

**BEFORE THE DENTAL BOARD  
OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

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<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>	)	
<b>ROBIN L. SPENCER, R.D.H.</b>	)	<b>NOTICE OF HEARING AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES</b>
<b>RESPONDENT.</b>	)	

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**COMES NOW** on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010, the Iowa Dental Board (Board) files this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.12(2), 17A.18(3), and 650 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 51.6. Respondent was issued Iowa dental hygiene license number 3179 on May 17, 2004. Respondent's license is current and will next expire on August 31, 2011. Respondent's address as reported to the Board is 8455 NE 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Altoona, Iowa.

**A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING**

1. Hearing. A disciplinary contested case hearing shall be held on October 15, 2010, before the Iowa Dental Board. The hearing shall begin at 1:00 p.m. and shall be located in the conference room at the office of the Iowa Dental Board, 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. D, Des Moines, Iowa.

2. Answer. Within twenty (20) days of the date you are served this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges you are required by 650 IAC 51.12(2) to file an Answer. The Answer should specifically admit, deny, or otherwise answer all allegations contained in sections C and D of this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board at the following address: Iowa Dental Board, 400 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. D, Des Moines, Iowa 50309.

3. Presiding Officer. The Board shall serve as presiding officer, but the Board may request an Administrative Law Judge make initial rulings on pre-hearing matters, and be present to assist and advise the Board at hearing.

4. Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 650 IAC chapter 51. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by legal counsel at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you, to produce evidence on your behalf on issues of material fact, cross-examine witnesses present at the hearing, and examine and respond to any documents introduced at hearing. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 650 IAC 51.18. The hearing may be open to the public or closed to the public at your discretion.

5. Pre-hearing Conference. Any party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board's rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are contained at 650 IAC chapter 51.17.

6. Prosecution. The Office of the Attorney General is responsible for representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Copies of pleadings should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address: Theresa O'Connell Weeg, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

7. Communications. You may not contact Board members in any manner, including by phone, letter, or e-mail, about this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties

have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve upon all parties in the case. You should direct any questions to the Iowa Dental Board Executive Director at 515-281-5157.

**B. LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION**

1. Jurisdiction. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code Chapters 147, 153, and 272C.

2. Legal Authority. If any of the allegations against you are founded, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code Chapters 17A, 147, 153, and 272C and 650 IAC chapters 30 and 51.

3. Default. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence, in accordance with Iowa Code Section 17A.12(3) and 650 IAC 51.22.

**C. SECTIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES INVOLVED**

**COUNT I**

Respondent is charged under Iowa Code Section 147.57(2009) with performing services which exceed the scope of practice granted to a dental hygienist, in violation of Iowa Administrative Code Section 10.4(2).

**COUNT II**

Respondent is charged under Iowa Code Section 153.34(7) (2009) and 650 Iowa Administrative Code Section 30.4(13) with unprofessional conduct in the practice of dental hygiene when she engaged in inappropriate physical and verbal conduct towards a colleague.

#### **D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

1. Board rules require that all services performed by a dental hygienist be performed under the supervision of a licensed dentist.
2. The Board received information that on multiple instances, Respondent performed duties which would be consistent with the practice of dentistry.
3. These duties included her independent adjustment of removable appliances on patients without the knowledge of her supervising dentist.
4. The Board received information that Respondent verbally threatened and engaged in aggressive physical contact toward a coworker.

#### **E. SETTLEMENT**

This matter may be resolved by settlement agreement. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 650 IAC chapter 51.19. If you are interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact the Iowa Dental Board Executive Director, at 515.281.5157.

#### **F. PROBABLE CAUSE FINDING**

On this 14th day of July, 2010, the Iowa Dental Board found probable cause to file this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

  
GARY D. ROTH, D.D.S.  
Chairperson  
Iowa Dental Board

Copies to: Theresa O'Connell Weeg  
Assistant Attorney General  
Iowa Attorney General's Office  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hoover Bldg.  
Des Moines, IA 50319