an established practice in upscale **Columbia, SC!** Enjoy a 4-day work week and incredibly talented staff that has been with the team for decades. To apply please send your resume directly to Kelly Kakkuri at kkakkuri@oakpoint.us for more details. Compensation & benefits: Ownership/Equity, \$3,000 per year for continuing education expenses schedule: 4-day work week, Mon-Thurs 7:30 am -3:00 pm

We're looking for a dentist to join our multi-specialty **Columbia** area location. 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. Call/Text at 919.410.5216 or email abrakefield@ammons dental.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

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

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. Egelsoft & 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

Dentistsoflexington.com. Dr. Ali is looking for a **FT RDH** to join her team. This is an established practice with great hygiene culture. she is looking for a partnership to help treat oral disease. Full benefits, PTO, CE, competitive pay, potential bonus, and all digital practice. lauren.haney@pacden.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.

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.

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.

Savannah, GA Periodontal Practice for Sale- Six operatories with an expansion opportunity for an additional op. The current doctor is interested in a partnership with another dentist. 75 new patient referrals/month (with no marketing)! Collections \$1.4 M & EBITDA \$335,000. To learn more, contact Sam Schoenecker with Professional Transition Strategies: sam@professionaltransition.com or 719.694.8320.

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.

For sale: **Columbia, SC** general dental practice with 6 operatories and optional real estate purchase. 10-15 new patients/month and 2150 active patients with only 4 days/week operation. \$1.31M collections and \$335K EBITDA. Professional Transition Strategies: bailey@professionaltransition.com or 719.694.8320. Ref #SC30923.

Dental laboratory for sale in **Summerville, SC**. Asking price is \$400,000. Contact Bradley Lloyd 803-463-6636 or blloydcommercial@gmail.com.

Pedo office for sale: **Charleston, SC**- great location on busy road. 4 chair open bay and 2 closed operatories. Loyal patient base of 3,000+ active patients. Significant room for growth as doctor does little to no advertising. pedodentaloffice4sale@gmail.com

Office space available in **Columbia SC**. 3 operatories, 2 fully equipped, reception, private office, 2 bathrooms, lab. Call 803-798-7001.

For Sale

3,300 SF **Office Space For Lease**. Asking rate: \$18.50/SF NNN. Space delivered in shell condition. Tenant improvement allowance: \$40/SF (negotiable). Located minutes away from Patewood Medical Campus and I-385. matt@pintailcre.com



In 2023, SCDA Members Will Be Saving on Products and Services such as:

- Accounts Receivables/Collections
- Amalgam Separators and Waste
- Appliances
- Business and Personal Credit Cards
- Computers and Technology
- Credit Card Processing
- Dental Embezzlement Protection and Investigation
- Dental Supplies
- Electronic Claims Management
- Electronic Prescribing
- HIPAA and OSHA Compliance Training
- HIPAA Compliant, Secure Email
- Insurance Products and Services
- Medical Evacuation
- Medical Kits
- Office Supplies
- Patient Financing
- Payroll Processing
- Precious Metal Refining
- Student Loan Refinancing

Visit the Member Savings page at [scda.org](https://www.scda.org) for further information and free cost comparisons.

Contact the SCDA at **803.750.2277** or by email at scda@scda.org to learn how much your membership could save you.