

Island View

A PUBLICATION OF THE SANTA BARBARA-VENTURA COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY • JANUARY 2024

**SBVCDS Delegates with CDA President Dr. Carliza Marcos ~
Lots of great hard work and a little great playtime for these
leaders charting the course for organized dentistry**

BE A PART OF IT... SEE PAGE 15



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What's Up? SBVCDS Events

Day/Date	Event/Speaker	Fee
Jan 16	CPR Renewal - Hybrid Course.....	\$60
Feb 20	CPR Renewal - Hybrid Course.....	\$60
Mar 13	SHRED DAY - Camarillo	
Mar 19	CPR Renewal - Hybrid Course.....	\$60
Apr 19	CPR Renewal - Hybrid Course.....	\$60
May 15	SHRED DAY - Santa Barbara	

We also offer monthly Radiology Safety Certification courses – Call for details

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Daniel Nobel, DDS
President 2024, SBVCDS

Dear distinguished members of the Santa Barbara Ventura County Dental Society,

I am writing to you with great enthusiasm and a profound sense of honor as I take on the role of President of our esteemed dental society. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to lead such a distinguished group of professionals, and I am eager to contribute to the support and success of all of us during my tenure.

Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Daniel Nobel. I am a UCLA trained pediatric dentist who evenly divides my time between both cities of Ventura and Santa Barbara. I hope to be a representative of the needs of our entire component no matter which county you reside and practice in. Being involved with the board in various capacities both pre and post COVID I have seen the significant impact our group can have when we direct our energy in a coordinated manner and look forward to continuing to serve our members to the best of our ability.

On a broader scale, I recently accompanied our local delegation to attend the California Dental Association's House of Delegates in Sacramento to establish and direct the course of CDA at the state and even national level. Our SBVCDS component spearheaded by Drs Iris Han and David Tajima in coordination with Los Angeles Dental Society introduced a resolution making it significantly more difficult for insurance companies to issue virtual credit cards for reimbursement without your permission.

As your President, my primary goal is to foster an environment that promotes learning, collaboration, and professional development. I believe that by coming together as a community, we can leverage our collective knowledge and experiences to address the challenges facing our profession and identify new opportunities for growth and advancement. We plan to place a greater emphasis on impactful, in person continuing education events as well as continue our popular "pop up socials" to allow for less formal gatherings.

I am eager to hear from each of you and to learn about your aspirations, concerns, and ideas for the future of our dental society. Open communication is essential in fostering a thriving community, and I encourage you to reach out with your thoughts and suggestions.

I am confident that, together, we can make significant strides in maintaining and continuing to strengthen our camaraderie to new heights. Thank you for entrusting me with the honor of serving as your President, and I look forward to the exciting journey that lies ahead.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Nobel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Nobel, DDS
President 2024, SBVCDS

BOARD OF COMPONENT RELATIONS REPORT

January 2024



Lisa E. Beck-Uhl, DDS

Dear Colleagues,

I missed October's annual CDA House of Delegates meeting in Sacramento, because I had just returned from being a California delegate to the annual ADA House of Delegates meeting in Orlando, where I caught Covid, my first time experiencing it. Luckily, I remembered a couple patients telling me about Paxlovid. My doctor prescribed it for me, and I recovered very quickly.

Our Past President, and very dedicated member from Ventura, Dr. Sara Cizek, took my place in Sacramento, and did an excellent job representing our component, along with our Santa Barbara-Ventura Executive Board. Because our component is on the smaller side, we don't usually bring forward Resolutions to the House of Delegates, but Iris Han from Camarillo, wife of our Secretary/Treasurer Dave Tajima, was concerned enough about insurance companies' recent tactic of sending us virtual credit card payments instead of checks, that she wrote a resolution proposing making this practice illegal. I have been told that the insurance companies own the credit card processing companies in these transactions, so it is just another way for the insurance company to take more of our money for themselves.

Resolutions that are voted in by the delegates to the CDA HOD can end up becoming state laws. In September, Governor Newsom signed into law 2 bills that were sponsored by CDA. These important laws will help protect consumers from dental benefit plans' unreasonable or unjustified rate increases, and will also prohibit large group plans from imposing arbitrary waiting periods on their members. I have had several patients encounter this scam from the dental insurance they purchased after losing their employer's insurance when they retired. Also banned is the non-coverage of dental procedures due to pre-existing conditions. These important laws for the dental profession, brought to you by your CDA membership, will go into effect in January, 2025. It does help that CDA has a large voice of 27,000 member dentists.

Finally, there are some upcoming employment law changes in California, taking effect January 1st, 2024. Paid sick leave for ALL of your employees, including part time and temporary will increase from 3 days per year to 5 days. You can either frontload the time at the beginning of the year, or accrue 1 hour Paid Sick Leave for every 30 hours worked, up to 40 hours. We also cannot discriminate against employees' off-duty and away from the office cannabis use. There are other laws changing in January, too many for me to go over, so check out www.cda.org for more information.

