

APPROVED

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

MINUTES

SPECIAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE "C"

TIME AND PLACE: Special Conference Committee "C" convened on December 17, 2021 at 9:13 a.m., at the Department of Health Professions, Perimeter Center, 2nd Floor Conference Center, Board Room 4, 9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233.

FIRST CONFERENCE:

PRESIDING: Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Michael Martinez de Andino, J.D.
Dagoberto Zapatero, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Jamie C. Sacksteder, Deputy Executive Director
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager
Rebecca Smith, Adjudication Specialist

QUORUM: With all members present, a quorum was established.

**Hina Ali, D.M.D.
Case No.: 196958** Dr. Ali appeared with counsel, Camille Shora, to discuss the allegations set forth in a Notice of the Board dated September 9, 2021. The Committee received additional evidence and statements from Dr. Ali and Ms. Shora and discussed the allegations with them.

Closed Meeting: Mr. Martinez de Andino 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 Hina Ali. Additionally, Mr. Martinez de Andino moved that Ms. Sacksteder and Ms. Lee 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: Mr. Martinez de Andino 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.

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**DECISION:
Case No.: 196958**

The sanctions reported by Ms. Sacksteder were that Dr. Ali shall be reprimanded and pay a \$2,000.00 monetary penalty. Within 6 months from the date of entry of the Order, Dr. Ali shall successfully complete a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of endodontic diagnosis and treatment planning; and a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of radiographic diagnosis and interpretation.

Mr. Martinez de Andino moved to adopt the decision of the Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

SECOND CONFERENCE:

PRESIDING: Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Michael Martinez de Andino, J.D.
Dagoberto Zapatero, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Jamie C. Sacksteder, Deputy Executive Director
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager
Rebecca Smith, Adjudication Specialist

QUORUM: With all members present, a quorum was established.

**Steven J. Becker, D.M.D.
Case No.: 197902** Dr. Becker did not appear. Ms. Sacksteder informed the Committee that Dr. Becker submitted an email to Ms. Reen, Executive Director, on November 12, 2021, confirming receipt of the Notice of Informal Conference and advised he would not be in attendance. The Committee Chair concluded that adequate notice was provided to Dr. Becker and the informal conference proceeded in his absence.

The Committee discussed the allegations set forth in a Notice of the Board dated November 4, 2021.

Closed Meeting: Mr. Martinez de Andino 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 Steven Becker. Additionally, Mr. Martinez de Andino moved that Ms. Sacksteder and Ms. Lee 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.

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Reconvene: Mr. Martinez de Andino 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.: 197902 The sanctions reported by Ms. Sacksteder were that Dr. Becker shall be reprimanded and pay a \$5,000.00 monetary penalty. Within 6 months from the date of entry of the Order, Dr. Becker shall successfully complete a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of diagnosis and treatment planning; a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of radiographic diagnosis and interpretation; and a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of ethics for the dental professional.

Mr. Martinez de Andino moved to adopt the decision of the Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

THIRD CONFERENCE:

PRESIDING: Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Michael Martinez de Andino, J.D.
Dagoberto Zapatero, D.D.S.

STAFF PRESENT: Jamie C. Sacksteder, Deputy Executive Director
Donna Lee, Discipline Case Manager
Rebecca Smith, Adjudication Specialist

QUORUM: With all members present, a quorum was established.

George Varkey, D.M.D.
Case No.: 197775 Dr. Varkey appeared without counsel to discuss the allegations set forth in a Notice of the Board dated November 4, 2021. Dr. Varkey's wife, Elizabeth Varkey, appeared on his behalf. The Committee received statements from Dr. Varkey and Mrs. Varkey and discussed the allegations with them.

Closed Meeting: Mr. Martinez de Andino 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 Steven Becker. Additionally, Mr. Martinez de Andino moved that Ms. Sacksteder and Ms. Lee attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting is deemed necessary

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and their presence will aid the Committee in its deliberations. The motion was seconded and passed.

Reconvene:

Mr. Martinez de Andino 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.: 197775**

The sanctions reported by Ms. Sacksteder were that Dr. Varkey shall be reprimanded and pay a \$5,000.00 monetary penalty. Within 6 months from the date of entry of the Order, Dr. Varkey shall successfully complete a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of proper dental accounting, coding, and billing practices; and a 7 hour continuing education course in the subject of principles of ethics for dental professions. Also within 6 months from the date of entry of the Order, Dr. Varkey shall provide written proof that he has read and shall comply with 18VAC60-21-60(B) of the Regulations Governing the Practice of Dentistry.

Mr. Martinez de Andino moved to adopt the decision of the Committee. The motion was seconded and passed.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon a motion by Mr. Martinez de Andino, the minutes from the Informal Conference conducted on November 19, 2021 were approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m.



Jamiah Dawson, D.D.S., Chair



Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

2-25-22

Date

February 28, 2022

Date