# BoardVlatters

An Update from the Dental Board of California



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# **President's Message**

The Dental Board of California: Who we are, how we got there, and what we do.



DBC President Dr. Steve Chan with Dental Hygiene Board of California President Mrs. Joanne Pacheco.

Greetings! My name is Steve Chan. My colleagues on the Dental Board of California have honored me with the position of president for 2025.

My journey through the profession began 47 years ago. I am a practicing specialist in pediatric dentistry. Locally, I am the longest-serving dentist on the medical staff of my community hospital. I am also on a governing board for my hospital district.

In the profession, I've been fortunate to serve as president of the California Dental Association, the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry, and the American College of Dentists, this country's national honor society for the profession. My journey on the Dental Board began in 2016. The adventure continues.

This Board is given the authority, duty, and mission "to protect the public" governing the profession of dentistry. The Board's primary role is the licensure of dentists and registered dental assistants, enforcement of the Dental Practice Act, and implementation of regulations, which guide the Board's mission.

My colleagues on the Board bring diverse life perspectives to our policy decision-making. We are eight licensed dentists (one of whom is an educator and one of whom is a dentist in a community health facility), two licensed registered dental assistants, and five public members who bring real-world balance to our decision-making.

The governor appoints 13 members, while the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly each appoint one member.

Biographies of the Board members are located on the Board's website at **www.dbc.ca.gov**.

Our team applauds our 84 compatriots, the working staff of the Board, who perform the Board's operations. Their work enables us to pursue our mission.

On the Board's agenda for 2025:

• Develop a new Strategic Plan for 2026–2030.

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- Implement the legislative provisions from the Board's 2024 Sunset Review.
- Implement the findings of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Enlightened Enforcement Project.
- Explore the issuance of retired license status.

Each member of the Board swears an oath to assume an appointment. The overarching duty guiding the Board in all decisions is to protect the public.

Stay tuned.

# **Executive Officer's Message**



Tracy A. Montez, Ph.D

Happy spring!

Given our newsletter publication deadlines, I was writing this article during what I thought would be my last week as the executive officer for the Board. After an extended vacation, I decided to continue working for the Board. I am thankful for Assistant Executive Officer Christy Bell, who has been my right-hand, behind-the-scenes source

of support and guidance. She has been and continues to be a tremendous asset to the Board, bringing her professional licensing, regulation, and enforcement knowledge. I look forward to our continued leadership as we guide the Board.

For 2025, the Board will continue to fulfill its mission of consumer protection for dental treatment services while preventing barriers to licensure and implementing the provisions of its Sunset Bill (Senate Bill (SB) 1453 (Ashby, Chapter 483, Statutes of 2024)).

Since the Board's 2022–2025 Strategic Plan (Dental Board of California Strategic Plan 2022–2025) expires at the end of this year, the Board will also participate in strategic planning by using the services of the DCA SOLID Unit. Legislation in the 1990s (SB 1082, Chapter 418, Statutes of 1993; AB 2711, Chapter 779, Statutes of 1994) required state agencies to develop strategic plans, measurable performance objectives, and continuous improvement processes. Strategic planning is critical to making state government programs and operations more efficient and effective. The strategic planning process results in decisions and actions that shape and guide what an organization is, what it does, and why it does it.

It will be another busy year for the Board, and by the time you read this article, 2025 will nearly be half over. I am appreciative of the wonderful staff who continued to amaze me with their dedication to applicants, licensees, stakeholders, and the public.

# Message From the Chair of the Dental Assisting Council



De'Andra Epps-Robbins, DAC Chair, RDA

I want to introduce myself as the Dental Assisting Council (DAC) chair. I have been a registered dental assistant working in the San Diego area for over 28 years, and I have been a member of DAC since March 2022. I am a Dental Anesthesia Assistant National Certification Examination (DAANCE) certified dental anesthesia assistant and am currently a clinical supervisor.

DAC holds quarterly public meetings open and available to the public; anyone can attend, and no special invitation is needed. These meetings are held to encourage and provide an opportunity for public involvement and comments from stakeholders, ranging from dental assistants, dental hygienists, dentists, students, and the general public. The Board also welcomes comments from representatives of various professional organizations and groups.

DAC held its first 2025 meeting on February 6. The following is a link to this year's schedule of DAC meetings: <a href="https://www.dbc.ca.gov/about\_us/meetings/index.shtml">https://www.dbc.ca.gov/about\_us/meetings/index.shtml</a>.

Lastly, I would like to welcome Lilia Larin, DDS, to DAC.

## The Board in the Community

The Board participated in outreach events throughout California this past fiscal year to inform consumers and dental professionals about careers within the state and the dental profession.



On October 22, 2024, Tina Vallery, Chief of License and Program Compliance and Dental Assisting, and Matt Pendergast, Special Investigator, attended the Antioch Unified School District College and Career Fair held at Deer Valley High School in Antioch.



On January 29, 2025, Jessica Olney, Anesthesia and Customer Service and Support Manager, and Matt Pendergast, Special Investigator, attended the DCA Career Fair held at the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) in Sacramento.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

#### **Upcoming 2025 Board Meetings**

- May 14-15 (Anaheim)
- August 14–15 (Sacramento)
- November 5-7 (Sacramento)

Locations will be listed on the agenda for each Board meeting.



Board meetings provide updates on licensing, examinations, enforcement statistics, and legislative and regulatory work. They will be held on-site, and the public can attend and participate. Additionally, the public can watch the meetings (apart from the May meeting) in real time via **DCA webcasts**.

