New Members Join the State Board of Dentistry

The State Board of Dentistry recently welcomed its two newest members, appointed at the end of 2010 – Alice Hart Hughes, Esquire and R. Ivan Lugo D.M.D.

As described in Pennsylvania’s Dental Law, the State Board of Dentistry shall consist of the Secretary of Health, or his designee, the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection in the Office of Attorney General, or his designee, the Commissioner of Professional and Occupational Affairs and 12 additional members, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of a majority of the members elected to the Senate. Two members shall represent the public at large. Eight members shall have been licensed and engaged in the actual practice of dentistry in this commonwealth during a period of not less than 10 years immediately preceding their appointment. One member shall be a dental hygienist licensed to practice dental hygiene in this commonwealth and shall have been engaged in the practice of dental hygiene for a period of at least three years immediately preceding appointment. One member shall be an expanded function dental assistant who is authorized under the act as an expanded function dental assistant, that has been engaged in the practice of expanded function dental assisting in this commonwealth continuously for at least three years prior to the appointment and does not practice as a dental hygienist.

The term of office for each professional and public member shall be six years from his/her appointment or until his successor has been duly appointed and qualified according to law, but no longer than six months beyond the six-year period. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

Alice Hart Hughes, Esquire is one of two State Board of Dentistry members appointed to represent the public-at-large.

Admitted to the practice of law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey in 1990, Ms. Hughes is currently a member of the law firm of Howland Hess Guinan Torpey & Cassidy in Montgomery County. Prior to joining that firm in 2007, Ms. Hughes practiced extensively in the areas of estate planning, administration and litigation, family law, real estate, and general advice and counsel to small business entities. She is a graduate of Temple University and the Temple University Beasley School of Law.

In addition to her legal practice, Ms. Hughes has been actively involved in preparing students to achieve their career goals as highly-qualified members of the legal team. She has served as a former Adjunct Professor of Paralegal Studies at Bucks County Community College, and has authored two key publications, The Instructor’s Manual for a top selling legal text and Civil Litigation Process and Procedures (co-author). Ms. Hughes has also been a guest lecturer for the Goldfarb Foundation, the educational foundation of the Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association.

A resident of Newtown, Bucks County, Ms. Hughes is involved in public service efforts ranging from church and scouting organizations to work on behalf of the community marching band and the Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation.
R. Ivan Lugo D.M.D is the second of the two State Board of Dentistry members recently appointed to the board as a professional member filling the seat of one of the eight dentist members of the board. Dr. Lugo has contributed significantly to the field of dentistry through academic and public health executive leadership, emphasizing a commitment to advocacy, diversity and community service.

Dr. Lugo has a private practice in Philadelphia and is the North American Region Manager of Professional and Scientific Relations for the Proctor and Gamble Company. He has held numerous senior-level academic public health and dental education positions at Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry, including his current position as Associate Dean of Community Health and Institutional Relations. He has served as Associate Dean of Finance, Administration, and Institutional Relations and as Chairman of the Department of Dental Informatics. He has served as first Acting Chair of Dental Public Health Sciences, a new academic unit developed under his leadership, which aligns the dental curriculum of service-learning with the mission of the university.

Dr. Lugo is a board member of numerous national and local nonprofit organizations that advocate for improving health and educational access to underserved communities and is past-president of the National Hispanic Dental Association, overseeing the creation of the first research agenda for the 21st century for Latino oral health issues in the United States.

As a social entrepreneur and published author, Dr. Lugo has contributed to the art, science and general welfare of the dental profession, nationally and internationally, and has been recognized by his selection and invitation to the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists as a Fellow in the Class of 2005 and 2006, respectively.

Dr. Lugo is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, School of Dental Medicine and received his Advanced Education in General Dentistry certificate and his Master of Business Administration from Temple University. He continues to further his formal education through biotechnology and innovation courses at MIT.

Other News:

- Disciplinary Actions