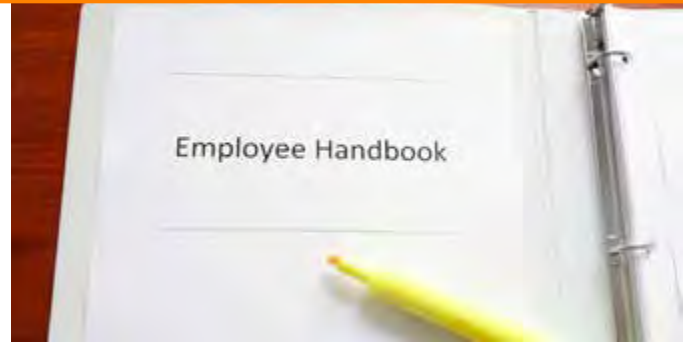
Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa".

Lisa E. Beck-Uhl, DDS

CALIFORNIA DENTISTS HAVE A DOZEN NEW EMPLOYMENT LAWS TO COMPLY WITH IN 2024

LAWS INCREASE PAID SICK LEAVE, PROTECT OFF-DUTY USE OF CANNABIS, FORBID NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS



Dentists in California will have new employment-related laws to comply with in 2024, including one that increases California Paid Sick Leave from the current three days to five days and another that prohibits discrimination against employees who use cannabis off the job.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed most of the bills in the latest legislative session, and most will take effect Jan. 1, 2024. A law requiring employers to establish and maintain a workplace violence prevention plan will take effect in July 2024.

Most of the new laws impact employers of every size, while a law that extends the family leave mediation pilot program for small businesses affects only employers with five to 19 employees.

Read on for a summary of the 12 new employment laws. Dentists should take steps to comply with the laws no later than Jan. 1, 2024, unless otherwise stated.

FIVE DAYS OF PAID SICK LEAVE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

Employees in California will be allowed to take five days (40 hours) of paid sick leave – up from the current three – under Senate Bill 616 signed into law in October.

The law applies to employers of every size, and employers may continue to provide front-loaded time or utilize the statutory accrual rate of one hour for every 30 hours worked up to 40 hours annually. Employers may limit carry over of unused sick leave to 80 hours.

Also under the law, employers:

- Must update their policies to reflect the increases.
- Continue to provide employees with the amount of available Paid Sick Leave, either on the printed wage statement or in a separate written document provided on the pay date.
- Pay the employee for any used sick leave no later than the payday for the next regular payroll period.

The law does stipulate that employees should provide “reasonable advance notification” of a foreseeable need to use Paid Sick Leave.

Members can log in to access CDA's California Paid Sick Leave FAQ and Comprehensive Guide to California's Paid Sick Leave Law updated in late October to reflect the changes taking effect in January 2024. Also see the Department of Industrial Relations' FAQ updated in December.

PROTECTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES' OFF-DUTY USE OF CANNABIS

Beginning Jan. 1, California law will bar most employers from penalizing or discriminating against applicants or workers who use cannabis off the clock and off-site, as CDA first reported in October 2022.

Also, drug tests commonly used by employers now to detect the presence of cannabis molecules will no longer be usable to terminate a worker, restrict hiring or otherwise penalize a worker because the tests do not indicate that a worker is impaired on the job.

Specifically, employers cannot discriminate against a person in hiring, firing or any other employment decision based on:

- The person's use of cannabis off the job and away from the practice.
- The employer's drug screening test that found the person to have nonpsychoactive cannabis metabolites in their hair, blood, urine or other bodily fluids.

The governor signed the bill into law in fall 2022 with a delayed effective date to give employers who already have or wish to maintain a drug test policy adequate time to research and implement a compliant policy, as well as laboratories time to revise their testing processes.

Continued on next page

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The law does not permit workers to use, possess or be impaired by cannabis while on the job and does not alter an employer's right and obligation to maintain a drug-free workplace.

Find more details in the article CDA published last year, which covers the use of allowable impairment tests and exemptions for federal contract and other workers.

CDA does not include a drug test policy in its Sample Employee Manual for members. Instead, CDA recommends that practice owners seek legal counsel to develop and implement or revise a drug test policy specifically for their practice.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES ABOUT CANNABIS USE WILL BE UNLAWFUL

Gov. Newsom this year signed a second bill that provides cannabis use-related protections in employment decisions.

Senate Bill 700 amends California's Fair Employment and Housing Act to prohibit most employers from asking job applicants about their prior use of cannabis for the purpose of making an employment decision, including hiring or terminating, or for disciplinary purposes. Employees in the building and construction trades are exempt from the law.

The law takes effect Jan. 1.

LEAVE FOR QUALIFYING REPRODUCTIVE LOSS MUST BE GRANTED

Employers cannot refuse to grant any eligible employee's request for up to five days of leave for reproductive loss under a new law that expanded the California Fair Employment and Housing Act.

The law defines reproductive loss as a failed adoption or surrogacy or a miscarriage, stillbirth or unsuccessful assisted reproduction experienced by the employee or their spouse or domestic partner.

