

BOARD OF DENTISTRY
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING¹

Date: May 12, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Queen Liliuokalani Room, 1st Floor
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

<https://dcca-hawaii->

gov.zoom.us/j/82209760507?pwd=FblGtSC9YmfP6wuiZ5TlbrYZXWdPFK.1

Members Present: Andrew Tseu, D.D.S., J.D., Chair, Dental Member
Jonathan Lau, D.D.S., Vice-Chair, Dental Member
Katherine Fukushima, R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member
Paul Guevara, D.M.D, M.D.S., Dental Member
Steven Pine, D.D.S., Dental Member
Joy Shimabuku, Public Member
Joyce Yamada, Ed.D., R.D.H., Dental Hygiene Member
Craig Yamamoto, D.D.S., Dental Member

Members Excused: Staphe Fujimoto, D.D.S., Dental Member

Staff Present: Sheena Choy, Executive Officer (“EO Choy”)
Andrew Kim, Esq., Deputy Attorney General (“DAG Kim”)
Marc Yoshimura, Secretary
Young-Im Wilson, Supervising Executive Officer

In-Person Guests: Charles Kamimura
Richmond Luzar, HDA
Dr. Christopher Woo

Zoom Webinar

Guests: Gerraine Hignite, HDHA
Alexandria
Erik
Kim Nguyen, HDA

¹ Comments from the public were solicited on each agenda item. If no public comments were given, the solicitation for and lack of public comment are not explicitly stated in these minutes.

Virtual Meeting
Instructions:

A short video regarding virtual meetings was played for attendees.

Ms. Yamada and the Vice Chair provided information on internet and phone access for today's virtual meeting and announced that today's meeting was being recorded and that the recording will be posted on the Board's web page.

Agenda:

The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by §92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

Roll Call:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded with a roll call of the Board members. All Board members confirmed that they were present; those on Zoom confirmed they were present and alone.

Call to Order:

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Chair's
Announcements:

Appreciation for outgoing dental hygiene board member, Katherine Fukushima

The Chair announced that this is Ms. Fukushima's last meeting as her term expires on June 30, 2025. On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Ms. Fukushima for her service on the Board and her commitment to protecting public health, safety, and welfare.

Approval of
Minutes:

Approval of the Open & Executive Session Minutes of March 10, 2025 Meeting

The Chair asked if there was any Board discussion of, corrections to, or public comments regarding the March 10, 2025 meeting.

There were none.

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Yamada, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the Open and Executive Session minutes of the March 10, 2025 meeting.

New Business:

Inquiry from Dr. Gary Umeda regarding consideration of licensure exemption for the Maui Tucker Study Club's annual international meeting under HRS §448-1(3)

The Chair stated that the Board received an email inquiry from Dr. Umeda requesting clarification as to the exemptions allowed by HRS §448-1. Specifically, he would like to know if the R.V. Tucker Study Club of Hawaii would qualify for a licensure exemption for the purposes of the lecture series under HRS §448-1(3).

EO Choy read the email from Dr. Umeda:

“Our Tucker study club will be hosting an international meeting in August 2026 on Maui. At this annual meeting, dentists will be doing dental procedures on patients live. The majority will be in state licensed and insured dentists but we would like to have some excellent and skilled dentist also do some dental procedures. Is this possible.

FYI, this will be our third hosting of the meeting and we have previously operated at Pearl Harbor, UH hygiene clinic, and at private offices. I believe there were out of state dentists operating there before. Of course, we were all insured.

Our Tucker study club has been in Hawaii since 1998 so we have a long history here encouraging and promoting excellence and quality in dentistry in Hawaii.”

EO Choy stated that Dr. Umeda clarified that the name of the group is “R.V. Tucker Study Club of Hawaii.” The study club plans to hold its annual international meeting on Maui at the Maui Community College of Dental Hygiene.

Dr. Christopher Woo raised his hand and was invited to share in-person oral testimony.

Dr. Woo stated that he is a member of the R.V. Tucker Study Club of Hawaii, which has existed for around 26 years. Tucker Study Clubs host annual, international conferences, and the Hawaii club follows the same model – the conferences last for four days, with one day designated for live clinical demonstrations; the remaining three days are lectures.

The Hawaii Tucker Study Club has previously hosted two such international conferences in the State. They are again seeking permission from the Board to host the third conference because guest dentists will be invited from out-of-state Tucker Study Clubs to participate in the live clinical demonstrations.

The Chair asked how out-of-state and international dentists are vetted for participation in the live patient demonstrations.

