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# DENTAL DIMENSIONS

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*New Beginnings*

ORIGINS OF THE  
SFVDS

PG 12

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## DISCLOSURE

Dental Dimensions is an opinion and discussion magazine for SFVDS membership. Opinions expressed by authors are their own, and not necessarily those of SFVDS or Dental Dimensions Editorial Board. SFVDS reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity and length, as well as reject any material submitted. Dental Dimensions is published quarterly by the SFVDS, 9205 Alabama Avenue, Suite B, Chatsworth, CA 91311 (818) 576-0116. Acceptance of advertising in Dental Dimensions in no way constitutes approval or endorsement by San Fernando Valley Dental Society or products or services advertised. SFVDS reserves the right to reject any advertisement.





# EDITOR'S NOTE

While brainstorming the Spring '22 edition of Dental Dimensions in Nov '21 with the theme "New Beginnings" in mind, our ED, Curt and I had covered several "bright new arenas" that affect us in different ways. Little did we know until now that, some of the newer developments in the world would be anything but bright and shiny. Just as we begin to think that the pandemic may be mostly behind us, morphing more to a manageable endemic with restrictions including mask mandates being lifted for vaccinated people, the world order starts to shift to an appalling and unthinkable war with devastating casualties with Russia's invasion of Ukraine. While there are a number of large International Aid organizations like UNICEF, Doctors without Borders, UN Refugee Agency, International Committee of the Red Cross working in Ukraine and neighboring countries where a growing number of displaced people are fleeing, any monetary donations to these can help. There are several other smaller American grassroots and regional organizations that also accept online donations-

- **Voices of Children** <https://voices.org.ua/en/>,
- **VOSTOK SOS** <https://vostok-sos.org/en/ukraine-under-fire-support-vostok-sos-aid-operation/>,
- **United Help Ukraine** <https://unitedhelpukraine.org/about-us>,

to list a few. Another important way of helping is to remain informed about the conflict and avoid the spread of misinformation on social media. After all, accidentally amplifying disinformation can inadvertently harm innocent civilians.

The current publication of SFVDS aims to open our minds to new possibilities in our profession, whether it is the use of novel clinical technology and dental materials, newer evidence-based ways of clinical practice to our patients' benefit, newer ways of transitioning our clinical careers, and last but not the least, carving out that "new" slot of time in our schedules to become slightly more engaged in our local, state or national component dental societies. To that end, please join us in giving a shout-out to the New Dentist Committee and its chair, Dr. Sean Sakhai. We truly value your leadership and volunteer efforts and are grateful for your contributions to the membership.

Wishing and praying for PEACE, both within and around us. May that be the "bright new beginning" for all of us.

Love,  
*Shukan Kanuga*



## ON THE COVER

New Beginnings by Dr. Shukan Kanuga, DDS, MDS.



## Call for Submissions

Do you have an unusual case study or an interesting article you would like to have published? Dental Dimensions is looking for articles from our members so we can share our collective knowledge. Articles should be 500-1000 words with references where applicable and photos if possible. Send your submissions to: [exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net) or contact the dental society office at **818-576-0116**.





# FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

PHILOMENA OBOH, DDS

Welcome to 2022 and New Beginnings! It is a great privilege to be your President this year and I am very proud to be the first African American woman to lead our great dental society!

I am deeply honored and humbled by the trust the membership has placed in me to lead one of the finest dental societies in the country. Our dental society has been serving its members for 71 years. Many great leaders have preceded me, and I will do my best to continue in their footsteps to uplifting our great San Fernando Valley Dental Society.

Our dental society is focused on service to its members through its year-round CE programs, legislative and advocacy work, including zone meetings and social activities. We are committed to serving our members in their effort to provide oral health services to the community with excellence and integrity. Our charitable foundation is dedicated to providing service to the underserved and less fortunate in the communities in which our members practice. Through education and compassion, we strive to improve the oral health of the public.

Like all of you, I am so glad that we are finally able to return to normal with the pandemic walking out the door. I'm glad that together we weathered the storm. Many of our senior colleagues simply walked away from their practice during the pandemic. It is my hope that those that held on to their practice, who are looking to retire, can take advantage of our upcoming in-person Speed Pairing meeting on May 19th. Checkout our website to learn more about this meeting, and many more.

I encourage you to read through this entire issue of Dental Dimensions because it's going to be one of our best! Our contributors are the best in the business, and our partners are offering you great values all throughout the magazine. One of the highlights in this issue is an article entitled "Origins of the San Fernando Valley Dental Society" written by one of our long-standing board members, Dr. Mike Bromberg. Don't miss it! He's provided an outstanding historical overview describing the legacy of the SFVDS. And, where Dr. Bromberg ends his story your Board of Directors started a "New Beginning" in February 2022 by approving a name change of our dental society to North Los Angeles Dental Society. It's about inclusion, geography, and more! Everyone can be part of our new beginning!

As 2022 unfolds, please always feel free to contact me with any suggestions or recommendations. I can always be reached through the San Fernando Valley Dental Society office.

*Dr. Philomena Oboh, DDS*

2022 SFVDS President





# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CURT THORNTON, MBA

Welcome to a great year so far! We hit the ground running this year beginning with the installation of our 2022 President and Board of Directors in January at the Sheraton Universal! What a fun event! Please plan to join us next year – you won't be disappointed! 2022 - This is our year of "new beginnings"! And everyone is very excited as we begin to return to in-person events! Yeah! In February, we had our first live event with Dr. Calilung speaking on Stem Cells at the Gelfand Educational Center. We are planning several more live events this year! Don't miss these golden opportunities!

Thank you to Dr. Gib Snow for allowing us to utilize his parking lot in Palmdale for the very first Schlep & Shred of 2022! And, we had our first CPR certification class at the Central Office in February! Please check out our calendar of events in this issue of Dental Dimensions as we'll be offering these events (and more) throughout 2022!

You may have noticed that we've expanded our website this year. Last year we were limited to only two classes/events on our website that you could register and sign-up. With our new expansion we can now have you register for numerous classes and events on line. As such we're planning on having 3-4 months' worth of activities available to you for registration which will make it easier for your calendars! So, check us out: <https://www.sfvds.org/meetings-events/ce-course-schedules>.

I'm not sure if you've heard any rumors yet, but the SFVDS Board of Directors has recently approved a name change from the "San Fernando Valley Dental

Society" to the "North Los Angeles Dental Society." Yes, we have begun the journey, and this is the very first step. Our Board of Directors recognizes that SFVDS includes more than just the San Fernando Valley. Geographically, our dental society includes Santa Clarita Valley, Antelope Valley, and portions of Conejo Valley! We truly want to be inclusive of ALL our members – not just the ones that live or work in the San Fernando Valley. There is a working task force outlining the steps, protocols, documents, and filings required to make this change for both the dental society and the foundation. You will definitely hear a lot more about this over the next few weeks and months, so stay tuned!

I would also like to remind you that one of our many member benefits is the SFVDS Career Center. It provides many ways to help you recruit the top dental professionals for your organization. You can read more about it in this issue of Dental Dimensions.

Please be looking for our weekly informational emails and promotional flyers for all our upcoming events. If you are not on our mailing list, please send me an email at [exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net). And lastly, we would like to ask you to support all our sponsors and partners of the SFVDS – you'll find them all throughout this edition of Dental Dimensions!

Enjoy the next few months activities and I hope to see you very soon at one of our in-person events or live interactive webinars!

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# BCR TRUSTEE REPORT

JORGE ALVAREZ, DDS

This is my first report as your Board Component Representative. Last year at the CDA House of Delegates in November 2021, Resolution 1 was adopted by two thirds majority of the CDA 32 dental societies delegates, thus being adopted.

The objective of Resolution 1 was to reduce the size of CDA Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees, to improve communications with the Component societies and make the organized dentistry experience a better one for our members.

It took a task force two years and several meetings with CDA component societies to facilitate the development of ideas, answer questions to solve the resistance to be accepted since it failed to get a two thirds majority the first time in 2019. Our dental society and other component societies presented alternative Resolutions without much support from the task force.

The last official CDA Board of Trustees meeting was held on January 28, 2022. At the same meeting the Board Component Representatives (BCR) were installed. Dr. Virendra Patel from the Sacramento District Dental Society was elected BCR's first Chair for a period of one year.

The San Fernando Valley Dental Society had two Trustees, Dr. Karin Irani and Dr. Jorge Alvarez, at the same House of Delegates Dr. Karin Irani was elected to be our ADA 13th District Trustee, to start in 2022.

This change means a major By-laws change not only at CDA but at our dental society too. Under the direction of our 2022 President Dr. Philomena Oboh, Dr. Mark Amundsen our component By-laws Committee Chair is working on the modification of this matter to present it for your consideration in the near future.

By the time you read this report in our Dental Dimension newsletter, our first meeting as BCRs on March 11, 2022, will have happened.

I will keep you informed of all activities and propositions.

Since the CDA Board of Trustees officially has been discontinued, I want to take a point of privilege to mention our previous San Fernando Valley Dental Society Trustees, volunteer dentists that sacrificed personal time to make our dental society prestigious and well respected, including mentoring other dentists into organized dentistry values, making sure our component's voice was always heard, and last but not least leading by example.



# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

GIB SNOW, DDS

At the top of the list and most important to your dental practice is the upcoming proposition in California is to allow patients to sue for significantly higher amounts. Right now, there is a limit of \$250,000 and a limit on attorney's fees reducing frivolous lawsuits. If voted on in November, our malpractice insurance will probably be increased by thousands of dollars. There will be a huge increase in frivolous lawsuits. Please become involved. There is a coalition of healthcare providers to fight this disruptive concept. It is "California to Protect and Contain Health Care Costs". Please give all the help you can to fight this.

SB 242/ AB 454 is being considered. It requires insurance companies to cover the added costs for PPE increased by Covid-19. Many providers are paying \$10 to \$25 per patient.

AB 526 has passed. It allows dentists to administer Covid-19 and flu vaccines to team members and patients. CDA has developed "vaccine confidence" and "lab testing" kits.

AB 733 sponsored by CDA, and Dental Hygienist Association allows hygienists to work in medical offices to treat pregnant women and Medi-Cal children applying fluoride and giving oral health instruction. Once this starts it might be questionable how far this can go considering possible future legislation.

Please give us your ideas. Let us know if you feel the CDA is advocating in the direction you would like our profession to go. Let us know if there are other issues your Dental Society should advocate on the local and state level. Please respond to Curt Thornton, Executive Director at [exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net).