Among other provisions, the law:

- Requires employees to take the leave within three months of the qualifying event, except as described in the bill.
- Does not obligate the employer to provide more than 20 days of leave time for reproductive loss within 12 consecutive months.

- Makes it unlawful for an employer to retaliate against an individual who exercises their right to use reproductive loss leave.

CDA's updated resource State and Federal Leaves of Absence that Apply to Employers in California covers this new law and over a dozen more leave laws with explanations of covered employers and the protected leave period plus links to the respective state or federal regulation.

NEW PROTECTIONS FOR EMPLOYEE CONDUCT

Existing state law prohibits employers from terminating or discriminating or retaliating against employees or job applicants who engaged in specified protected conduct, and employees who are unlawfully discharged or subjected to an employer's adverse action are entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement of lost wages.

A new law effective Jan. 1 creates a rebuttable presumption in favor of an employee's claim if an employer engages in any "retaliatory action" within 90 days of a protected activity. The law also states that employers cannot prohibit an employee from discussing or disclosing their wages, inquiring about another employee's wages or encouraging another employee to exercise their rights under the law.

NONCOMPETE AGREEMENTS DECLARED UNLAWFUL

Up until now, employers were able to include noncompete agreements in their contracts with employees, but the agreements have been unenforceable historically. Such agreements are intended to prevent or restrain an employee from engaging in another lawful profession, trade or business of any kind during their employment.

Beginning Jan. 1, including a noncompete clause in an employment contract or requiring an employee to enter a noncompete agreement will be considered unlawful regardless of where and when the agreement was signed.

The new law requires employers who have noncompete agreements in place to notify their current and former employees in writing by Feb. 14, 2024, that the noncompete clause or agreement is void.

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LAW AMENDS ARBITRATION PROCEDURE

Under California's Code of Civil Procedure, an aggrieved party may appeal certain orders, including an order that dismisses or denies the party's petition to compel arbitration. Existing law generally stays – or delays – proceedings in the trial court that are pending an appeal of an order denying a motion to compel arbitration. Senate Bill 365 amends the code to specify that trial court proceedings will not be automatically stayed during a pending appeal of an order to dismiss or deny a petition to compel arbitration.

Dentists who use arbitration agreements should have their attorney review them for compliance with state law.

UNENFORCEABILITY OF RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

In business contracts, restrictive covenants restrain employees from engaging in a lawful profession, trade or business. Beginning Jan. 1, any contract containing an employee restrictive covenant will be unenforceable regardless of when it was signed.

The law bars employers and former employers from enforcing a contract that restricts an employee's ability to engage in a lawful profession, trade or business, even if the contract was signed outside of California and the employment was maintained outside the state. Additionally, it prohibits employers from entering into a contract with an employee or prospective employee that includes noncompete clauses and other restrictive covenants that are void.

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN REQUIRED

Employers will be required to establish, implement and maintain "an effective workplace violence prevention plan containing specified information" no later than July 1, 2024, under SB 553 signed into law in September.

The law will require employers to:

- Record information in a violent-incident log for every workplace violence incident, as specified.
- Provide effective training to employees on the workplace violence prevention plan and additional training when a new or previously unrecognized workplace violence hazard has been identified and when changes are made to the plan.

- Create and maintain records of workplace violence hazard identification, evaluation, correction and training.
- Maintain violent-incident logs and workplace incident investigation records to be maintained.

Additionally, employers must make certain records available to employees and others, as specified.

Read the article by SHRM or the text of the bill for more details, including specific details that the workplace prevention plan must include.

CLARIFYING BASIC LABOR RIGHTS FOR MINORS SEEKING WORK PERMITS

Beginning Aug. 1, 2024, any minor seeking an authority's signature on a Statement of Intent to Employ a Minor and a Request for a Work Permit must be issued a document that explains workers' basic labor rights. The document must express those labor rights in plain, natural terminology and be provided before or at the time the authority provides the signature.

Electronic versions of the document must be made available to the minor in additional languages other than English.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM AND EITC NOTIFICATIONS

Through Jan. 1, 2029, employers will be allowed to provide their employees with information about the Earned Income Tax Credit and Unemployment Insurance Program by email to the employee's preferred email address only if the employee opts into receiving electronic statements or materials in writing or electronically. Such notifications include potential eligibility for certain income tax filing assistance programs, antipoverty tax credits and information related to claims for UI benefits, for example.

SMALL BUSINESS MEDIATION PROGRAM EXTENDED

The employer family leave mediation program provides employers with five to 19 employees and their current or former employees the right to mediate certain disputes before the employee can file a court case. Covered employers and employees can mediate – at no cost to either party – disputes about the employee's right to medical or family care leave under the California Family Rights Act, as well as bereavement leave.

The Huntington – San Marino

Sunday, January 28 – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Brunch and networking included

Event free to members!

\$20 for non-members



Carpooling SBVCDS Members! If two members will be carpooling to this event together, let us know! The first three cars with 2 or more members will get a \$100 cash reimbursement for gas.

Enjoy this free CE!

