UNAPPROVED

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

MINUTES
SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE "B"

TIME AND PLACE:	Special Conference Committee "B" convened on January 30, 2015 at 9:08 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233.
FIRST CONFERENCE:	9:08 a.m.
PRESIDING:	Charles E. Gaskins, III, D.D.S.
MEMBERS PRESENT:	John M. Alexander, D.D.S. A. Rizkalla, D.D.S.
STAFF PRESENT:	Kelley W. Palmatier, Deputy Executive Director Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager Tiffany A. Laney, Adjudication Specialist
QUORUM:	All three members of the Committee were present.
Christina Whittington, C.D.A., Applicant Case No.: 157596; and Ernest Whittington, C.D.A., Applicant Case No.: 157597	Mrs. and Mr. Whittington appeared without counsel to discuss their Applications for Registration to Practice as a Dental Assistant II in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the allegations set forth in Notices of the Board dated November 19, 2014. The Committee received statements from Mrs. And Mr. Whittington and discussed the allegations with them.
Closed Meeting:	Dr. Rizkalla moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matters of Christina Whittington and Ernest Whittington. Additionally, Dr. Rizkalla moved that Ms. Palmatier, Ms. Lee, and Ms. Laney attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and passed.
Reconvene:	Dr. Rizkalla moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and passed.

DECISION:
Case Nos.: 157596 and 157597

Ms. Laney reported that the Committee granted Christina Whittington's and Ernest Whittington's Applications for Registration to Practice as a Dental Assistant II in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Dr. Rizkalla moved to adopt the decisions of the Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

SECOND CONFERENCE: 11:08 a.m.

PRESIDING: Charles E. Gaskins, III, D.D.S.

MEMBERS PRESENT: John M. Alexander, D.D.S.
A. Rizkalla, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Kelley W. Palmatier, Deputy Executive Director
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager
Shevaun Roukous, Adjudication Specialist

QUORUM: All three members of the Committee were present.

Michael K. Obeng, D.D.S., Applicant
Case No.: 158116

Dr. Obeng appeared without counsel to discuss his Application for a License to Practice Dentistry in the Commonwealth of Virginia by credentials, and the allegations set forth in a Notice of the Board dated November 25, 2014. The Committee received statements from Dr. Obeng and discussed the allegations with him.

Closed Meeting:

Dr. Rizkalla moved that the Committee convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of Michael K. Obeng. Additionally, Dr. Rizkalla moved that Ms. Palmatier, Ms. Lee, and Ms. Roukous attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary and their presence will aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and passed.

Reconvene:

Dr. Rizkalla moved that the Committee certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded and passed.

DECISION:
Case No.: 158841

Ms. Roukous reported that the Committee found that Dr. Obeng responded "no" in response to a question on his Application which read: "Have you had any malpractice suits brought against you in the past 10 years?," despite the fact that a National Practitioner DataBank Report revealed that on or about June 11, 2008, a malpractice claim was settled on his behalf pertaining to improper dental treatment he provided to a patient.

The Committee also found that Dr. Obeng responded "yes" in response to a question on his Application which read: "Have you ever had any of the following disciplinary actions taken against your license to practice dentistry, your DEA permit, Medicare, Medicaid, or any such actions pending: suspension/revocations, or probations, or reprimand/cease and desist, or monitoring of practice, or limitation placed on scheduled drugs?;" and listed a September 9, 2008 Order entered by the Nebraska Board; however, he failed to report a November 9, 2012 Settlement Agreement he entered into with the New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care pertaining to his failure to comply with advertising guidelines.

By Order dated September 9, 2008, the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health State of Nebraska adopted an Agreed Settlement filed June 25, 2008, in which Dr. Obeng was censured and ordered to complete a 12 hour continuing education course in restorative dentistry, including a minimum of 6 hours in crown and bridge work and a recordkeeping course. This action was based on allegations pertaining to obtaining vitals and patient descriptions from his dental staff over the telephone and instructing staff to give patients additional Triazolam while he was not in the office, his inadequate restoration of a patient's teeth, and his failure to document vital signs of patients under conscious sedation.

By Settlement Agreement dated November 9, 2012, the New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care fined Dr. Obeng $1,000.00 for his failure to comply with advertising guidelines.

The Committee granted Dr. Obeng's Application for a License to Practice Dentistry in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and that within 60 days from the date of entry of the Order, Dr. Obeng shall successfully complete the Board's Dental Law Examination.

Dr. Alexander moved to adopt the decision of the Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

Virginia Board of Dentistry
Special Conference Committee "B"
January 30, 2015

Approval of Minutes: Upon a motion by Dr. Alexander, the minutes from the Informal Conference conducted on August 1, 2014 and December 5, 2014 were approved.

ADJOURNMENT: With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Charles E. Gaskins, III, D.D.S. Chair

Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

Date

Date