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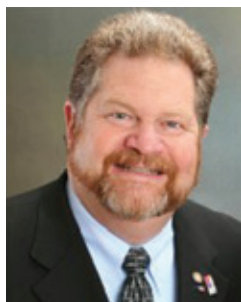
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## FROM THE NEW DENTIST COMMITTEE

SEAN SAKHAI, DDS

Whether you just graduated dental school or you're nearing your ten-year mark, life may not seem like it's slowing down or getting easier. Starting out your career has challenges and has only gotten more complicated the last two years. The San Fernando Valley Dental Society (SFVDS) is a powerful resource that many dentists underutilize. It's important for new graduates and early career dentists to know that there is an established network of people at the SFVDS to help you achieve a higher degree of success in your career. The SFVDS is not just an organization that hosts CE courses, but also has a lot more to offer, including mentorships, avenues to new career opportunities, and serves as a resource to help you connect with experts in various industries surrounding dentistry (HR, Law, Marketing, Real estate, etc.).

As the Chair of the New Dentist Committee, it is my goal to help recent graduates foster new relationships to help advance your profession and quality of life. I hope many of you who are new to the profession take advantage of these opportunities, and I hope to see you at some of our upcoming events. Keep an eye out for our picnic later this year, and feel free to contact us with any events you would like to see us host in the future.

### BIO

Dr. Sean Sakhai received his dental degree, with a specialization in Periodontics, from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF). While there, he also earned a Master's Degree in Oral and Craniofacial Sciences. Dr. Sakhai is Board certified and a Diplomate of the American Board of Periodontology. As a native of the San Fernando Valley, Dr. Sakhai returned to the Los Angeles, where he graduated from UCLA with a degree in Biochemistry. Dr. Sakhai teaches at his alma mater as part time faculty at the UCLA School of Dentistry.

# CLASSIFIEDS

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### Jack Fogelson

With over 20 years experience in the dental industry as a Broker, Agent or Technology Specialist, I have a unique combination of skills. Those skills include understanding the management of a dental office, equipment, software and staff. As a proven sales leader, I understand the delicate nature of a sale or purchase of a practice. This experience contributed to the development of custom software designed to improve the process for the Buyer and Seller.



# ALONE WE ARE SMART, TOGETHER WE ARE AWESOME



Another year, another amazing complimentary gift from the ADA!

Over the past few years as an ADA Advisory Circle member, I reveled in the excitement of opening the packages that arrived around the same time every year. However, this year, there was something special that immediately caught my eye and made me hold the notebook for a few minutes while reflecting.

The inscription on the notebook included the powerful words: "Alone We are Smart, Together We are Awesome".

The powerful message of those words aligns with my beliefs about Dentistry and the important role I play. As dentists, we might not be leaders in every aspect of the word, however, we often excel to show leadership in many circumstances that encompass our work, our families, and our communities.

One thing I know for sure is that we are neither born with leadership skills, nor do we become a leader in our communities because of simply being appointed to a position or a title that is acquired. Our leadership is a reflection of our ability to share our mission views and values with our communities, as well as the ability to constantly work to learn and improve our skills.

I have always thought about Dentistry as a fairly predictable career with so many amazing opportunities that would allow me to steer it in any direction. However, these past two years have made it challenging and

difficult because of the current circumstances facing our nation and the entire world.

As I welcome the New Year with existing and future challenges, the message on that notebook was clearly and perfectly aligned with my mission to support and strengthen organized Dentistry. As challenges build up ahead of us (i.e., astronomical fluctuations in the cost of running dental offices, changes in the modalities of practicing Dentistry, as well as insurance related challenges), it is crucial that we take on an active roll in our ever advancing career that is shifting dramatically in conjunction with our future that is directly related to these changes.

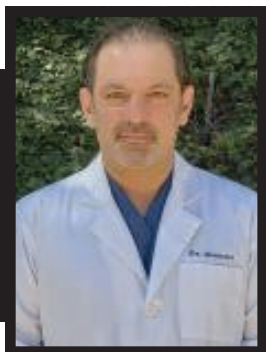
Not surprisingly, many of these changes are going to be decided legislatively, and many non-dental legislators are the ones who are deciding the future of Dentistry. Undoubtedly, it is the power of organized dentistry in conjunction with our supportive role that can shift the balance and re-shape the future for better Dentistry. We might not always succeed, but if we were to remain in the shadows and not actively participate or share our thoughts, the changes will take place whether or not we agree with the outcome.

**OUR LEADERSHIP IS A REFLECTION OF OUR ABILITY TO SHARE OUR MISSION VIEWS AND VALUES WITH OUR COMMUNITIES**

Personally, I don't believe that the "Golden Years of Dentistry" have passed, but rather, it is the leadership spirit inside each of us that will always set the standard for the golden future of Dentistry.



Contact Us  
Nova Aghbashian, DDS  
Email: [naghbashian@bhchealth.org](mailto:naghbashian@bhchealth.org)  
Phone: (818) 454-9308



## IN MEMORIAM DR. ARMOND AVANNESS

Armond Avanness, 46, born on September 17, 1975, in Tehran, Iran, passed away November 28, 2021. He resided in Glendale, CA at the time of his passing. He graduated Tufts University School of Dentistry in 2004 and was in General Practice in Valencia, Ca. Dr. Avanness has been a member of the SFVDS for 13 years.

# BREAKING THE STIGMA

## WHAT WE LEARNED ABOUT

# MB2 DENTAL



### DRS. STEVE AND HARLEY WILLIAMS

My wife and I have been practicing in our endo and perio office since we graduated from our specialty programs back in 1992, she being the periodontist and me the endodontist. Along with our staff, we have always tried to give patients the highest quality care and provide a very warm and personalized environment. We started to explore the possibility and potential advantages of becoming partners with MB2 Dental during the first portion of 2021.

We knew that we were not interested in joining any organization that would come in and start changing the style of our practice, as we had seen this happen with a number of local offices being sold to various DSOs. MB2 claimed to be different from these other DSO models and assured us from the beginning that this would never happen to a doctor owner that decides to partner with them. We spoke with numerous MB2 doctor partners during our due diligence period, and all of them were very pleased with the way their partnerships are going. Everyone we talked to said they still have complete autonomy regarding their practice-related decisions.

Having now been partners with MB2 for over 6 months, there is still some practice management on our end. However, it is such a relief to no longer manage payroll, organize compliance, and manage several other relatively mundane ongoing tasks after many years of doing all of these things ourselves. We have found that the staff at MB2 are very prompt and attentive to our requests. For example, we recently asked them to set up and start a digital marketing campaign for patients in need of dental implants or emergency care. One of their recommendations was to re-create our website to be managed in-house to increase our search engine optimization. I was a little hesitant to do this since I had recently spent a lot of time completely redoing our website within the last year or so to something we were both delighted with. After giving them the go-ahead, within a week, they had our site recreated to look pretty much identical as it did when another website provider managed it. We no longer have to pay anywhere near the previous, ongoing monthly costs. MB2 gives us access to a team of marketing specialists to put this campaign together and provide

the SEO for our website and practice. This was all done for us incredibly quickly and for a fraction of the cost (with many portions at no charge) than it would have been if we were still on our own.

Since we partnered earlier this year, as we had expected, our year-end accounting for our transition year has been relatively involved. Still, in the future, **the dreaded year-end accounting will no longer be a source of stress for us because they take care of this fully (with no separate accounting charges to us).**

We have found that MB2 can help us significantly reduce many of our supply and equipment expenses because of the group pricing they have with many of our vendors. **The medical insurance premiums for us and**

**our employees have been cut by about 65%,** and we now have a much better plan than we did previously. Our malpractice, workers comp, and other office-related insurance premiums have been significantly reduced too.

**Another significant factor in our decision to partner is the regular investment opportunities that MB2 makes available to all of their owner docs to grow along with the company as a whole.**

These types of options are typically

not available to dentists in private practice. We also like the peace of mind that we now have regarding the eventual transition of our practice to a new owner doc or docs. Previously, it has always been an unknown to us how our practice could eventually transition and for what value. We are not looking to do this anytime soon, but ultimately, when the time comes, we are no longer on our own to make this happen, and we now have an excellent idea of the practice value. The way things are structured makes it very affordable for a large pool of potential future docs (that we will choose from) to easily transition into the practice.

We liked that **MB2 is a dentist-led and a dentist-founded company.** They understand what is important to us. One of the main goals of MB2 is to provide the support that they can to help each of the partner offices to

**IT IS SUCH A RELIEF TO  
NO LONGER MANAGE PAYROLL,  
ORGANIZE COMPLIANCE, AND MANAGE  
SEVERAL OTHER RELATIVELY MUNDANE  
ONGOING TASKS**



become more and more successful. As this happens, the company becomes more successful, which benefits all of us.

As he is referred to, **the dentist founder of MB2 has always prioritized the owner docs as he has structured the company's growth path over the years.** He has assured us that this will continue to be one of the primary focus areas as the company moves into its next phase of more rapid growth.

We have energized entering into 2022. There are some exciting things on the near-term horizon that we otherwise would never have had the option to be part of.



***Drs. Steve and Harley Williams***  
*Endo & Perio of the Tri-Valley*  
*Livermore, California*

#### **BIO**

Dr. Steven M. Williams is a dental specialist in the field of endodontics. He received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Utah in 1986, and his Doctorate from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 1990. Following completion of his dental degree, Dr. Williams pursued advanced training at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, and received his certification in advanced endodontics and endodontic surgery in 1992. He also has extensive experience in performing many implant and endodontic surgeries using the surgical operating microscope, and now has over 30 years of experience practicing as an endodontist. He has been married to his wife Harley for over 30 years.

Dr. Harley J. Williams is a dental specialist in the field of Periodontics. She received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Vermont in 1986, and her Doctorate from Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 1990. Following completion of her dental degree, Dr. Williams pursued advanced training at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, and received her certification in advanced Periodontics in 1992. She also has extensive experience in performing many implant placement surgeries, and now has over 30 years of experience practicing as a periodontist.

Together, they own and practice at Endo & Perio of the Tri-Valley.



# **ORIGINS OF THE SFVDS**

## **MYRON (MIKE) BROMBERG, DDS**

Many years ago, there were two major dental societies in California, both under the umbrella of the American Dental Association, but otherwise unrelated to each other. To the north was the California Dental Association and the other was the Southern California Dental Association. They were divided by the Tehachapi Mountains.

The largest by far of the components of the Southern California Dental Association was the Los Angeles County Dental Society. To the north of Los Angeles was the San Fernando Valley. Its dental society was called the Fourth District of the Los Angeles County Dental Society, and it was established in 1937.

As the San Fernando Valley grew in numbers and dentists, it became clear that it needed its own organization, equal in footing to the Los Angeles County Dental Society and therefore needed to separate from the Los Angeles County Dental Society, creating its own representatives to the Southern California Dental Association. Since the area was commonly known simply as "The Valley", the new organization became The Valley Dental Society, and it was established in 1961.

