

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY
2201 SHANNON PLACE SE – 2ND FL.
WASHINGTON, DC 20020**

**DATE: April 15, 2026
TIME STARTED: 9:21 AM**

**OPEN SESSION
MEETING MINUTES**

*****Please be advised that Board Meetings are recorded*****

WEBEX Virtual Meeting

The Board will be utilizing a hybrid schedule of virtual and in-person meetings. Please see the Board Meeting calendar under the Executive Director’s report for more information.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

This meeting is available by web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=mfdb8473983deb5f9ebaf6f6e35ce922b>

Meeting number: 2305 307 2741

Password: MjzkbvjG236

This meeting is available by phone:

1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington
D.C.) 1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number
(US/Canada) Access code: 230 530 72741

****Any submissions from the public for the Board’s consideration should be received by Board Staff, tiffany.johnson1@dc.gov, no later than **10 business days** before the Board Meeting. ****

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Open Session Meeting Minutes April 15, 2026.

ATTENDANCE:	
OS-0415-01	<p>A. Board Members Imani Lewis, DDS – Vice Chairperson Chanelle Roberts, DDS – Board Member Eric Bradshaw, DDS – Board Member Brittany Campbell, RDH, MSDH – Board Member Jonelle Anamelechi, DDS – Board Member</p> <p>B. Board Staff Ericka L. Walker, MSW – Executive Director Zaneta Batts – Health Licensing Specialist Tiffany Johnson – Health Licensing Specialist Rebecca Odrick-Austin – Investigator for the Board</p> <p>C. Legal Staff Carla Williams - Senior Assistant General Counsel</p> <p>D. Department Staff None</p> <p>E. Public Attendance Victoria Tabor – Registered Dental Hygienist Leslie-Anne Fitzpatrick, DMD – Solstice Smiles Dental Sara Hoverter – Center for Community Health Innovation Cassandra Wright, DDS – Unity Health Care Kurt Gallagher - Executive Director, DC Dental Society Shavonne Healy, MSDH, RDH – Capital Coalition of Dental Hygienists & Assistants, Practicing Dental Hygienist at Solstice Smiles Dental Evelyn Leach, DDS – President, Maryland Dental Assistant School Toni Reeves – Dental Hygienist</p>
OS-0415-02	<p>OPEN SESSION AGENDA:</p> <p>Motion: The Board moved to accept the April 15, 2026, Open Session Meeting Agenda. Moved by: Dr. Chanelle Roberts (Board Member) Seconded by: Mrs. Brittany Campbell (Board Member) Motion passed unanimously.</p>
OS-0415-03	<p>OPEN SESSION MINUTES:</p> <p>Motion: The Board moved to approve the March 18, 2026, Open Session Meeting Minutes. Moved by: Dr. Jonelle Anamelechi (Board Member) Seconded by: Dr. Chanelle Roberts (Board Member) Motion passed unanimously.</p>

STAFF REPORTS:**OS-0415-04 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director of the Board, welcomed all attendees into the meeting. Next she spoke about the Compacts providing the Board with information on residency of dentists and dental hygienists as well as the revenue received from the renewal and CBCs for both dentists and dental hygienists. Mrs. Walker also shared the official positions from both the states of Maryland and Virginia on compacts, advising which compact the states considered, if they did join plus the outcome, or if they did not join and the reasoning. She listed some key considerations for the Board to consider (licensure vs. privilege to practice, discipline authority, additional staffing and administrative load, data sharing and tracking practice, information technology and security, practice ownership, PDMP registration, fiscal impact, CBC, and educational requirements), and provided a brief explanation as they pertained to the compacts. Mrs. Walker confirmed that all the information she addressed will be packaged and provided for the Board to review prior to the May Board meeting. Lastly, she pointed out the upcoming meeting dates, current Board census, and MOTA, making sure to remind everyone of the current opening for a Consumer Member on the Board of Dentistry.

This concluded Mrs. Walkers report.