Dr. Woo stated that the Hawaii Tucker Study Club handpicks dentists to perform specific procedures based on their expertise and experience. These are all licensed dentists in current practice who provide mentorship within the international Tucker Study Club system.

EO Choy asked if there is a formal process for a dentist to be approved as a “mentor” within the Tucker Study Club system.

Dr. Woo stated that the founder of the organization was the sole individual who selected mentors prior to his passing a few years ago. No

new mentors have been trained since. One of the requirements to be a mentor is to have been a Tucker Study Club member for at least 10 years.

The Chair asked if the Hawaii Tucker Study Club has any official or unofficial affiliation with other organizations, such as the Hawaii Dental Association ("HDA").

Dr. Woo stated that members receive Academy of General Dentistry ("AGD") continuing education ("CE") credit for attendance at the Tucker Study club meetings. The mentors who teach at the study club meetings also receive AGD CE credit due to the clinical hands-on component.

EO Choy asked when the previous two conferences were held in Hawaii.

Dr. Woo stated that the first meeting was held in 2003 at Ko'olina with the clinical portion at Pearl Harbor; the other meeting was in 2014 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village with clinicals at the University of Hawaii at Manoa Dental Hygiene School. For the upcoming conference they are seeking approval for, the clinical portion will be conducted at the University of Hawaii Maui Dental Hygiene school, which has a capacity of 20 chairs for a maximum of 20 mentors to perform live clinicals. The Hawaii Tucker Study Club currently has nine (9) mentors and intends to invite about three (3) additional out-of-state mentors.

EO Choy stated that the question before the Board would be – is the R.V. Tucker Study Club of Hawaii considered a, "like dental organization" under HRS §448-1(3).

§448-1 Dentistry defined; exempted practices. The following practices, acts, and operations, however, are exempt from the operation of this chapter:

(3) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of other states or countries at meetings of the Hawaii Dental Association or component parts thereof, alumni meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental organizations, while appearing as clinicians

The Chair asked if there were out-of-state or international dentists who attended the 2003 and 2014 live patient demonstrations and if the Board previously approved these conferences as qualifying for the licensure exception under HRS §448-1(3).

Dr. Woo stated that there were out-of-state and/or international dentists who participated in the live clinicals during the 2003 and 2014 Hawaii conferences, as preapproved by the Board at that time. About 70 dentists from around the world attended each conference.

EO Choy asked if there were any issues during the 2003 and 2014 conferences with the live clinical demonstrations.

Dr. Woo confirmed that there were no issues during the past conferences. He stated that for the most part, they are seating appointments focused primarily on seating and polishing. The mentors hold prep sessions for the younger dentists who have not seen certain techniques, such as gold foil, performed before.

Dr. Pine stated that he has seen the work of one of the Tucker Study Club mentors and the work was impeccable.

Dr. Yamamoto asked if there are Hawaii licensed dentists who attend the Hawaii conferences and are available to support the out-of-state dentists performing the clinics. For example, if a patient were to aspirate a gold restoration, is there a designed individual assigned to address emergencies.

Dr. Woo stated that there are about 20 Hawaii licensed dentists in attendance at the in-state conferences. The clinical portion is performed in front of all attendees in an open room.

Dr. Yamamoto asked if the Tucker Study Club organization is affiliated with the American Dental Association ("ADA").

Dr. Woo stated that the founder of the Tucker Study Club organization was recognized by the ADA. He reiterated that study club sessions receive AGD credit for CE.

EO Choy clarified that if the conference or Tucker Study Club meeting attendance was submitted by licensees to meet the Hawaii CE requirements upon licensure renewal, they must confirm if the organization is AGD approved. CEs must be completed through one of the approved sponsoring organizations pursuant to HAR §16-79-142.

§16-79-142 Approved sponsoring organizations. Licensees shall comply with the CE program requirements by completing the requisite number of hours from courses offered by the following sponsoring organizations approved by the board, provided the courses meet the eligibility requirements of section 16-79-141:

- (1) Academy of General Dentistry approved CE providers;
- (2) Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education certified CE providers;
- (3) ADA and its recognized specialty organizations;
- (4) ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program approved CE providers;
- (5) ADHA;
- (6) American Academy of Dental Hygiene;
- (7) American Council on Pharmaceutical Education;
- (8) American Heart Association;
- (9) American Medical Association;
- (10) American Red Cross;
- (11) CODA accredited programs;

- (12) Dental assistant programs as approved by the board;
- (13) Hawaii Department of Health;
- (14) Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations accredited hospitals;
- (15) Regional and state testing agencies as it relates to the courses and calibration sessions;
- (16) State dental associations and their component dental societies; and
- (17) State dental hygienists' associations and their components.