Confusion reigned supreme. Other nearby valley areas such as the Antelope Valley, San Gabriel Valley, and the Crescenta Valley felt that was an inappropriate name since they were valleys as well. Consequently, five years later, in 1966, the Valley Dental Society became the San Fernando Valley Dental Society.

As the San Fernando Valley grew, so did the surrounding geographic areas to a very large degree, and recently it became increasingly clear that the San Fernando Valley Dental Society encompassed far more than the San Fernando Valley and the name was not truly representative of those rapidly growing adjacent areas.

As a result, the San Fernando Valley Dental Society Board of Directors, in February 2022, started discussions to change the name to be more reflective of the area it truly encompasses. After much discussion, the name agreed upon by a large majority of the Board members is the North Los Angeles Dental Society. The organization and its structure will remain the same. Nothing else will change except its name.



# SFVDS IN THE NEWS

## Veterans receive help with their smiles

### Dentistry offices offer services for free as part of program

By **JULIE DRAKE**  
Valley Press Staff Writer

PALMDALE - Up to 70 Antelope Valley veterans were scheduled to receive free dental care from four dentists at two separate offices, Palmdale Total Dentistry and Lancaster Total Dentistry, on Friday.

Organized through Snow Orthodontics as part of a joint effort by the San Fernando Valley Dental Society, where Dr. Gilbert Snow is the past-president, this was the third year for the program locally, organizers said, with the 2020 event canceled due to last year's COVID-19 restrictions.

"This is something near and dear to us, to take care of our veterans who have done so much and continue to serve in so many ways," Dr. Snow said in a statement. "We are dedicated to honoring them the best way we know, through providing quality free dental care by outstanding local dentists."

Both dental offices provided their facilities for free.

Dr. Celia Infante and Dr. Yasser Sadek worked out of the Palmdale Total Dentistry office of Dr. Silvia Borisson, who was away, on Friday, due to a personal commitment.

Marine veteran Ron Johnson had his teeth cleaned and some old fillings taken care of.

"You can't beat it," Johnson said. "They've been doing it for a long time. This is only my third year coming."

Dr. Sadek did Johnson's dental work. He

has donated his time to the program for several years.

"I just like to help," Dr. Sadek said.

Dr. Sharona Kahanof and Dr. Paul Babakhanof worked out the Lancaster Total Dentistry office of Dr. Houman Ebrahimi.

"We're fortunate enough to be able to provide facilities for these people," said Eugeni Borisson, who serves as chief of operations.

Between 50-70 veterans had appointments at the two offices. The doctors did check-ups and X-rays to see what type of work the patients needed.

"We do ask them, 'Hey, what's bothering you?' and even if they tell us what's bothering them, we always have to take an X-ray of that area so they really know what's going on," Borisson said.

The veterans received dental work that could be completed with one visit, such as deep cleaning, fillings or decay. Each of the vets made appointments for the dental service after they were

"If it involves two appointments we'll accommodate that as needed," Borisson said.

Assemblyman Tom Lackey, R-Palmdale; Donna Termeer, senior field deputy for Supervisor Kathryn Barger; Donna Hill, field representative for state Sen. Scott Wilk, R-Santa Clarita; and Jackie Owens, field representative for Rep. Mike Garcia, R-Santa Clarita, presented certifi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN FAWCETT

Dr. Yasser Sadek performs dental work on Marine veteran Ron Johnson, assisted by hygienist Marilu Macias, on Friday, during an event organized through Snow Orthodontics as part of a joint effort by the San Fernando Valley Dental Society.

cates of appreciation to Borisson for Snow Orthodontics.

"A lot of our veterans need services that are difficult to afford," Lackey said. "This outreach is very, very much appreciated."

Dr. Snow could not attend due to a professional commitment.

Borisson thanked Barger for her assistance. The supervisor supports the San Fernando Valley Dental Society through her office.

"She's always been very generous in terms of donations," Borisson said.

He also thanked Lackey, Wilk and Garcia for their support.

[jdrake@avpress.com](mailto:jdrake@avpress.com)



# FROM THE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

ALAN TAYLOR, DDS

As chairman of the Political Action Committee, it was my pleasure to meet with and endorse 2 councilmembers for the city of Los Angeles, Paul Koretz and Bob Blumenfield. The SFVDS PAC presented a monetary donation to each of the councilmembers for the upcoming election in 2022. Both councilmembers are focused on serving the day to day needs and services for the City of Los Angeles and especially the San Fernando Valley.

Councilmember Koretz born in the San Fernando Valley, grew up in Los Angeles and attended Hamilton High School as well as UCLA. He was first elected to the California State Assembly in 2000 representing the 42nd district which includes much of Los Angeles. Since 2009, Paul Koretz has represented the 5th district on LA's city council which includes Encino and most of West Los Angeles. Councilmember Koretz will be running for Los Angeles city controller in the upcoming election later this year. He has worked on improving our parks, paving our streets, improving the homeless situation and is a proponent on addressing animal cruelty.

Councilmember Blumenfield was first elected to the city council in 2013. He represents the 3rd district which includes Canoga Park, Reseda, Tarzana, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills. As a councilmember, Bob Blumenfield has dedicated his time to improving public safety, emergency preparedness, beautification, and traffic reduction in his district. Prior to his service on the city council, Bob served in the California State Assembly from 2008 to 2013. As an assembly member, he was chair of the budget committee and delivered his last 3 budgets on time and balanced. Councilmember Blumenfield is running for reelection in the upcoming election later this year.



Dr. Alan Taylor, Chairman of the Political Action Committee (left), and Councilmember Koretz (right).



Dr. Alan Taylor (left) and councilmember Blumenfield (right)

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# BEAUTIFIL® KIDS SA

## AS A TOOL IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE RESTORATIVE DENTAL TREATMENT

### DR. KANUGA

Less is more when it comes to children's oral health. This applies to pretty much everything one can conjure up, from snacking and sweetened beverage intake to the amount of toothpaste used to the treatment of dental caries. Minimally Invasive Dentistry is built upon the same rationale and seems to serve our youngest patients the best.

Keeping in mind the flavor of our bulletin, "New Beginnings", it is only fitting that we reflect on our choices of treatment modalities for the #1 dental disease that seems to affect children very early on in their life. The experience they have managing this disease at their dental home in these formative years will influence the way they perceive dental care as well as their own dental health in the coming years.

Depending on the extent and severity of the dental caries and the patient's development and ability to cooperate, treatment plan options can include Silver Diamine Fluoride by itself or in conjunction with SMART restorations, conventional restorative treatment familiar to us like composite resins/glass ionomers/resin modified glass ionomer and stainless steel crowns. The neat thing about providing dental care to children is that there is neither a cookie-cutter, one-size-fits-all approach nor there is a single dull moment in our day!

As clinicians we are constantly learning and exploring ways to make evidence based dental treatment easier, faster and more efficient for our young patients to ensure a lifetime of good oral health and positive dental experiences.

In the pursuit of this goal, when I stumbled upon a newer composite

material that seemed too good to be true, I was initially skeptical. However, on reviewing the literature supporting the excellent qualities I was excited as it would fit quite well in a fast-paced pediatric dental practice.

Beautiful® Kids SA is a comprehensive self-adhesive flowable restorative with bioactive Giomer Technology that eliminates the need for 2 steps- Etch + bond and can be used to restore teeth right after prep/caries removal. The elimination of these two technique-sensitive steps can be revolutionary for a lot of fidgety young kids with an attention span of a butterfly. The primary indications are PRR and small class I type of restorations. In conjunction with an isolation system like the Isolite or Dryshield, it works wonders in the quality and the speed of the restorative treatment. Giomer Technology is a proprietary filler particle with healthful benefits that is incorporated into Shofu's tooth-colored restorative materials.

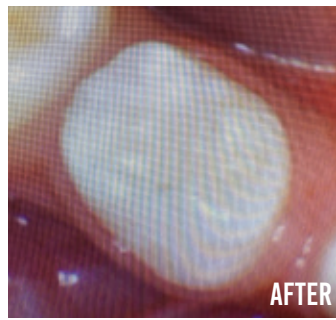
Giomer Technology offers fluoride release and recharge which is clinically proven to prevent caries recurrence. It also provides properties of composite resin such as excellent aesthetics, easy polishability, biocompatibility and smooth surface finish. Moreover, it has an antiplaque effect by forming a material film layer with saliva that is reported to minimize plaque adhesion and inhibit bacterial colonization. Gomers report comparable microleakage scores to that of composite resins in permanent teeth in several studies.

Here are a few clinical scenarios with photos where I have successfully incorporated this self-adhesive flowable composite. All of the patients were treated under Nitrous oxide oxygen anxiolysis with no local anesthetic. Isolation was with Isolite when tolerated by the patient. Total treatment time from start to finish was an average of 4-5 minutes per patient.

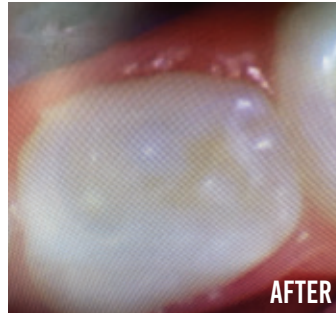
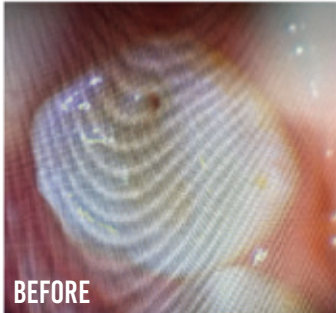


4 year old patient with caries on #A, B- O restored with Beautiful® Kids SA shade A1 after caries removal





3 year old with 0 caries on primary molars



2 y 9month old with caries on 1st primary molars



4 y.o with caries on #T-B. The restorations needed minimal to no polishing with excellent surface finish.

**P.S- Supporting literature available upon request.**

**Disclaimer- The author, Dr. Kanuga is a KOL for Shofu, the parent company for Beautifil® Kids SA.**



**BIO**

Dr. Kanuga is a board-certified pediatric dentist in private practice in Santa Clarita and Porter Ranch. She serves as the Editor of the SFVDS and the social media committee chair of California Society of Pediatric Dentistry.



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Anette Masters, D.D.S.

## SFVDS Membership Diary

### Want to Volunteer today?

Want to volunteer and be a part of the San Fernando Valley Dental Society Board of Directors? I never thought that I would still be a part of the SFVDS BOD after all these years. It takes willingness and desire to get involved and give back to your community. I never expected to receive anything from my desire to volunteer but as I look back now, I have received more than what I have given.