2023 PUBLIC POLICY AWARD

In recognition of his outstanding contributions and expertise as the CDA Medicare Workgroup chair since 2021, leading its work to monitor and engage with congressional efforts to implement a Medicare dental benefit and federal regulatory changes expanding Medicare coverage to include medically necessary dental services.



Richard Nagy, DDS
Santa Barbara-Ventura County
Dental Society
Medicare Workgroup
TDIC/TDIC Insurance Solutions
Board of Directors



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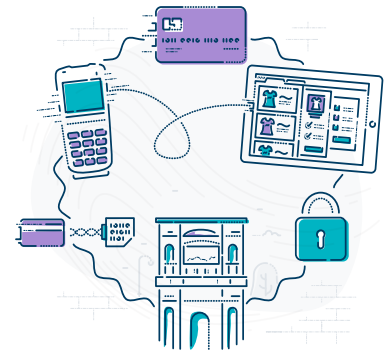
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RADIATION MACHINE INSPECTIONS IN THE DENTAL OFFICE: WHAT TO EXPECT, HOW TO PREPARE

Beyond being responsible for taking all necessary precautions to protect patients who are subject to radiation exposure in the dental practice, dentists and X-ray machine registrants must also ensure they are properly documenting occupational exposure to radiation and maintaining those records in anticipation of periodic inspections.

In California, dental offices are to be inspected every five years and may be scheduled for an on-site inspection. Here is what dental offices can expect during an inspection, how to prepare for it and how to keep compliant with radiographic safety regulations.

MANDATED SELF-TESTING OCCURS EVERY FIVE YEARS WITH POTENTIAL FOR ON-SITE INSPECTION

Dental offices that are due for an inspection will receive by U.S. mail a small exposure screening device to be used as part of a self-testing program mandated by the California Department of Public Health's Radiologic Health Branch.

After completing the self-inspection, dental offices will return the device along with the completed surveys.

The results of each device's exposure reading are compared to established standards. Dental offices that return screening devices that show the greatest deviation from the standards will be scheduled for an on-site inspection, as will dental offices that do not return the screening device. Additionally, some offices that return screening devices that show readings within the normal exposure range may be scheduled for on-site inspection for routine quality assurance.

ON-SITE INSPECTORS TAKE MEASUREMENTS, EVALUATE PROCESSING, CHECK SAFETY PROCEDURES

The on-site inspector will evaluate compliance with radiation protection laws and regulations, take measurements (kVp, timer, exposure and filtration), evaluate processing and ensure radiation protection procedures are in place, such as

Continued on next page

placement of required signage and postings and a radiation protection plan.

These required documents include, for example, a current copy of the California Code of Regulations, title 17, incorporated sections of 10 CFR 20, and a copy of operating and emergency procedures applicable to working with sources of radiation. The state and federal regulations are included in the CDA resource Radiation Safety in Dental Practice: A Study Guide.

Inspections also may seek to verify that dental team members who take radiographs have the required certificates or licenses.

Inspectors will recommend corrections for identified deficiencies and, if applicable, will issue a notice of violation that requires the dental office's response.

RECORDS OF OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO RADIATION ARE REQUIRED

Every dental facility must evaluate whether personnel monitoring for occupational exposure is required.

Records of occupational exposure to radiation can be collected one of two ways: The practice can either hire a health physicist to perform the calculations for the facility or have staff who enter areas near operational X-ray machines wear personnel monitoring devices, known as dosimeters, for a specified period adequate to calculate an annual dose.

Dental facilities have the option to declare that they are not currently monitoring personnel because they have "determined annual exposure to staff is less than 10% of the annual limit" and must have supporting documentation available at the inspection.

More information about the use of dosimeters, including in practices that utilize handheld portable dental X-ray systems, is available in CDA's Radiation Safety FAQ.

Also, when one or more employees work at other dental practices, employers are expected to gather information on their employees' radiation exposure from each employer. Dentists can use CDA's Employee Occupational Exposure to Radiation form to gather and log that exposure information from other employers.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED ANNUALLY, FEES COLLECTED EVERY TWO YEARS

Every piece of radiological equipment or source of radiation in the dental office must be registered with the Radiologic Health Branch. The owner of the equipment is the party responsible for registration. Equipment vendors do not register the equipment on behalf of the equipment's new owner.

The state collects registration fees for each source of radiation every two years. The current fee for dental X-ray units is \$118 per tube, per year; therefore, the equipment owner will pay two years' worth of fees at the time of fee collection.

The radiation machine owner will use a specific registration form depending on whether 1) they are the owner of a new dental facility (through start-up or purchase), 2) they need to report a sale or purchase of an X-ray machine or a change of address or 3) they need to withdraw the X-ray facility registration – meaning the practice is closing and no longer possesses any previously registered machines or the machines are no longer functional.

Registration can be completed online. RHB has video tutorials to assist practices with first-time registration and registration updates.

Get the complete details on dental radiographic machine requirements, quality assurance and control, required documents and the inspection process in CDA's study guide. The guide includes a template dentists can use for their required written radiation safety plan.