1. **DC Health Updates**
 - Compact Update

2. **BOD Calendar**
 - October 15, 2025 (Virtual)
 - November 19, 2025 (Virtual)
 - December 17, 2025 (**Changed to Virtual**)
 - January 21, 2026 (CANCELLED)
 - February 18, 2026 (Virtual)
 - March 18, 2026 (**In Person & Virtual**)
 - April 15, 2026 (Virtual)
 - May 20, 2026 (Virtual)
 - June 17, 2026 (**In Person & Virtual**)
 - July 15, 2026 (Virtual)
 - August (Recess)
 - September 16, 2026 (**In Person & Virtual**)

3. **BOD Census**
 - Dentists (**1232**)
 - Dental Hygienists (**503**)
 - Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia (**120**)
 - Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia & Nitrous Oxide (**101**)
 - Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Nitrous Oxide (**3**)

	<p>Dental Assistant Level 1 (210) Dental Assistant Level 2 (662) Dental Assistant Level 3 (1) Teaching Licenses for Dentists (4) Teaching Licenses for Dental Hygienist (0)</p> <p>4. The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) recruits talented and interested individuals from all eight Wards to serve on District Boards. Link to apply to serve on a Board: https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seats</p>																																													
<p>OS-0415-05</p>	<p>BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:</p> <p>Ms. Carla Williams, Senior Assistant General Counsel, shared with the attendees the latest public order that has been issued. The link for that order is listed below.</p> <p>Public Orders that have been issued since the last meeting:</p> <p>Dederic Taplin, DDS</p> <p>This concluded Ms. Williams’ report</p>																																													
<p>OS-0415-06</p>	<p>BOARD CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:</p> <p>Michelle Latortue, DDS, Chairperson of the Board,</p> <p>No report</p>																																													
<p>OS-0415-07</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA:</p> <p>The following applications were approved from March 11, 2026 – April 8, 2026:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Fresia</td> <td>Barahona Ramos</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maya</td> <td>De</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Emerie</td> <td>Tran</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shekina</td> <td>Legrand</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maria C</td> <td>Patino</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David</td> <td>Villarreal</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biftu</td> <td>Dinka</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Raquel</td> <td>Gonzalez</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kensy</td> <td>Soto Ramirez</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miriam</td> <td>Molina - Lopez</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrea</td> <td>Sanders</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sanaiya</td> <td>Johnson</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antonio</td> <td>Green</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Angel</td> <td>Moses</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Desiree</td> <td>Wallace</td> <td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td> </tr> </table>	Fresia	Barahona Ramos	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Maya	De	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Emerie	Tran	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Shekina	Legrand	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Maria C	Patino	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	David	Villarreal	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Biftu	Dinka	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Raquel	Gonzalez	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Kensy	Soto Ramirez	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Miriam	Molina - Lopez	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Andrea	Sanders	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Sanaiya	Johnson	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Antonio	Green	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Angel	Moses	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Desiree	Wallace	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II
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Ashleigh Patterson	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II
Banchiayehu Gebreslasse	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II
Diamond Ruff	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II
Alecia Barwise	DENTAL HYGIENIST
Emily Ghosn	DENTAL HYGIENIST
Tabitha Asher	DENTIST
Veronica Hopkins	DENTIST
Sahar Hajibabaei	DENTIST
Rebecca Bibum	DENTIST
Andrew Bynum	DENTIST
Caitlin Magraw	DENTIST
Andrew Park	DENTIST
Kathryn Hanson	DENTIST
Naomi Ram	DENTIST
Alecia Barwise	LOCAL ANESTHESIA
Emily Ghosn	LOCAL ANESTHESIA AND NITROUS OXIDE

Motion: The Board moved accept the **March 11, 2026 – April 8, 2026**, Consent Agenda.