It started with a welcome visit from Dr. David Campbell at the office I was working for after graduating from dental school. I was very surprised by the effort put into welcoming a new member like myself. A year or so later, Dr Lee Logan the Orthodontist a floor above my office invited me to be a part of the SFVDS New DDS Committee then followed by Dr. Martin Courtney asking me to be his Program Chair. One position led to another. As I start getting involved, Dr. Richard Benveniste asked me to be a part of the California Dental Board of Examiners. Then my enthusiasm got me involved with the CDA Scientific Sessions (now called CDA Presents). After seeing how the dental profession runs and now having my first child, I decided to be the voice for the kids that were not eligible to have dental insurance. I became a part of the CDA lobbying team promoting the Healthy Families Act that will later on be partnered with Delta Dental as DD Healthy Families Insurance. I took another step and accepted the invitation to be part of the ADA grassroots and with Dr's. Jim Mertz and Gerry Gelfand.

During all these times, I was able to expand my peer group, listen to the dental needs of the community, and help mentor my younger colleagues. You might wonder what it takes to get involved and how much time will it take on your daily lives? Although, I never asked those questions then, it is fair to reflect back and give you an overview of what it is like to step out of your cubicle and be involved.

First, I realized that my passion was dentistry. Although, I love to ski during winter and bike on the weekends, I find myself enjoying the artistic part of Dentistry, learning the new techniques and technology, and wondering what I can do about the new regulations that are being imposed on DDS almost every other year as well as oral health care legislations that can make an impact on me and my family. It was that call and invitation from the SFVDS Board that got me started to make a difference in my life and others outside of my dental office.

Once you get that foot into that door, you will realize that there is lot of knowledge and experience surrounding you and around the Board table you are about to join in. You are welcomed and mentored almost immediately. You are in that room because your input is needed, and your contributions will help SFVDS grow into a better organization. As time goes by, you will soon find out that dentistry is not just about treating patients, it's a big world that encompasses a lot of other things. There is the Legislative Committee that meets up with our legislators and advocates public oral health and dental regulations to better serve the public. The By Laws Committee focuses on the laws and rules on how the organization is run. The Dental Health Committee focuses on community outreach programs and partner with other community organizations. The Dental Practice Committee is constantly informed on the proposed changes from the State, Federal and Insurance companies affecting the dental profession The New Dentist Committee engages with other dentists who are starting in their career and build a network of peers to learn from others.

As a dentist, you are a leader. That leadership can take you out of your office into another world of Dentistry which is the Organized Dentistry. Once you decide and take a step, you will have mentors who will guide you to become an expert on the field you'd like to tackle. Be it as a lobbyist on the legislative committee or an advocate for new practicing dentist, opportunities are there for you.

All it takes is a step forward. So, I ask you, are you ready?

Anette Masters



# SFVDS 2021 End of the Year Membership Diary

## Why is it important to comply?



to Sue Your California Employer for  
Independent Contractor in 2020

**INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR**

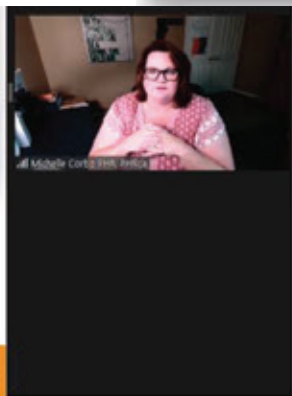
**PAY DAY** Action

**Sexual Assault Lawsuit Investigation**

Employees sue for everything from firing procedures to termination. Businesses might complain that nothing is off limits, but the fact of the matter is that employees' rights have been violated. The United States Department of Labor protects employees from employment discrimination, retaliation, and more.

**California Labor Law Violations: Unpaid Overtime, Breaks Lawsuit Investigation**

**California Pay Stub Class Action Lawsuit Investigation**



August 26, 2021  
Employment Law Update  
with Michelle Corbo



September 28, 2021  
Reducing Insurance  
Dependency with Gary  
Takacs

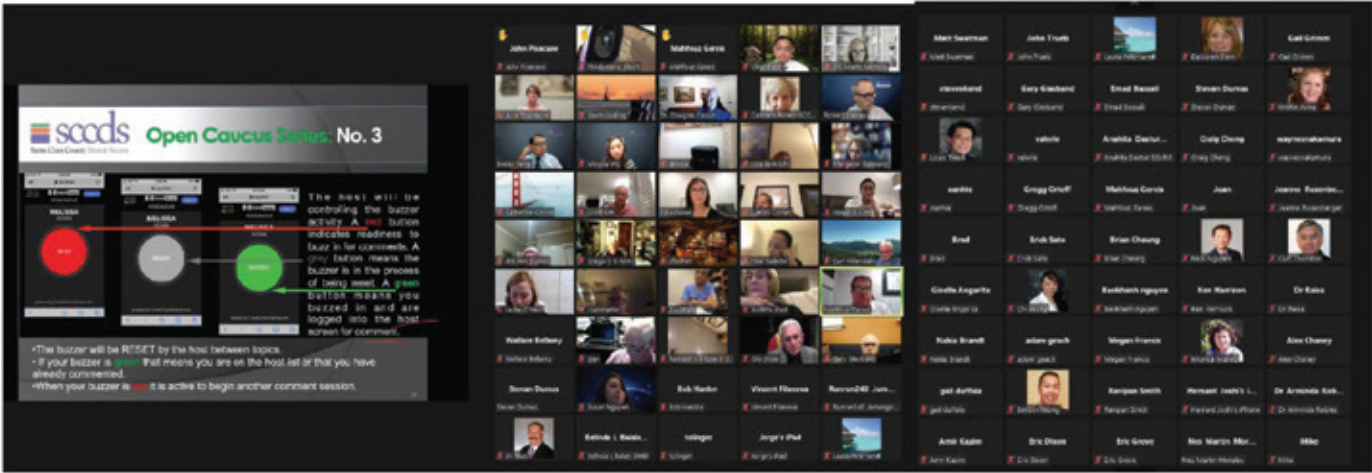
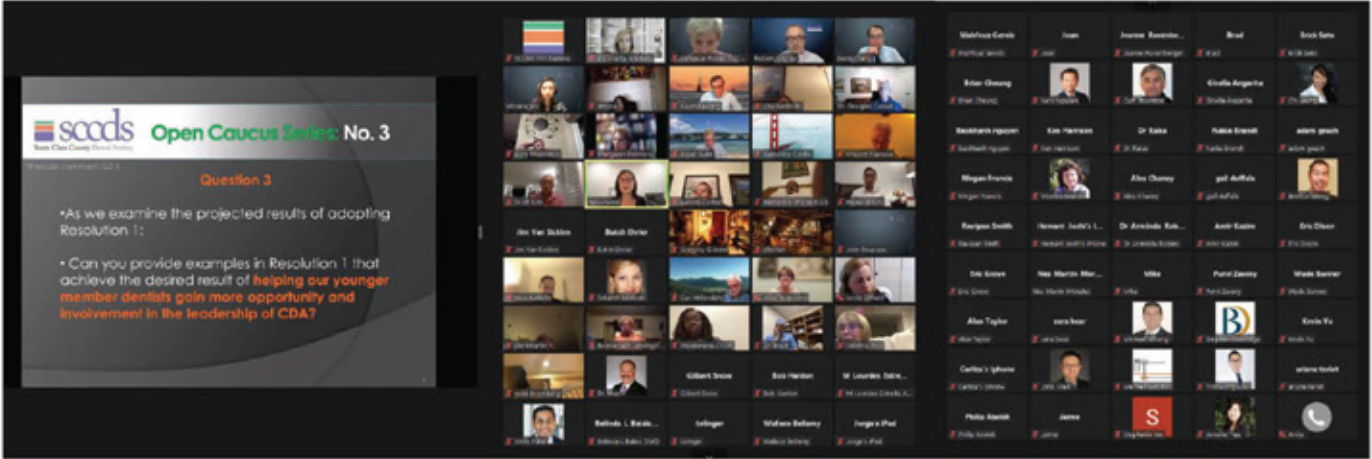
## Reducing Insurance Dependence In Your Practice

Presented By : Gary Takacs & Naren Arulrajah

September 2021



# October 5, 2021 All Component Caucus



CDA All Component Caucus hosted by Santa Clara County Dental Society where all resolutions were discussed, debated and challenged by each delegate from different dental societies.

ARE YOUR PATIENTS GETTING COMFORTABLY NUMB?

AN UPDATE & REVIEW OF LOCAL ANESTHESIA TECHNIQUES & PHARMACOLOGY

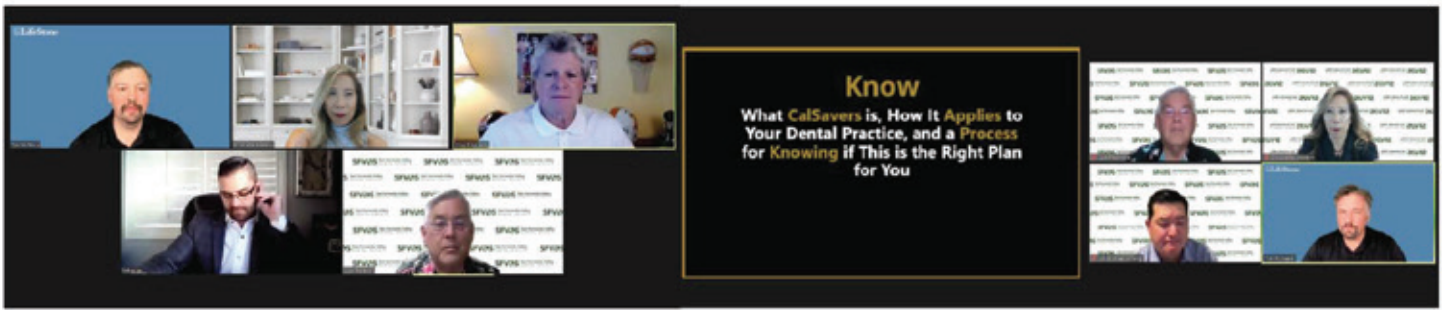
Alan W. Budenz, MS, DDS, MBA  
Professor, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences and Dept. of Diagnostic Sciences  
University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry  
San Francisco, California  
abudenz@pacific.edu