FOCUS



Dr. Norman J Nagel DDS, MS

Dr. Norman John Nagel was raised in Palatine, IL, a suburb of Chicago. He attended Valparaiso University (Indiana), where he met Carol, from Whitestone, NY. Norm and Carol were married in August 1963, before Norm matriculated in dental school—Western Reserve University in

Cleveland, OH. At the same time, he signed-up for the U.S. Navy's early commissioning program and became an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

Norm earned his B.S. and D.D.S. degrees from Western Reserve University and began his Navy career as an intern at the U.S. Navy Hospital, San Diego, CA. Two daughters born in Cleveland during their dental school years, and one son born in San Diego accompanied Norm and Carol to Hawai'i, where Norm served as a dental officer in the Dental Clinic in Pearl Harbor, HA. A fourth child, another boy, was born in Hawai'i.

Following almost four years of active duty, Norm left the active part of his Navy career behind and enrolled as a civilian in the Orthodontic Department at Case Western Reserve (back to Cleveland) under the direction of Dr. Lysle Johnston. Norm published two articles in dental journals during his residency.

After receiving his M.S. and Certificate in Orthodontics from CWRU, the Nagels headed back to California. Following a 7-year associateship, Norm began his practice in Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley, CA. He had offices in both communities for over 48 years. He retired from his practice in 2021. His oldest son, Dr. Jeffrey Nagel,

(UOP/UCLA graduate) worked with his father for over 12 years and continues Nagel Orthodontics in both Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks.

In his community, Norm has been a member and Past President of the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club, Southeast Ventura County YMCA, Redeemer Lutheran Church, and Ascension Lutheran Church. He was also elected to the office of Community College Trustee (Area 2) and served two elected terms. He was President of the Board of Trustees twice. Later, he was appointed to the Area Housing Authority Board of the County of Ventura by the City Council of Camarillo, CA. He served five years--two years as President.

While President of the Board of Trustees of the Ventura County Community Colleges District. Norm chaired a committee to start a Dental Hygiene program at Oxnard College (one of three colleges within the VCCCD). The Hygiene Program at Oxnard College is now over 25 years old and is the only school in Ventura County California that has a dental hygiene program. There is also a dental assisting program at the college as well. Ventura County has a population of over 839,000. Norm continues to serve on the Advisory Committee for Oxnard College Dental Hygiene/Assisting Program.

Norm was a founder and bank director of California Oaks State Bank, with offices in Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley, California (1998-2010). The bank was sold to a larger regional bank in 2010. Norm has also held memberships in the Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley Chambers of Commerce.

Norm continued his military service in the U.S. Navy Reserve, serving in a variety of positions for over 31 years. Upon reaching Navy retirement, he resigned his rank of Navy Captain and received a commission as a Colonel in the Army National Guard. Norm served 7 years in the

Continued on next page

RETIRED MEMBER FOCUS - Continued from page 12

Army Guard, with missions in Panama and Alaska. He has received many military awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal (1 Army, 1 Navy); Navy Commendation Medal (2); and Army Commendation Medal. Recognized for his service in Alaska, he received the Alaska Community Service Medal (2). Norm is a retired Army Colonel.

In his profession of dentistry and orthodontics, Norm was President of the Santa Barbara-Ventura County Dental Society, California Association of Orthodontists, and Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists. He was a Trustee to the California Dental Association and the American Association of Orthodontists. He completed his ten year AAO Board tenure as President of the AAO (2022-2023) in June 2023. Norm has been on the faculty of UCLA School of Dentistry, serving in the Section of Gnathology and Occlusion and the Section of Orthodontics. He has served in the House of Delegates of the ADA, CDA, and AAO. He is past president of AAOI (the for-profit subsidiary of the AAO) and also a past Delegation Chair for the PCSO.

Norm served as orthodontist/consultant to the VA Medical Centers in Sepulveda and Los Angeles, California. A credentialed teacher for over 25 years, Norm was a teacher in the Simi Valley Unified School District, teaching dental assisting (orthodontics).

Norm is the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the CAO, the Annual Session Award and the Award Of Merit of the PCSO, and the David C. Fainer M.D. Dentist of the Year Award (2011) from the Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation. In November 2023, PCSO presented Norm with the Arthur A. Dugoni Lifetime Achievement Award. He has also received commendations from California's state legislature, the Ventura County Community College District and the VA at Los Angeles, CA.

Norm is a fellow in the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy (PFA). He is currently Co-chair of the Southern California Section of the PFA.

Norm and Carol reside in Simi Valley, CA. They have four children, seven grandchildren and three great-

granddaughters. Their son, Dr. Jeffrey Nagel, is President/Owner of Nagel Orthodontics.

Comments from Norm: We are privileged to be part of a great profession. We can change lives by improving oral health—and many times mental health. The smile is truly the window to the world. In my military experience, traveling to Panama or Alaska, our dental teams had an opportunity to provide dental care to children and adults who have never received instructions in oral health care. While we were not able to provide orthodontic services, we were able to improve their oral health and teach them how to improve their overall physical well-being.