The Chair stated the Board evaluates inquiries on a case-by-case basis. Any Board decision regarding the Hawaii Tucker Study Club does not apply to any or all other study clubs or groups.

The Board provided guidance that the R.V. Tucker Study Club of Hawaii is considered a "like dental organization" under HRS §448-1(3).

EO Choy stated that dentists, whether domestic or international, attending conferences within this State, must hold a current, active, and unencumbered dental license in their own jurisdiction. Additionally, the exemption allowed under HRS §448-1(3) does not apply to any auxiliary personnel, including dental hygienists or dental assistants.

EO Choy encouraged the Hawaii Tucker Study Club to inquire with the Board for all future conferences.

See the board's relevant laws and rules for more details. Please be advised that in accordance with HAR §16-201-90, the above interpretation is for informational and explanatory purposes only. It is not an official opinion or decision, and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the board, or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Applications:

Ratification Lists

After reading the license numbers on the ratification lists, the Chair asked if there was any public testimony or Board discussion.

Seeing none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve the ratification lists.

Upon a motion by Ms. Shimabuku, seconded by Dr. Pine, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following ratification lists:

1) Approved Dentists

DT-3216 Miranda Shu Wen Yip
DT-3217 Benjamin Alston Burton
DT-3218 Alina Lee Lane

2) Approved Dental Hygienists

DH-2513 Kendra Latrice Watkins
DH-2514 Erika Shore
DH-2515 Bethany Elena Alvarez
DH-2516 Tamara Marianna Masciola
DH-2517 Elisabeth Ruth Sinclair

Ongoing Business: **2025 Legislative Session – Bill Discussion & Updates**

The Chair asked if there was any public testimony. There was none.

EO Choy stated that the legislative session concluded on May 2, 2025. Since the Board's last meeting on March 10, 2025, only one bill that the Board provided a position on, S.B. 1373, advanced through the entire legislative process. S.B. 1373 successfully passed through both chambers of the Legislature and is now enrolled with the Governor.

Unless the Governor vetoes the bill by July 9, 2025, it will become law effective July 1, 2025. The current draft to be enrolled to the Governor, as well as additional information about the bill can be found on the measure's bill page:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=1373&year=2025.

For those interested, EO Choy included an informational sheet from the Public Access Room on the Governor's Timeline for this last stage of the legislative process.

S.B. 1373, RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE ACTIONS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS.

Purpose: Authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses or certification of registered sex offenders. (CD1)

EO Choy stated that updates on all the other bills are available on the addendum attached to the agenda. None of the other bills the Board was tracking made it through the final stages of the process, so they are dead.

EO Choy reported that there were several updates to the Board membership this session and congratulated the following individuals on their appointment or reappointment to the Board:

- G.M. 657: Joy Shimabuku, Public Member – Reappointment 2nd term
- G.M. 534: Dr. Steven Pine, Dentist Member, Hawaii County – Confirmation of interim appointment 1st term
- G.M. 711: Dr. Staphe Fujimoto, Dentist Member – Reappointment 2nd term

- G.M. 732: Marianne Timmerman, Dental Hygiene Member – Appointment 1st term

Board members are nominated by the Governor, confirmed by the Senate, and may serve up to two consecutive four-year terms.

Update from the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (“CRDTS”) regarding dental and dental hygiene compacts

EO Choy reminded the Board that they have been discussing the issue of dental and dental hygiene compacts since two national compacts were proposed about a year ago. The two compacts are the Council of State Governments (“CSG”) Dental and Dental Hygiene Compact and the American Association of Dental Boards (“AADB”) Compact.

The CSG Compact is active, but awaiting implementation over the next 18 to 24 months before compact privileges can be issued. The CSG Compact has been enacted legislatively by 12 states – Washington, Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia, and Maine. Legislation is pending in Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

The AADB Compact needs to be enacted by five (5) states to be activated. Legislation is pending in ten states – Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Maryland.

The CRDTS update informs state boards that CRDTS favors the CSG compact over the AADB compact. CRDTS primarily takes issue with the AADB Compact’s exclusion of CRDTS as a qualifying clinical exam for compact licensure after January 1, 2024. The full CRDTS update is provided in the meeting packet.

The Chair asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

The Chair requested EO Choy invite CSG and AADB to provide updates to the Board regarding their respective dental compacts. Compacts would have a significant impact on Hawaii dental licensure and regulation.