SFVDS San Fernando Valley DENTAL SOCIETY

October 23, 2021

Review of Local Anesthetics and Landmarks with Dr. Alan Budenz





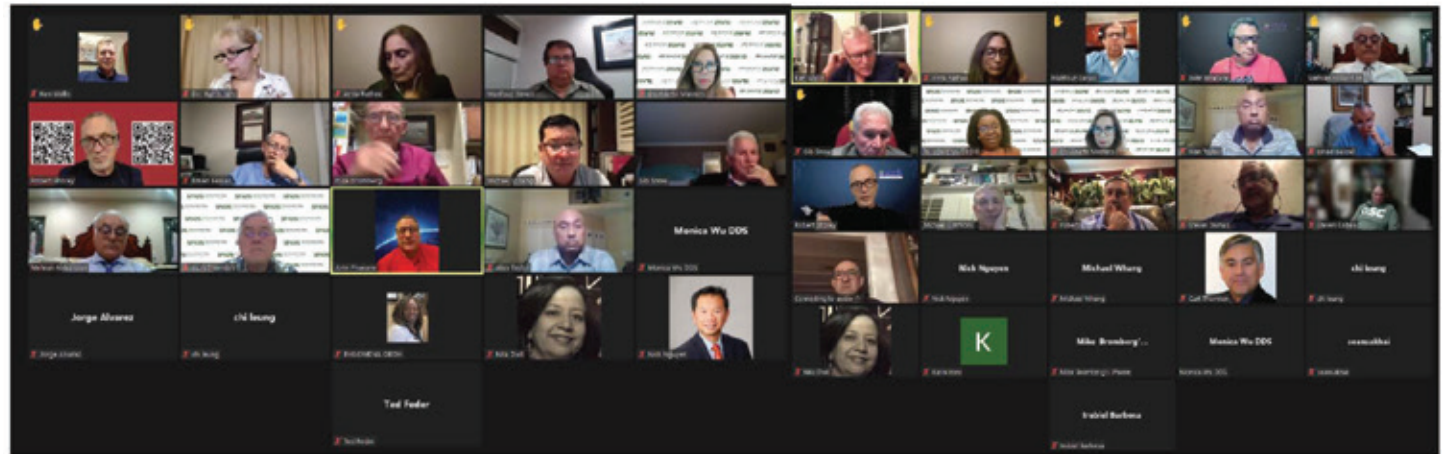
**ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

RESPONSIBILITIES HANDLED BY THE EXCHANGE	RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PLAN SPONSOR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 401(k) Investment Manager</li> <li>• Account Setup</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Document</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Trust Agreement</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Investment Policy Statement</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Summary Plan Description</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Rollover</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Distribution</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Termination</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Audit</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Compliance</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Reporting</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Recordkeeping</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Administration</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Custodian</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Broker/Dealer</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Service Provider</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Consultant</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Attorney</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Accountant</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Insurance</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Pension</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Annuity</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Rollover</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Distribution</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Termination</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Audit</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Compliance</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Reporting</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Recordkeeping</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Administration</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Custodian</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Broker/Dealer</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Service Provider</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Consultant</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Attorney</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Accountant</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Insurance</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Pension</li> <li>• 401(k) Plan Annuity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan Design</li> <li>• Plan Document</li> <li>• Plan Trust Agreement</li> <li>• Plan Investment Policy Statement</li> <li>• Plan Summary Plan Description</li> <li>• Plan Rollover</li> <li>• Plan Distribution</li> <li>• Plan Termination</li> <li>• Plan Audit</li> <li>• Plan Compliance</li> <li>• Plan Reporting</li> <li>• Plan Recordkeeping</li> <li>• Plan Administration</li> <li>• Plan Custodian</li> <li>• Plan Broker/Dealer</li> <li>• Plan Service Provider</li> <li>• Plan Consultant</li> <li>• Plan Attorney</li> <li>• Plan Accountant</li> <li>• Plan Insurance</li> <li>• Plan Pension</li> <li>• Plan Annuity</li> </ul>

**TAG takes on 99% of your administrative tasks.**

October 28, 2021  
 CalSavers Update Presentation by Tim Mc Neely, Sebastian Aza & Greg Merriman

**SFVDS In House Caucus November 11, 2021**




SFVDS Component Caucus presided by Dr. Michael Whang where we invited several other components to join our caucus as observers and guests including CDA Past President Ken Wallace



## CDA House of Delegates November 10 and 12, 2021

2022 CDA HOD was lead by Speaker of the House Dr. Debra Finney. Attended by over 200 dentists representing all 32 Dental Society components in California where parliamentary procedures and process were explained to all attendees. Issues were debated by each delegate as shown on the picture below with their hands raised. Although it was held by Zoom delegates were able to go over the Associations business and vote on resolutions at hand.

**Address the house**



Address the house:


- Raise your hand

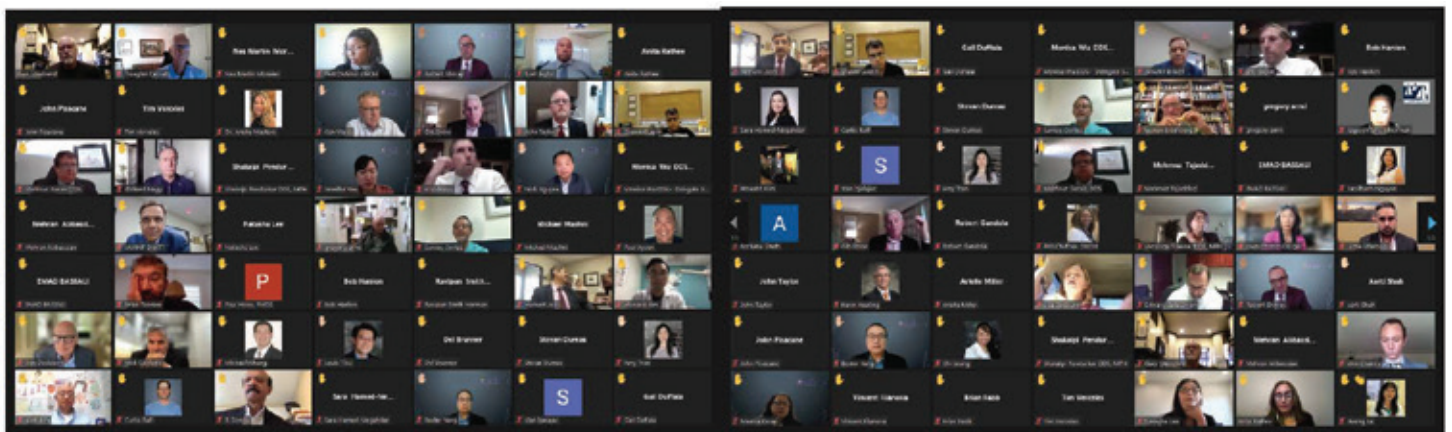
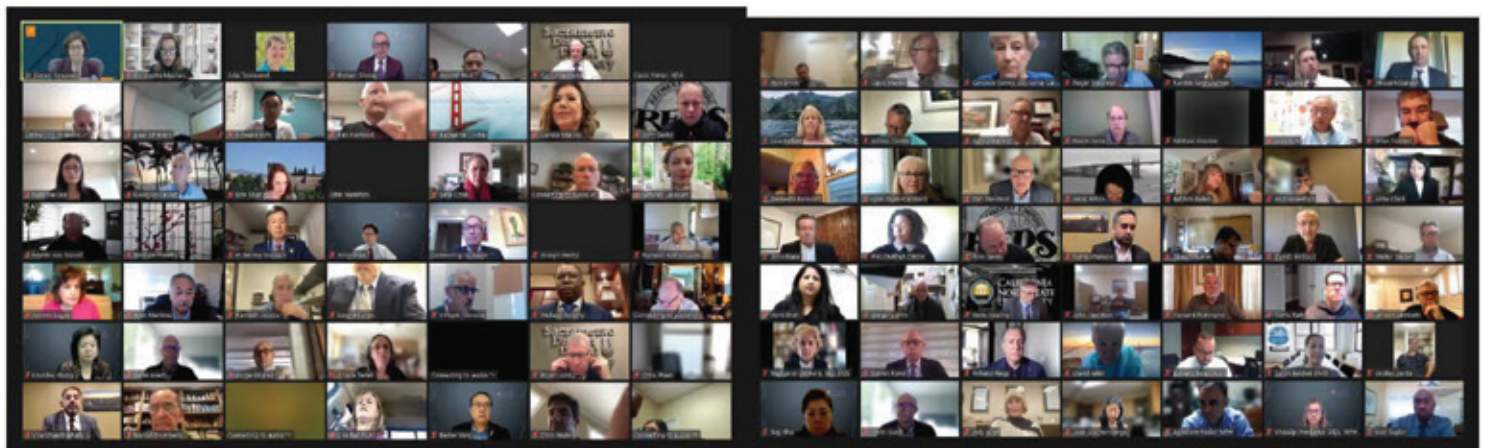
When called upon:

- unmute
- state name and position/affiliation
- state for/against
- provide testimony
- mute and lower hand

**Join the queue**

- Raise hand in Zoom
- Select one of the following from the menu bar
  - Reactions
  - Participants
  - More (three small dots)
- Click on raise hand









Brad Mills a Navy Veteran treated by Dr. Bruce Beard

November 11, 2021 Veterans Smile Day where SFVDS Dentists volunteer and donate their services to treat our veterans



Thank you for your service Shane! You've given so much for your country! It is our pleasure to give Vets like you free Dental Care, during the week of Veterans Day.


Shane Dirksen a Veteran treated by Santa Clarita Advanced Dentistry

## Leveraging Advancements in Dental Materials

Technology & Techniques to Improve Patient Care, Outcomes and Efficiency in Restorative Practice

Foroud Hakim DDS, MBA  
foroud@catapulteducation.com


San Fernando Valley DS  
11/17/2021



November 17, 2021  
Leveraging Advancements in Dental Materials with Dr. Foroud Hakim

### Failure

- Failure of a dental implant is often related to the failure of the implant to integrate correctly with the bone, or vice versa.
- **A dental implant is considered to be a failure if it is:**
  1. Lost
  2. Mobile
  3. Shows peri-implant bone loss of greater than 1.0 mm in the first year and, greater than 0.2 mm a year after
- \*Dental implants are not susceptible to **dental caries** but they can develop a condition called **peri-implantitis**. This is an inflammatory condition of the mucosa and/or bone around the implant. The **condition is usually, but not always, associated with a chronic infection**. Peri-implantitis is more likely to occur in heavy smokers, patients with diabetes, patients with poor oral hygiene and cases where the mucosa around the implant is thin.



November 17, 2021  
Building your Practice with Implants with Dr. Sam Halabo

# October 23, 2021 SFVDS Annual Afternoon Tea Party with Inspirational Speaker Dr. Diana Batoon



Our Inspirational Speaker, Dr. Diana Batoon kept the audience engaged the whole time. Dr. Sanda Moldovan talked about optimum health and gave each attendee her signed book "Heal Up." Thanks to our wonderful sponsors Care Credit and Crest OralB who made this event possible.









**December 15, 2021 SFVDS Year-end Board of Directors Meeting with  
2021 President Dr. Michael Whang**





# A good start for 2022 Membership Diary

**COMPLIANCE PROTECTION GROUP**  
 "YOUR PROTECTION IS OUR CONCERN"



**COMPLIANCE PROTECTION GROUP**




**"WE DO IT ALL FOR YOU"**




January 20, 2022  
 Sexual Harassment  
 Prevention Training  
 Program given by  
 Ken Schames, J.D.