Moved by: Dr. Chanelle Roberts (Board Member)

Seconded by: Mrs. Brittany Campbell (Board Member)

Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

OS-0415-08	<p>LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</p> <p>Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director, advised that the Legislative updates are outlined on the Agenda. She pointed out that the Budget Oversight hearing for Fiscal Year 2027 is approaching. The Public will be testifying on April 28, 2026 and the government witness will testify on May 4m 2026. For more information about the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget, you can click on this link here. For any questions about this or the other Legislative Updates, please feel free to send an email to Ms. Kera Johnson at kera.johnson1@dc.gov.</p> <p>This ended Mrs. Walker’s report on the Legislative Updates.</p> <p>DC Health Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Oversight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DC Health will have its Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Oversight hearing on April 28th (Public Witnesses) and May 4th (Government Witnesses). This hearing offers an opportunity for the Committee on Health to review DC Health’s proposed budget for the 2027 Fiscal Year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You can find information about the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget here.
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Lowering the Cost of Prescription Drugs Act of 2026

- On February 2nd, Councilmember Christina Henderson introduced the *Lowering the Cost of Prescription Drugs Act of 2026* ([B26-0593](#)).
 - The legislation allows DC Health, on behalf of the Mayor, to enter into a cooperative purchasing agreement with a prescription drug discount program (ArrayRX) for the explicit purpose of lowering the cost of prescription medications for all District residents, regardless of insurance status.
- This legislation is in the Committee on Health and received a [hearing](#) on March 25th. DC Health testified during the hearing and expressed support for the intent and provided recommendations to ensure that DC residents are able to afford their prescription medications.

Medical Debt Mitigation Amendment Act

- On October 20th, Councilmember Henderson introduced the *Medical Debt Mitigation Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0438](#)).
 - This legislation aims to prevent and mitigate the burden of unpaid medical debt bills on District families, while increasing transparency in medical billing and ensuring fair debt collection. The high-level summary of the bill would be to strengthen large health care facilities financial assistance policies, create protections to mitigate the burden of medical debt, update medical debt collection practices, and establish legal enforcement and oversight.
- This bill was referred to the Committee on Health and received a [hearing](#) on December 15th. DC Health testified during this hearing and expressed support for the intent of the legislation, emphasizing the public health impacts of medical debt and urging clarifications to ensure consistent implementation, alignment with existing healthcare and Medicaid policies, appropriate facility scope, and protections that reduce financial harm while maintaining the sustainability of the District's healthcare system. A [markup](#) was held on April 7th and passed unanimously, as written, out of the Committee on Health.

Streamlining Medicaid Credentialing Amendment Act of 2025

- On December 1st, Councilmember Christina Henderson introduced the *Streamlining Medicaid Credentialing Amendment Act of 2025* ([B26-0523](#)).
 - The legislation creates a centralized and standardized credentialing system for Medicaid providers in the District, easing the burden on qualified healthcare providers, and allowing them to deliver care to patients and be compensated for care more quickly.
- The bill has been referred to the Committee on Health and received a [hearing](#) on March 25th. The Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking testified on the legislation.

Community Health Amendment Act of 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Following emergency and temporary versions, Councilmember Henderson introduced the <i>Community Health Amendment Act of 2025</i> (B26-0414) on October 6th. ▪ This legislation received a hearing on October 30th in the Committee on Health. DC Health testified in support of the bill expressing the importance of vaccine availability and access. A mark-up was held on December 8, 2025. ▪ This legislation was unanimously approved on first and second readings, was then signed by the Mayor on January 27, 2026, and became official law on March 24, 2026.
<p>OS-0415-09</p>	<p><u>DENTAL BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Credentials & Audits</u>: Dr. Eric Bradshaw, Dr. Chanelle Roberts No Report 2. <u>Communications</u>: Dr. Michelle Latortue No Report 3. <u>Regulatory Affairs</u>: Dr. Imani Lewis, Mrs. Brittany Campbell, Dr. Jonelle Anamelechi <p>Dr. Imani Lewis informed the attendees that during their subcommittee meeting, they discussed the importance of Sterilization Techs in the District and wanted to introduce some standards for the position. They also reviewed the changes to the scope of practice for Dental Assistant Level III. Ms. Williams then advised that the recommendations are put into Chapter 42 (the Practice of Dentistry) the requirements that are not new but are already required and currently practiced in offices.</p> <p>Mrs. Campbell requested that an OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) training requirement be added to the recommendations. Ms. Toni Reeves commented that there are different levels of disinfection and sterilization and also asked who would be enforcing that these regulations are followed. Dr. Lewis assured Ms. Reeves that the difference was currently listed in the regulations and that the dentist who is listed as the owner or supervising dentist will be the person responsible for overseeing these practices in the office.</p> <p>Ms. Shavonne Healy commented that she agreed with the recommendations from Mrs. Campbell and requested that a survey be completed in offices throughout the district as there are some unethical practices being done from all perspectives. Ms. Williams advised that these were only regulations, and the Board was not establishing requirements but stating that dental professionals need to follow the existing requirements that are currently in place from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and from OSHA. She also advised that it does require training and she has noted to add the recommendation from Mrs. Campbell to clarify that it needs to be OSHA training. Lastly Ms. Williams advised that if</p>