I have also had the opportunity to serve in a variety of teaching positions—from my time at UCLA to serving as the orthodontic instructor in the Simi Valley Dental Assisting Program (over 25 years). Teaching students the skills they needed to be auxiliaries in this great profession was an exciting addition to my clinical practice. Also, while serving as a Community College Trustee, we recognized the need to begin a Dental Hygiene Program at Oxnard College. Two of our other colleges (Ventura and Moorpark) had nursing programs, but there was no dental hygiene program in Ventura County, serving over 700,000 citizens (at that time). As dentists, we can make a difference in our community.

Dentistry continues to be a nurturing profession for those that want to take the time to contribute and provide a vision for the future. For those visionaries that wish to contribute, the door is always open. I know...I have knocked many times and the door has always been open and the reception welcoming.

I have appreciated the opportunity to be just one spoke in the "dental wheel." I could not have participated in all these activities without the love, support, and understanding of my wife, Carol, and our children, Sharon, Christine, Jeffrey, and Richard. My seven grandchildren and three great granddaughters have been added to the extended Nagel family. I thank them all for giving me the opportunity to serve. I love them all very much.

Share your story! Retired dentists who have had an impact on their profession are important to hear about!



*Memories from the
Santa Barbara
Women's Dentist
Holiday Gathering!*



Your SBVCDS 2023 and 2024 Leaders!



Left to right: Drs. Lisa Beck-Uhl, Dan Nobel, Robert Brugnone, Rohan Toor, Ken Smith, Sahar Yaftaly, Klara Efner, Rich Hunter, Grace Beer, Daniela Cadavid, Mary Beth Mazurek, Zenitra Kumar, and Linda Lacunza

Join Leadership!

Organized dentistry runs by parliamentary procedure... all voices are heard and decisions are made based on the votes of educated delegates.

Make your voice heard! To join a board or committee, or to find any way to be involved ~ contact Linda any time: execdirector@sbvcds.org

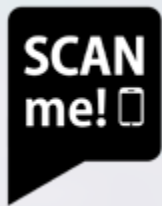
We are waiting for you!



Oxnard College Auxiliary Education



To assist us with preparing our graduates to meet the current needs of the dental industry, **please complete a very brief Employer Satisfaction Survey (SCAN QR BELOW)**. Your candid responses, which are anonymous and can't be tracked, are very much appreciated.



LINK TO SURVEY:

https://ventura.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6EevDbycyEQfbV4





WHAT'S NEW?

@ OXNARD COLLEGE

The Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Students were honored to be declared Metallica Scholars who received \$70,000 through a grant from the Grammy-Award-winning band Metallica and its foundation, All Within My Hands. The Metallica Scholars Initiative was launched in 2019 by Metallica's foundation in partnership with the American Association of Community Colleges in support of workforce programs at community colleges nationwide. To date, AWMH has invested over \$6M in the American workforce, reaffirming a commitment to career and technical education at the local level. The funding the dental hygiene students received will help cover the cost of their instrument kits. Oxnard College's Culinary Arts and Fire Academy also received a portion of the \$100,000 grant to cover equipment expenses.





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Online Component

Upon registering, you will be provided with a link to an online course which will need to be completed prior to your scheduled in-person skills test.

In-person Skills Test

We will schedule the date and time for you or your group upon registration and payment. The skills test will be scheduled in 30 minute time slots from 6:30pm - 8:30pm on the dates below.

2024 Calendar

- January 16
- February 20
- March 19
- April 19
- May 21
- June 18
- July 16
- September 17
- October 15
- November 12

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ADA DENTISTS CAN HELP PATIENTS ABANDONED BY SMILE DIRECT CLUB

SmileDirectClub, a direct-to-consumer manufacturer and marketer of teeth aligners, recently ceased operations, leaving patients with no warning or recourse.

The Associated Press reported that Nashville-based SmileDirectClub declared bankruptcy in September 2023 and then shuttered earlier this month after being unable to find a new capital partner.

According to a frequently asked questions page on SmileDirectClub.com, "aligner treatment is no longer available," and "customer care support is no longer available." The page goes on to explain the company's "Lifetime Smile Guarantee" no-longer exists and those who wish to continue treatment should consult a local dentist.

Multiple news sources have reported widespread consumer frustration.

"My heart goes out to all the people who were abruptly abandoned due to the closure of SmileDirectClub," said ADA President, Linda Edgar, D.D.S. "As doctors of oral health, dentists' highest priorities are quality care and patient safety. I encourage ADA members to welcome these individuals who need professional dental care by offering free evaluations and recommendations regarding ongoing care."

The ADA is also continuing its outreach efforts to raise public awareness about the importance of oral and overall health and professional dental care provided by dentists. "The ADA has a dual mission to foster the success of a diverse membership and advance the oral health of the public," said ADA executive director, Raymond Cohlmya, D.D.S. "Direct-to-consumer dentistry poses serious risks to the gums, bone, ligaments that support the teeth, or the teeth themselves. It is our ongoing duty to raise public awareness so that they can make informed oral health care decisions."