Executive Officer’s Report:

Updates to application forms for temporary dentist (“DTT”), temporary dental hygienist (“DHT”), and community service dentist (“CSDT”) licensure

EO Choy reported that the application forms and instructions for DTT, DHT, and CSDT licenses have been updated. The updated forms are available for download on the Board’s website:

https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/dentist/application_publications/.

EO Choy stated that one of the more significant updates was separating the DTT application into two separate applications, to address the different requirements for applicants applying for DTT licensure as post-doctoral residents.

An FAQs for post-doctoral resident applicants and their programs has also been uploaded to the Board's website:

https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/news-releases/dental_announcements/.

Dental Board Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ's") – Updated

EO Choy stated that a new FAQs document is available on the Board's website: <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/dentist/>.

The FAQs cover general questions about the application process, maintenance of license after licensure, and the different license types offered by the Board.

All individuals are reminded that the Board's laws, rules, and other policies are subject to change. The FAQs are provided as a guideline only and are not the final authority on licensure or other requirements. They are provided for informational and explanatory purposes only and are not binding on the Department or the Board in any way. Please see the Board's laws and rules for more details:

https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/dentist/statute_rules/.

Dr. Pine expressed appreciation for the FAQs document. He recommended the document be referenced in the application form to assist applicants.

Reminder – Renewal year for dental licenses

EO Choy stated that the Board continues to remind all dental licensees that this is a renewal year. EO Choy reported that she emailed a copy of the renewal FAQs available online to the Hawaii Dental Association ("HDA") and the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association ("HDHA").

Pursuant to HRS §447-1(a)(d), HRS §448-7 and HRS §448-8.5, all dentist and dental hygiene licensees, with the exception of community service dental hygienists, must renew their license on a biennial basis, which includes meeting the continuing education requirements. The next renewal deadline for the 2024-2025 licensure biennium is December 31, 2025.

Dentists with the additional privilege/permit to administer deep sedation/general anesthesia and/or moderate sedation are additionally reminded that a renewal facility inspection is required before December 31, 2025 if the licensee wishes to maintain the additional privilege to administer.

A renewal FAQs document is available on the Board's website: https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/news-releases/dental_announcements/. A yellow banner has also been posted at the top of the Board's website for a quick overview of FAQs.

EO Choy highlighted several points from the FAQs:

1. A renewal postcard will be sent to licensees closer to the renewal deadline. However, this is a courtesy reminder only. All licensees are responsible for the timely renewal of their license and compliance with all renewal requirements.
2. The Board is accepting 100% of CEs completed online for the 2024-2025 licensure biennium only. However, the hands-on component of Basic Life Support ("BLS") courses must be taken in-person.
3. Renewal facility inspections for dentist with the additional permit to administer anesthesia will begin on July 1, 2025.
4. Any request for waiver of CE requirements must be submitted and approved BEFORE a renewal application is submitted.

Richmond Luzar raised his hand in person and was invited to provide oral testimony.

Mr. Luzar stated that he is representing the Hawaii Dental Association ("HDA"). During the last renewal cycle, there were a few dentists who were relying on receiving a hard-copy renewal postcard to remind them of the renewal deadline. He stated that HDA is aware that the renewal postcard is a courtesy only, and all licensees are responsible for timeline renewal of their licenses.

Mr. Luzar expressed HDA's appreciation to the Board for its communication and helpful resources on the renewal process and requirements that they have been sending out to their membership.

EO Choy stated that in addition to posting multiple resources to the Board's website, she also shared the Renewal FAQs document with HDA and the Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association ("HDHA").

The Chair thanked Dr. Yamamoto, Dr. Fujimoto, and Dr. Hasegawa (former Board member and Chair) and all other volunteers who are involved in the anesthesia facility site renewal inspections. These inspections require significant time and effort from the volunteers, but are important to help protect public health, safety, and welfare.

EO Choy echoed the Chairs thanks to Dr. Yamamoto, Dr. Fujimoto, and the entire volunteer inspection team. She noted that the inspections are coordinated not just for renewals, but are also ongoing through the year.

The inspection team is comprised entirely of volunteer dentists who are not compensated. Inspections are conducted across the State.

Dr. Yamamoto shared that they are actively searching for additional qualifying volunteers.

There was no further discussion.

Next Meeting:

Monday, July 14, 2025

10:00 a.m.

In-Person: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room
HRH King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual

Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Webinar

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Reviewed and approved by:

Taken and recorded by:

/s/ Sheena Choy

/s/ Marc Yoshimura

Sheena Choy
Executive Officer

Marc Yoshimura
Secretary

SC:my

7/2/25

[X] Minutes approved as is.

[] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of