there are any issues happening in dental offices or with any dental provider in the District, people are encouraged to submit a complaint to the Board. The form can be found on the website, or you may mail something into the office without a return address if one wishes to stay anonymous.

She next went over the changes that were made to the Dental Assistant Level III regulations regarding the education requirements. Mr. Gallagher inquired about the timeframe for the implementation of these changes, to which Ms. Williams stated that the Board usually does not implement new things until the regulations have changed. Ms. Healy added that many Dental Assistants do not know about Dental Assistant Level III and advised that sharing this information out to the community would be helpful with increasing the number of applicants.

The following were the Recommendations from the subcommittee:

1. To remove the proposed 9004.6, which stated that “under general supervision of a dentist, dental assistants would perform cleaning and disinfecting and sterilized instruments” from the scope of practice for Dental Assistants. This does not mean that dental assistants can not perform these duties, instead that it is no longer restricted only to dental assistants.
2. The term “general supervision” will no longer be needed in the definition section as that was the only place where it was used so it will be removed as well.

Motion: The Board moved approve these proposed changes and they be allowed to proceed to rulemaking.

Moved by: Dr. Imani Lewis (Vice Chairperson)

Seconded by: Dr. Chanelle Roberts (Board Member)

Ayes: Dr. Chanelle Roberts, Dr. Eric Bradshaw, Dr. Jonelle Anamelechi

Noes: Mrs. Brittany Campbell

Motion passed by majority.

Ms. Williams took this time to remind the attendees that the Board makes the recommendations, but the ability to bring it into law is out of their hands. She then went over the process of how it goes to the Mayor’s Office, Deputy Mayor’s Office, City Administrator’s Office, all of whom can make changes, before going to the Attorney General’s office for legal sufficiency and possibly more changes. With that being said, she wanted to affirm that what has been discussed today will move forward from the Board, but if it looks different when it gets to the Registrar, it’s not because the Board changed their mind on what they voted for.

This concludes Dr. Lewis’ report.

OS-0415-10 **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Toni Reeves inquired about the consumer member seat as it pertains to residency. This question was addressed by Mrs. Ericka Walker who clarified that the consumer member can not be a healthcare provider nor reside in the same household as any healthcare provider.

This concluded the comments from the public

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Open Session Meeting Minutes April 15, 2026

CLOSING		
OS-0415-11	<u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u>	
	<p>The Board member should move as follows:</p> <p>“Madam Chair, I move that the Board temporarily close the Open Public session portion of the meeting and move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the following purposes: to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to § 2-575(b)(9); to seek the advice of counsel to the board, to preserve the attorney-client privilege, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4); and to plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to § 2-575(b)(14).”</p>	
	ROLL CALL VOTE	
	<p>Motion: The Board to temporarily close the Open Session meeting Moved by: Dr. Anamelechi (Board Member) Seconded by: Mrs. Brittany Campbell (Board Member) Motion passed unanimously.</p>	
	<p>This temporarily concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion and will return following the Executive Session to provide the Board report, as appropriate, of action taken during the Executive Session.</p>	

OPEN SESSION BOARD REPORT		
OS-0415-12	<u>BOARD ACTION:</u>	
	<p>Board report, as appropriate, of actions taken during the Executive Session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of applications approved: 0 • Number of complaints closed: 2 	

MOTION TO ADJOURN

OS-0415-13

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: The Board moved to adjourn the Open Session Meeting.

Moved by: Dr. Chanelle Roberts (Board Member)

Seconded by: Mrs. Brittany Campbell (Board Member)

Motion passed unanimously.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

**This ends the Open Session Meeting
The Meeting Adjourned at 3:48 PM
The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2026**