In 2017 and 2018, policies were adopted by the ADA House of Delegates that strongly discourage the practice of do-it-yourself orthodontics and additional types of direct-to-



ADA President Linda Edgar, D.D.S.

consumer dental products because of the critical need for dentist supervision throughout any dental treatment plan in order to reduce the potential risks to patients.

According to the ADA, direct-to-consumer dentistry has the potential to cause "irreversible harm to individuals, who are treated as 'customers' rather than patients."

"This company's closure highlights yet another risk of direct-to-consumer dentistry—patient abandonment," said Dr. Edgar.

The ADA's outreach efforts on direct-to-consumer dentistry also included federal regulatory agencies. In 2018, ADA communicated to members about how to report adverse events they encountered in patients that had used direct-to-consumer dental products to the U.S. Food & Drug Administration via the MedWatch voluntary reporting form.

In 2019, the ADA filed a citizen petition with the Food & Drug Administration, detailing all the potential health problems consumers could experience with direct-to-consumer orthodontics. That same year, the ADA also filed a complaint letter to the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection out of concern for public safety and customer recourse in the event of negative outcomes from SmileDirectClub's orthodontic "treatment therapy."

"One of the greatest strengths of our ADA community lies in our compassion for our patients and their safety," said Dr. Edgar. "Now is the time for our ADA community to step up to support those who need to find dental homes and provide a dentist-supervised ongoing treatment plan."

To make it easier for those in need of dental care to find you, consider updating your ADA Find-A-Dentist profile.

CODE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE APPROVES FOUR NEW CDT CODES FOR SLEEP APNEA

The Code Maintenance Committee at its March meeting approved four new codes that reflect ADA policy on the role of dentistry in the treatment of sleep apnea, along with 10 other additions and two revisions to the CDT Code that will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

Dentists can and do play an essential role in the care of patients with sleep-related breathing disorders and are well-positioned to identify and treat patients at greater risk of those disorders, said Jessica Stillely-Mallah, D.M.D., committee chair and chair of the ADA Council on Dental Benefit Programs.



Dr. Stillely-Mallah

"As of January 1, 2024, there will be codes for sleep apnea procedures such as screenings and home sleep apnea tests, as well as fabrication, delivery and titration of oral appliance therapy devices," Dr. Stillely-Mallah said. "These codes expand upon the current CDT codes for custom sleep apnea appliance delivery, adjustment and repair procedures."

The CMC also approved a code for immunization counseling, which is described as a review of a patient's vaccine and medical history and discussion of the vaccine benefits, risks and consequences of not obtaining it. This procedure may be reported for any type of vaccine, and also includes a discussion of questions and concerns the patient, family or caregiver may have and suggestions on where the patient can obtain the vaccine.

The council established the Code Maintenance Committee to ensure that all stakeholders have an active role in evaluating

and voting on CDT Code changes. The CMC, which meets annually, is expected to arrive at decisions that are in the best interests of the profession, patients and third-party payers/administrators.

OTHER CODE ADDITIONS APPROVED AT THE MARCH MEETING CONCERN THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

- 3D printing of a 3D dental surface scan.
- Band stabilization – per tooth.
- Excavation of a tooth resulting in the determination of non-restorability.
- Application of hydroxyapatite regeneration medicament – per tooth.
- Accessing and retorquing loose implant screw – per screw.
- Excisional biopsy of minor salivary glands.
- Indexing for osteotomy using dynamic robotic assisted or dynamic navigation.
- Fabrication and placement of a custom removable clear plastic temporary aesthetic appliance.

THE CMC ALSO APPROVED CLARIFYING REVISIONS OF TWO EXISTING CODES:

- D2335 resin-based composite restoration – four or more surfaces (anterior). The revision deleted mention of the incisal angle, which is not a tooth surface and caused coding confusion as well as claim preparation delays when dentists or practice staff contacted the ADA for clarification.
- D5876 add metal substructure to acrylic, full denture (per arch). The revision added a descriptor stating that this procedure involves addition of a metal substructure to strengthen the prosthesis.

CDT CODE CHANGES GO INTO EFFECT JAN. 1, 2024



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OPIOID TRAINING REQUIREMENT REMINDERS:

It might seem confusing, but we are here to make it as easy to comply as possible.

There are just two considerations: a requirement by California and a federal requirement.

As of January 1, 2023, the CA Dental Board has added a required 2-hour course for all dental license renewals. CDA offers this 2-hour course online "**Responsibilities and Requirements for Prescribing Controlled Substances (Schedule II Opioid Drugs)**" at cda.org at a highly discounted price for members.

As of June 27, 2023, the DEA has added a ONE-TIME 8-hour training requirement for DEA registrations/renewals after that date. The 2-hours described above can apply towards those 8 hours. The other 6 hours can be taken over several courses, provided by the ADA. The ADA FAQ is seen in the link below. There you will find all the information you need PLUS, you can find the free-to-members provided courses on page 4.

SBVCDS highly suggests that you utilize these courses at your earliest convenience. Don't get caught short on time and units for either your license or your DEA renewals!