January 26, 2022  
 10 Top Management  
 Tools for a Successful  
 Practice with Lois  
 Banta

**10 Top management tools**



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A presentation by  
 Andy Kinzel from  
 Kwokman  
 Diagnostics helps  
 tailor your in office  
 Covid 19 protocols.

**PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

We are actively seeking for partnerships to a low space for testing at a reasonable volume on working lab for COVID Testing

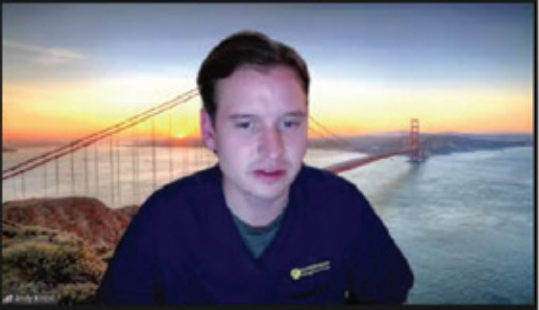
- Agreement terms are negotiable
- Looking to test a minimum of 20 people per liter
- We will create a work flow that works best for you
- Your own medical staff can perform the swabbing
- Coverage built up to support operations to lab

Contact Us: Email: [andykinzel@kwokmandiagnostics.com](mailto:andykinzel@kwokmandiagnostics.com) Phone: (909) 799-2349

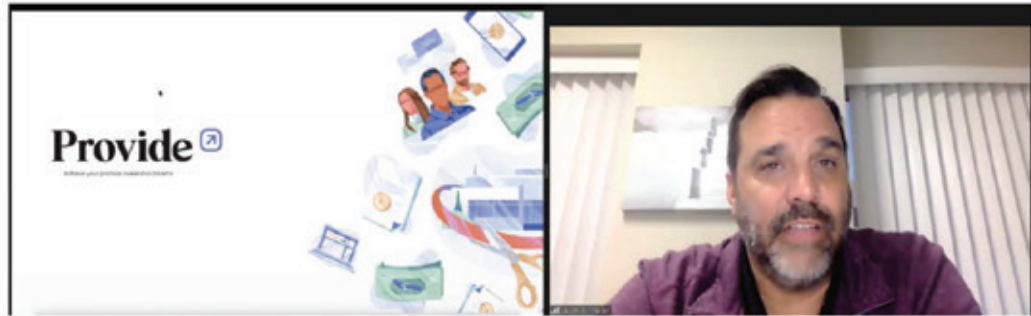
<p><b>Types of services:</b>                  Multi-line testing                  PCR                  Rapid testing</p>	<p><b>Turnaround Time:</b>                  4-8 hours at 4 locations in the                  greater Los Angeles area                  in Texas by Monday 10:00 AM</p>	<p><b>Benefits of Partnership:</b>                  Ability to create testing protocols                  customized to your staff and                  patients.</p>
--	--	--

Andy Kinzel  
 Operations Manager  
 Andy.Kinzel@kwokmandiagnostics.com

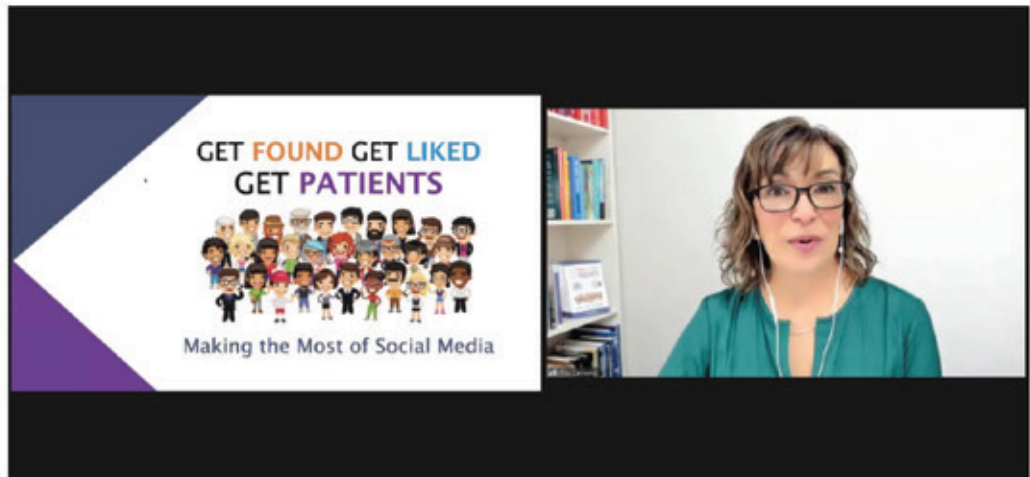
Eric van Demerik  
 Sales Representative  
 Eric.van.Demerik@kwokmandiagnostics.com



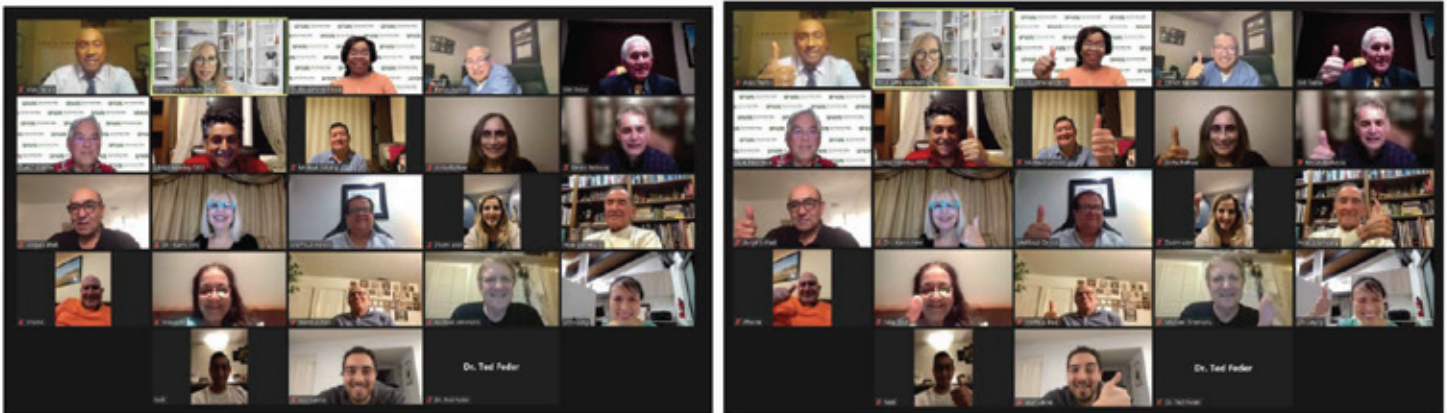
A presentation by Jason Schneller from Get Provide, a lending and refinancing company.



January 26, 2022  
Rita Zamora presenting on Making the most on Social Media



**SFVDS BOD Board Meeting February 8, 2022**



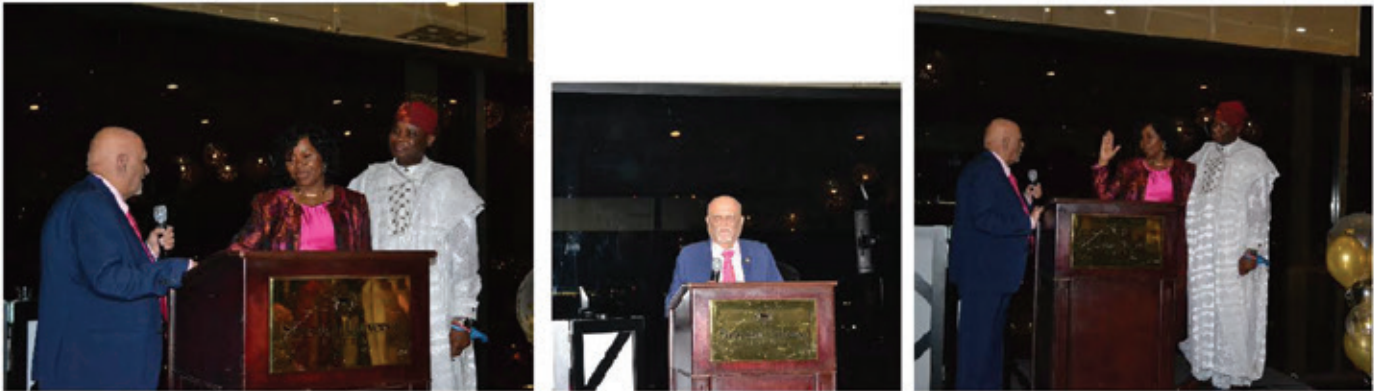
Presided by 2022 Preseident Dr. Philomena Oboh where her goals during her presidency were given the thumbs up by the board.



**SFVDS January 15, 2022 Board of Directors Installation Dinner  
with President Dr. Philomena Oboh**



**Safety first!** Dr. Oboh's daughters (all physicians) and son are doing Covid Screening before the Installation dinner, courtesy of Kwokman Diagnostics Covid antigen test kits.



Dr. Philomena Oboh along with husband Ernest Oboh being installed as the SFVDS 2022 President by ADA Past President Dr. Chad Gehani.



Pictured from L to R Dr. Philomena's Family, Installation of President Elect Dr.Emad Basali, Treasurer Dr. Alan Taylor and Secretary Dr. Irubiel Barbosa, the 2022 SFVDS Board of Directors group picture.





Pictured L to R CA Assemblyman Tom and Mrs Lackey, CDA President Elect-John Blake, 2020 Past President Dr. Chi Leung.



Pictured L to R SFVDS Team Wendy Zaslove, Executive Director -Curt & Bella Penate, Dr. Nita Dixit, Dr. Alan & Mrs. Mary Taylor and Dr. Gib & Mrs. Wendi Snow, Dr Shukan & Mr. Chinmay Kanuga.



Pictured L to R, Mrs. Yesenia Bassali, Dr's Adriana Galvan- Barbosa, Emad Bassali, Irubiel Barbosa, Comedian Gina Yashere, Dr's. Mike Bromberg and Anita Rahee, Ric, Dr's. Anette Masters and Mark Amundsen.



