

## Government Relations Report-December 14, 2014

Submitted by:

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### Dental Board of California Update- Dental Assisting Council

November 6, 2014 Meeting- President: Claudia Pohl and Immediate Past President: Shelly Sorensen in attendance.

There was great concern over the pass rate of the Registered Dental Assisting Practical Examination for the year 2014. The pass rates were significantly low across the state. Approximately 700 applicants need to retake the RDA practical exam.

The explanation from the Dental Assisting Council representative, Dr. Wong, is they are interpreting to higher criteria when calibrating the examiners using the guidelines already in place. They say there are not any new criteria for the practical exam only the use of higher calibration standards which are causing the low pass rates.

It was expressed to them by CDAA representation that the low pass rate might have been mitigated to some degree if there had been communication between the board and educators, kit renters, and applicants. Also, it was relayed the concern of the negativity by Dr. Casagrande for the RDA practical. Another concern is the need for applicants to retake the exam in a timely manner.

There were many representatives at this meeting from all over the state. This is a significant issue and needed attention by personally attending the meeting.

The next meeting is December 15, 2014 in Sacramento, CA. It is a meeting of only the Dental Assisting Council. Claudia Pohl and I will be in attendance. The meeting agenda is to have a presentation by Representatives from the ADA, and CODA relating to the Accreditation Standards and Application Process for Dental Assisting Educational Programs. There will be a discussion after for the Stakeholders to participate in. There are several topics of discussion brought about by CADAT which we will listen to and report back the findings.