FAQs on the new controlled substance education requirement for DEA registration. (ada.org)



SBVCDS Member

POP-UP Socials!

If you've been looking for a fun, casual, no-reservation opportunity to just meet colleagues and make new friends at a no-host Happy Hour after work... then you will LOVE the SBVCDS member pop-up socials! These show up in varying locations - though primarily they will be in the most central parts of our component. BYOB, but don't be surprised if there might be pizza or appetizers waiting for you!

***Follow us on Facebook
@SBVCDS to stay on top
of the next Pop-Up!***

(and remember, if you would like to see one in your area, email Linda and let's make it happen!)

facebook.com/sbvcds/



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Your dedicated team at the Santa Barbara Ventura County Dental Society office is here for you!



Linda
Executive Director



Felipe
Office Manager

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Do CE Courses done online still count? Yes, LIVE ones do!

- Live webinars have always and will continue to count as live CE. This also applies to courses wherein the instructor is speaking live online.
- Recorded webinars, even if the speaker is active in a chatroom attached to the recorded webinar, will no longer count as live CE as of January 1, 2022.

* *The courses licensees took before 2022 that were under that waiver will be allowed to be counted towards a licensee's renewal.*



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and follow the directions below

Dental Professionals looking for employment:

1. Register as a non-member
2. **IMPORTANT:** As you're registering, make sure you set your profile to "visible" so potential employers may see your contact info.
3. **Upload your resume**
4. **Submit**

Once signed in, you will also find job posts from our member dentists that you can contact and apply through the individual office.

Member Dentists looking to hire staff:

1. Sign in to your member account.
2. Select "I am a Job Provider"

You will see a list of applicants to choose from. Click the paperclip icon next to a name to download their resume (if they have included one).

Member Dentists looking for employment:

1. Sign in to your member account
2. Select **I am a Job Seeker**
3. In the top right hand corner, click **Post Resume** and follow the prompts.

IMPORTANT: Make sure you select "visible" in the Privacy section.



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Highlights of some of your member benefits!

SANTA BARBARA-VENTURA COUNTY
DENTAL SOCIETY

Continuing Education

CE Courses
Infection Control/DPA Renewal
CPR Renewal
Radiology Certification
Study Clubs

Island View Newsletter

Localized updates of your dental community
Business Practice Resources
Upcoming Event Notifications

Other Benefits

"Community" of Dentists
Member Social Events
Annual Golf Social
PPE Distribution Assistance
Opportunities to 'Give Back'

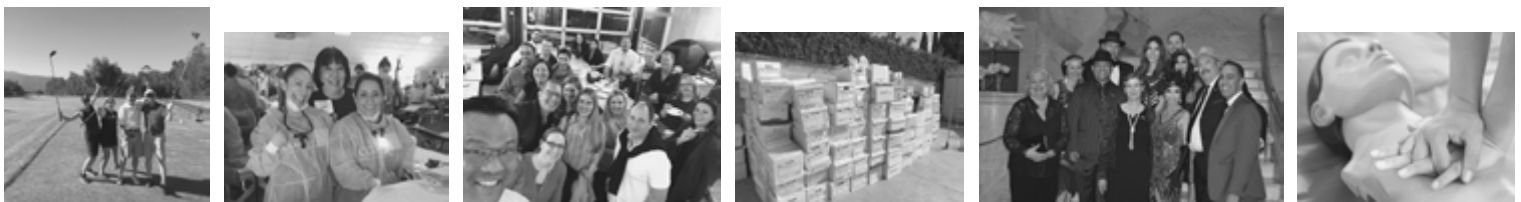
Online Resources

Employment Job Bank
Classifieds Listings
Compliance Documents & Templates
Calendar of Events
Local Ordinance Updates

Professional Services

Practice Management Hotline
Shredding Events
Patient Referrals
Business Referrals Emergency
Prep Planning

For even more services and information, please give us a call at (805-648-7282) or find us at sbvcds.org



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JANUARY 2024

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Your Dental Society maintains lists of applicants seeking dental positions. On our website (www.sbvcds.org), under the Professionals menu, click on "Jobs & Classifieds" and enter your ADA number as both your username and password, or call us at 805-648-7282 for a FAX.

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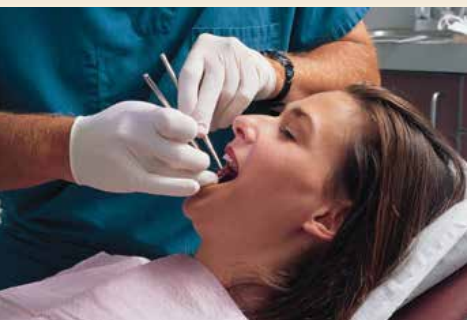


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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Santa Barbara-Ventura County Dental Society is to serve the members and the communities they serve, and to advance the art and science of dentistry.



SOCIETY STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Linda Lacunza, M.A.
execdirector@sbvcds.org

OFFICE COORDINATOR

Felipe Diaz
office@sbvcds.org

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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