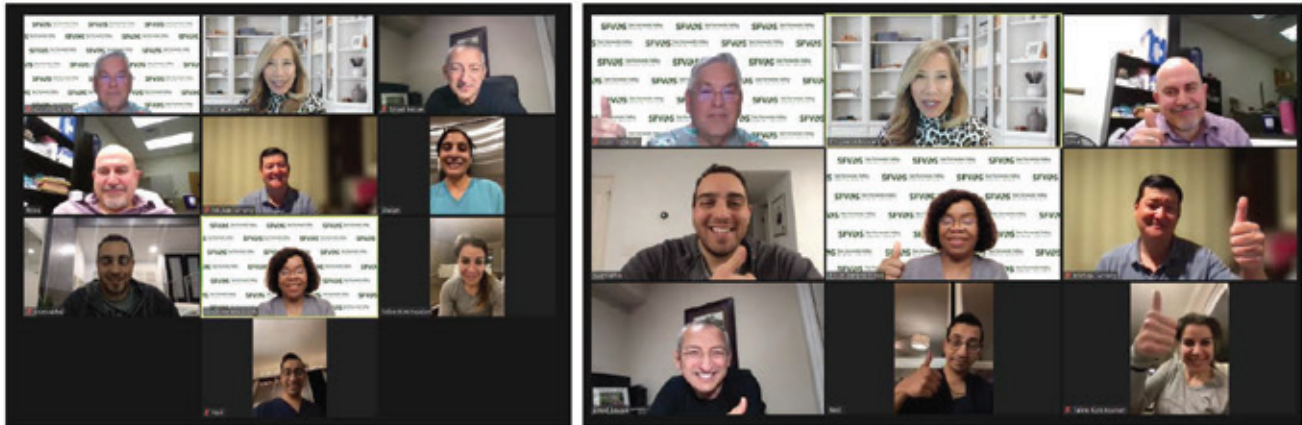
**February 17, 2022 Stem Cell Therapy in person Lecture with Dr. Xerxes Calilung at SFVDS Central Office**



**February 23, 2022 California Dental Practice Act And OSHA Infection Control with Nancy Dewhirst**



**February 28, 2022 Membership Committee Meeting with Dr's. Anette Masters, Philomena Oboh, Michael Whang, Emad Bassali, Nova Aghbashian, Shukan Kanuga, Sean Sakhai, Taline Kotchounian and Neil Sangani**



# cda MEMBERSHIP

## LOCK IN EXPANDED BENEFITS WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Have you renewed your membership for 2022? Whether you're new to the California Dental Association or a longtime member, you may not have explored all of the resources available to you. With your renewal, lock in ongoing access to benefits that can help you get organized, save time and money, stay ahead of compliance and boost productivity – and keep you connected to the latest issues and insights.

Listening to members' voices, CDA continues to evolve programs, tools, and guidance across the aspects of practice that matter most.

## SUPPORT FOR PRACTICING DENTISTRY TODAY

To help members better navigate the business side of their profession, CDA provides dedicated expertise in practice management, dental benefit plans, regulatory compliance, and employment practices.

### One-on-one guidance

Connect to [specialized analysts](#) by phone or email.

## A FULL LIBRARY OF RESOURCES

Discover easy-to-implement tools that would be costly or time-consuming to research and create on your own. Just a few include:

- Informed consent forms in multiple languages
- Time-saving letters, templates and checklists
- Comprehensive, dentistry-focused guides and videos
- A customized employee manual generator
- A submission process for dental benefit plan issues
- Compliance calendar and required postings

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND SAVINGS

Harness buying power for the business services you need thanks to CDA's large membership. Access [expertise and special offers](#) from vetted vendors.

- Achieve compliance with the e-prescription mandate with Henry Schein One ePrescribe and iCoreRx from iCoreConnect
- Generate more revenue with CareCredit patient financing, eAssist claims processing or Cosentus Revenue Cycle Management
- Control expenses with the ADA Visa® Credit Card Program, Bank of America Practice Solutions or Staples Business Advantage program
- Streamline operations with HR for Health and WEO Media marketing services

As another big benefit of membership, access consistent, competitive pricing on dental supplies and equipment from a company founded by and partially owned by CDA. Shop online at TDSC.com, powered by Henry Schein.

## ONGOING EDUCATION IN THE FORMATS YOU LOVE

In addition to [CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry](#), the nation's most-anticipated dental conventions, members benefit from expanded education options year-round through a variety of formats on trending topics.

### In-person conventions

- Waived registration fees at CDA Presents in Anaheim and San Francisco
- Connection to world-class speakers, exciting lectures, and hands-on workshops

- Attendee-only deals from leading exhibitors, plus new networking opportunities

### On-demand learning

- Waived fees and deep discounts on full catalog of Online Learning courses
- Clinical insights, new research, and easy ways to earn C.E. through the CDA Journal

### Live learning events

- Free access to special live virtual events throughout the year

## PROTECTION FROM AN INSURER FOCUSED ON DENTISTS

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### Exceptional coverage at a fair price

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- Commercial Property
- Workers' Compensation
- Employment Practices Liability
- Cyber Suite Liability
- Generous discounts for new dentists

### Expanded coverage options

Through TDIC Insurance Solutions, access more protection:

- Individual & Family and Small Group Health
- Disability
- Business Overhead Expense
- Life, AD&D and more

### Step-by-step guidance

- Annual insurance reviews to ensure the right-fit coverage at every stage
- A no-cost Risk Management Advice Line for members, whether or not they are TDIC policyholders
- Additional savings and C.E. by completing a risk management seminar

### Tools to staff your practice and fuel your career

The [CDA Career Center](#) is a platform that connects bright dental professionals with right-fit opportunities and helps practice leaders build their teams. Members also have more support in their roles as employers through Practice Support, TDIC coverage, C.E. and skill-building courses and advocacy on behalf of dental practices as essential small businesses.

- Deep discounts on your Career Center postings
- Templates, tools and expertise to boost your search
- CDA-led recruitment initiatives to build staffing pipelines
- CDA resources and courses to grow as a leader

Of course, these benefits are all built on the strength of organized dentistry's large membership. Navigate dentistry today more easily with the expertise, resources and support of your connected dental community.

Be an active member of your dental community and renew today. Visit [cda.org/member](http://cda.org/member) to pay your dues in minutes. Explore your benefits online any time or call 800.232.7645 to learn more.



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- Dr. Frankel, DDS

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# WELCOME

## New Members

**EMMA ABRAMYAN, DDS**

General  
UOP, 2015

**ARVIN ALEXANDER, DMD**

General  
Univ. of Nevada, 2021

**BITA ANSARI, DDS**

General  
Universidad De La Salle, Mexico, 2015

**MARIANNE DEMIRDJI, DDS**

320 Arden Ave Ste. 200  
Glendale, CA 91203  
909.801.9556  
Orthodontics  
Loma Linda, 2016

**MONICA DIBA, DDS**

14550 Haynes St.  
Van Nuys, CA 91411  
General  
UCLA, 2018

**NEDA ESMAILI, DMD**

Midwestern University, 29021  
General

**ELIZABETH ESTRADA, DDS**

7300 Topanga Canyon Blvd. St. 6  
Canoga Park, CA 91303  
General  
UCLA, 2007

**JOSEPH, FARKASH, DDS**

General  
University of Michigan, 2016

**SARA HAMZEINEJAD, DMD**

General  
University of Pennsylvania, 2020

**MISOOK HONG, DDS**

3530 Wilshire Blvd. Ste. 107  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
323.369.6745  
General  
UCLA, 2005

**KRISITN HUTKIN, DMD**

Prosthodontics  
Temple University, 2017

**MICHAEL KERENDIAN, DDS**

12840 Riverside Dr.  
Valley Village, CA 91607  
General  
USC, 2018

**ARAXI MIRZOYAN KALACH, DMD**

General  
University of Pennsylvania, 2021

**BENNY NABIZADEH, DDS**

7111 Winnetka Ave Ste. 3  
Winnetka, CA 91306  
818.676.0910  
General  
University of Nevada, 2007

**ELVIRA NARIO, DDS**

1428 E. Colorado St. Ste. A  
Glendale, CA 91205  
818.246.3368  
General  
International, 2000

**SHAWN NGUYEN, DDS**

27509 Agoura Rd. Ste. 200  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
818.699.9377  
General

University of Detroit Mercy, 2015

**AYEH NOURIKHORASANI, DMD**

General  
Western University of Health Sciences College,  
2019

**EDWIN PERALTA, DDS**

General  
UCSF, 2021

**SHAHAB RABIZADEH, DDS**

6846 Reseda Blvd.  
Reseda, CA 91335  
626.412.0200  
General  
Ohio State, 2021

**POLINA RHOUDENKO, DMD**

500 E. Olive Ave. Ste. 250  
Burbank, CA 91501  
747.272.8467  
General  
Arizona School of Dentistry, 2021

**AVETIK KAZARIAN, DDS**

General  
USC, 2021

**IRINA RODRIGUEZ, DDS**

117 Pirie Rd. Ste. A  
Ojai, CA 93023  
805-646-3700  
General  
Univ. Evangelica de San Salvador, 1992

**ASAL SEDGHI, DDS**

4854 Alatar Dr.  
Woodland Hills, CA 91364  
General  
USC, 2012

**DIANA SEDLER, DDS**

Periodontics  
USC, 2016

**FARNAZ SHEIKHOLAEMMEH, DDS**

General  
USC, 2021

**JULIE SHIH, DDS**

General  
UCLA, 2005

**ZACHARY WARD, DMD**

1346 Foothill Blvd. Ste. 302  
La Canada, CA 91011  
818.790.1710  
General  
University of Connecticut, 2020

**BEIBEI WU, DDS**

General  
UCLA, 2020

**EMILY WU, DMD**

General  
Midwestern University, 2020

**DIANA YOUNG, DMD**

2151 E. Palmdale Blvd.  
Palmdale, CA 93550  
928.288.2430  
General  
Temple University, 2003

**NASIM ZARKESH, DDS**

General  
UCLA, 2015





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- **FILL** your jobs more quickly with great talent

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- **ACCESS** career resources, job searching tips and tools

For more information on recruitment options, contact the  
SFVDS Central Office at [exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net](mailto:exec.sfvds@sbcglobal.net) or (818) 576-0116.



## WHAT IS MICRA?

California's Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) ensures injured patients receive fair compensation while preserving access to health care by keeping doctors, nurses and health care providers in practice and hospitals and clinics open. Without MICRA's protections, many of California's neediest populations could face reduced access to much-needed services.

Despite MICRA's history of success, a 2022 ballot initiative seeks to dismantle MICRA even though voters definitively rejected a similar ballot measure in recent years. According to California's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), this misguided initiative will drive up health care costs for all Californians by tens of millions "to high hundreds of millions of dollars annually." One recent study estimates that increasing the MICRA cap would raise health care costs by approximately \$11.4 billion annually, or more than \$1,100 for a family of four. The proposed measure will ultimately reduce access to care for those who need it most.

## PROTECTING PATIENTS' RIGHTS AND PRESERVING ACCESS TO THE COURTS

### UNLIMITED

economic damages for past and future medical costs.

### UNLIMITED

economic damages for lost wages, lifetime earning potential and any other conceivable economic losses.

### ADDITIONAL

limits on attorney's fees so patients, not lawyers, receive more from awards.

### ADDITIONAL

\$250,000 available in non-economic damages, sometimes called pain and suffering.

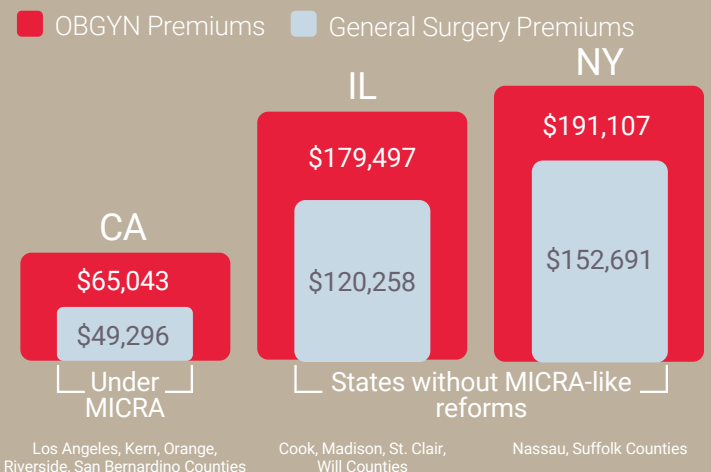
## SUPPORTED BY A LARGE AND DIVERSE COALITION OF PATIENT ADVOCATES AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Californians Allied for Patient Protection (CAPP) protects access to health care by preserving MICRA. CAPP's coalition includes health care professionals and organizations representing community clinics, public safety organizations, physicians, nurses, dentists, hospitals, health facilities, women's health advocates, emergency providers, local governments and labor unions, among others.

## PROTECTING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES

- MICRA has stabilized costs, enabling more providers to remain in practice. States without reform suffer from provider shortages leading to the closing of hospitals, clinics and trauma centers and leaving patients with no doctors in their immediate vicinity.
- MICRA is critical in protecting access to specialty and high-risk services, including women's health care, community clinics, health centers and rural providers that can least afford skyrocketing costs.
- More lawsuits would increase costs for rural and urban community clinics that provide care to underserved Californians. These costs would then be offset elsewhere, either through a reduction in services, staff or operating hours.

### MICRA Stabilizes Costs



“ If MICRA is changed and our medical liability rates go up... it's our patients, mostly low-income and people of color with few health options, who will lose access to health care services. We should be focused on lowering health care costs to expand access to care, not the other way around. ”

Jim Mangia | President and CEO, St. John's Well Child & Family Center



1215 K Street, Suite 2015, Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.448.7992 | www.micra.org



# MEMBER HIGHLIGHT PEDIATRICS

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
Sami-Dowlastshahi, Shahrzad, DDS	5017 Lewis Rd Ste B, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-2421	(818) 578-4894
Abboud, Carla, DDS	2277 Michael Dr, Newbury Park, CA 91320-3392	
Armenian, Christine, DDS	418 E Glenoaks Blvd Ste 202, Glendale, CA 91207-2093	(818) 244-5052
Berger, Suzanne, DDS	28040 Dorothy Dr, Ste 201, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-4916	(818) 889-2061
Berman, Justin, DDS	23838 Valencia Blvd Ste 300, Valencia, CA 91355-5334	(661) 259-2960
Catalano, Anthony, DDS		
Chen, Norman, DDS	100 N 1st St #104, Burbank, CA 91502	(818) 465-0250
Cheng, Kathryn, DDS	18531 Roscoe Blvd, Northridge, CA 91324-4641	
Chin, David, DDS	1808 Verdugo Blvd Ste 312, Glendale, CA 91208-1456	(818) 790-6721
Chung, Eun, DDS	13320 Riverside Dr. Ste. 202, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423	(818) 789-3844
Curtin, Joseph, DDS	16550 Ventura Blvd Ste 322, Encino, CA 91436-5023	(818) 849-5457
Ezzat, Christopher, DDS	27450 Tourney Rd Ste 200, Valencia, CA 91355-5623	(661) 253-9009
Fua, Ivy, DDS	3923 W Burbank Blvd, Burbank, CA 91505-2118	(818) 846-1733
Gelman, Faina, DDS	1115 Lindero Canyon Rd, Westlake Village, CA 91362-5473	(818) 889-5440
Gidan, Jonathan, DDS	12840 Riverside Dr Ste 508, Valley Village, CA 91607-3339	(818) 506-2424
Good, David, DDS		
Greenwald, Laura, DDS	25900 Mcbean Pkwy, Valencia, CA 91355-2006	(661) 349-8636
Hame, Heidi, DDS	623 W Avenue Q Ste B, Palmdale, CA 93551-3890	(661) 949-0120
Hariri, Sepehr, DDS		
Hartunian, Arina, DDS	451 W Gonzales Rd Ste 300, Oxnard, CA 93036-9003	(805) 983-0010
Hirano, Stephen, DDS	11239 Tampa Ave Ste 208, Porter Ranch, CA 91326-3783	(818) 368-6266
Howard, Stephen, DDS	18411 Clark St, Ste 306, Tarzana, CA 91356-3544	(818) 343-9119
Jarakian, Susan, DDS	18531 Roscoe Blvd Ste 207, Northridge, CA 91324-5968	(818) 772-1800
Kanuga, Shukan, DDS, MSD	18580 Via Princesa Ste 3, Santa Clarita, CA 91387-8329	(661) 388-0499
Kim, Rose, DDS	27885 Smyth Dr, Valencia, CA 91355-4011	(661) 294-1800
Kirshbaum, Gerald, DDS		
Lasky, Jill, DDS	12930 Ventura Blvd Ste 226C, Studio City, CA 91604	(818) 465-7545
Lasky, Martin, DDS		
Lasky, Michael, DDS	12930 Ventura Blvd Ste 226C, Studio City, CA 91604	(818) 708-2393
Le, Khanh, DDS	7052 Owensmouth Ave, Canoga Park, CA 91303-2005	(818) 713-8034
Lee, Kira, DDS		(818) 679-3718
Lee, Rebecca, DDS	11200 Corbin Ave # 108, Northridge, CA 91326-4120	(818) 831-8252
Lott, Linda, DDS	28040 Dorothy Dr Ste 201, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-4916	(818) 889-2061
Mansour, Natalie, DMD	709 S Central Ave Ste A, Glendale, CA 91204-2010	(818) 500-7330
Mayorga, Lenny, DDS		(818) 441-4731
Mekel, Elite, DDS	16542 Ventura Blvd, Encino, CA 91436-2005	
Monti, Amy, DDS	19255 Golden Valley Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91387-1472	(661) 251-0200
Ortega, Mark, DDS	8135 Painter Ave Ste 202, Whittier, CA 90602-3175	(323) 804-5391
Pabst, Judith, DDS	7301 Medical Center Dr Ste 103, West Hills, CA 91307-1963	(818) 346-6282
Powell, David, DDS		
Regala, Zinnia, DDS	2625 W Alameda Ave Ste 216, Burbank, CA 91505-4823	(818) 846-8564
Rosenstein, Herbert, DDS		
Rumack, Elena, DDS	16542 Ventura Blvd Ste 506, Encino, CA 91436-4577	(818) 222-4543
Sanchez, Deyanira, DDS		(818) 648-5309
Schweitzer, Dean, DDS	23838 Valencia Blvd Ste 300, Valencia, CA 91355-5334	(661) 259-2960
Sciarra, Joseph, DDS	22554 Ventura Blvd Ste 102, Woodland Hills, CA 91364-1433	(818) 224-2970
Selki, Shohreh, DDS	16101 Ventura Blvd Ste 305, Encino, CA 91436-2514	(818) 501-3333
Shaheedy, Haleh, DMD	19963 Ventura Blvd, Woodland Hills, CA 91364-2631	(818) 703-0234
Shahinian, Anna, DDS		(818) 468-8694
Shayan, Mahwash, DDS	23101 Sherman Pl Ste 201, West Hills, CA 91307-2019	(818) 716-8424
Sohrab, Sanah, DDS	1824 W Verdugo Ave, Burbank CA 91506-2150	(818) 566-8715
Stanislawski, Robert, DDS	25880 Tournament Rd Ste 216, Valencia, CA 91355-2840	
To, Michelle, DDS	13320 Riverside Dr Ste 202, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-2512	(818) 789-3844
Udolph, Charles, DDS		
Willens, Stephen, DDS		
Yee, James, DDS	19231 Victory Blvd Ste 551, Reseda, CA 91335-6371	(818) 345-4296

# SAVE *the* DATES

## SFVDS UPCOMING EVENTS 2022 – SPRING 2022 EDITION

### • • • • • APRIL • • • • •

- 9th & 16th – In Person Class: Introduction to Dental Assisting – Denise Sanchez, RDA
- 21st – Live Webinar: Holistic Orthodontics, What Is It? – Dr. Catherine Murphy
- 27th – Live Webinar: Soft Tissue Concepts on Implants AND Implants: Restorative Solutions and Challenges Long Term – Lou Graham DDS & Gordon Fraser, DMD

### • • • • • MAY • • • • •

- 12th – 14th CDA Presents Anaheim
- 19th – In Person Zone Meeting: Speed Pairing (Sherman Oaks)

### • • • • • JUNE • • • • •

- 4th – Shlep & Shred (Chatsworth)
- 9th – Zone Meeting #6: Cal Savers Update – Tim McNeely
- 25th – In Person General Meeting: What Technologies Are Hot In 2022 – Marty Jablow, DMD

### • • • • • JULY • • • • •

- 16th – Family Picnic for All Dentists
- 27th – CPR Class

### • • • • • AUGUST • • • • •

- 25th – New Dentist Event #2: To Be Announced
- 27th – Hands on Event: To Be Announced

### • • • • • SEPTEMBER • • • • •

- 8th – 10th CDA Presents
- 21st – General Meeting #6: Tips & Tricks on Indirect Ceramic Restoration AND What's New in Esthetic Dentistry – Dr. Miles Cone & Dr. Joyce Basset
- 24th – Ladies Tea: To Be Announced
- 29th – Zone Meeting #7: To Be Announced

### • • • • • OCTOBER • • • • •

- 13th – 15th ADA SmileCon: Houston Texas
- 19th – General Meeting #7: Cutting Wedge Technology: An In Depth Look at the Importance of Wedges in Direct Composite Restorations – Dr. Matthew Burton
- 27th – Zone Meeting #8: To Be Announced

### • • • • • NOVEMBER • • • • •

- 18th – 19th CDA House of Delegates
- 16th – General Meeting #8: Laser, Minimal Dentistry AND Smile Design for the Dental Team – Dr. Ron Kaminer & Dr. Hugh Flax
- 19th – Schlep & Shred: Glendale Location

### • • • • • DECEMBER • • • • •

- 7th – CPR class





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The logo for The Dentists Insurance Company (tdic) is located in the top right corner. It consists of the lowercase letters "tdic" in a white, sans-serif font, with a stylized orange and yellow flame-like graphic above the "i". The logo is set against a red rectangular background.

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