The public will have an opportunity to provide comments on items not on the agenda and future agenda items. Board meetings allow all participants to voice their concerns, issues, and ideas and enable networking opportunities. Participating in these meetings will help you become aware of dental field issues and changes taking place. If you have any questions or comments, please email us at **dentalboard@dca.ca.gov**.

For information about a meeting and the webcast link, go to **Board Meetings** on the Board's website and click on the meeting agenda.









# **Serving Patients with Protected Characteristics**

California's Unruh Civil Rights Act (Civil Code, § 51) protects individuals with the characteristics listed below from discrimination or harassment by business establishments. This law requires public and private businesses to provide individuals "full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges or services." It applies to housing, public accommodations, and establishments such as stores, restaurants, and barber shops, among others.

This means businesses cannot treat someone worse because of their protected characteristic, such as providing inferior service or charging a higher price. Discrimination is against the law when based on someone's actual protected characteristic, their perceived protected characteristic, or their association with someone with a protected characteristic. In addition, the Unruh Civil Rights Act requires that businesses comply with the Americans with Disabilities

For additional information, please visit the state's Civil Rights Department at <a href="https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/">https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/</a> and the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division at <a href="https://www.ada.gov/">https://www.ada.gov/</a>.

#### **Protected Characteristics:**

- Sex (including gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, childbirth, or medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth)
- Race
- Color
- Religion
- Ancestry
- National origin
- Disability
- Medical condition
- Genetic information

- Marital status
- Sexual orientation
- Citizenship
- Primary language
- Immigration status

# Did You Know?—Notes from the Enforcement Program

The Enforcement Division would like to pass on some important information to licensed dentists and individuals working in a dental office:

Well-documented dental records are essential for a well-run dental practice. Complete and thorough recordkeeping provides a history of dental treatment, images associated with the treatment, billing, insurance submissions, and payment associated with the patient. Accurate and thorough records can be a dental provider's best defense if a complaint or billing issue occurs.

#### Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 1683 states:

- (a) Every dentist, dental health professional, or other licensed health professional who performs a service on a patient in a dental office shall identify themselves in the patient record by signing their name, or an identification number and initials, next to the service performed and shall date those treatment entries in the record. Any person licensed under this chapter who owns, operates, or manages a dental office shall ensure compliance with this requirement.
- (b) Repeated violations of this section constitutes unprofessional conduct.

Dental records are required to include the signature, initials, or marker of every individual who performed dental services on a patient so the provider of those dental services can be readily identified when reviewing the dental chart.

**BPC section 1680, subdivision (u)**, defines the following as unprofessional conduct: "The abandonment of the patient by the licensee, without written notice to the patient that treatment is to be discontinued and before the patient has ample opportunity to secure the services of another dentist, registered dental hygienist, registered dental hygienist in alternative practice, or registered dental hygienist in extended functions and provided the health of the patient is not jeopardized."

Dental offices may close due to circumstances such as illness, retirement, bankruptcy, or relocation to another state. If a practice is closed, patient notice is required to avoid patient abandonment. Similarly, written notice to the patient is required when terminating the doctor-patient relationship. A written notice giving the patient 30 days to find a new dental provider, request a copy of their dental records, receive emergency dental care, and settle any outstanding treatment is recommended. Failure to provide notice to the patient can result in discipline up to license revocation.

Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 123110, subdivision (b)(1), states, "Additionally, any patient or patient's personal representative shall be entitled to a paper or electronic copy of all or any portion of the patient records that they have a right to inspect, upon presenting a request to the health care provider specifying the records to be copied, together with a fee to defray the costs of producing the copy or summary, as specified in subdivision (j). The health care provider shall ensure that the copies are transmitted within 15 days after receiving the request."

Patients frequently seek copies of their dental records, images, radiographs, and/or billing ledgers. Dental offices must provide or transmit a copy of the dental records within 15 days of receipt of a patient's request for the records. A reasonable fee can be charged for providing the record copy; however, the fee can only be for the cost incurred in providing the records. Although patients can orally request dental records, dental offices may want to ask the patient to submit their records request in writing so the dental office can track the date of the request and deadline to respond (email is acceptable). Copies of X-rays do not have to be provided to the patient if the original X-rays are transmitted to another heath care provider within 15 days after receipt of the patient's written request. (HSC, § 123110, subd. (c).) Failure to provide the requested copy can result in a monetary fine and/or formal discipline.





# Updated Table of Dental Auxiliary Duties Delegable by Supervising Dentist

The Board is pleased to announce the updated <u>Table</u> of <u>Dental Auxiliary Duties Delegable by Supervising</u> <u>Dentist</u>, which is available on the Board's website. Please take time to review this useful table, which lists the duties and functions delegable within stipulated settings and/or circumstances and the level of supervision (direct or general) required by the supervising dentist.

A supervising dentist is responsible for the work of a dental auxiliary and must know the required supervision levels and delegate duties appropriately. The supervising dentist may delegate duties under general or direct supervision. Improper delegation can result in disciplinary action by the

Board. The updated table sets forth what may be delegated by a supervising dentist to dental assistants, orthodontic assistants, dental sedation assistants, registered dental assistants, and registered dental assistants in extended functions.

All dentists utilizing the services of dental auxiliaries are required to post a notice in a common area of the office delineating duties and functions deemed by the Board as delegable within stipulated settings and/or circumstances. Such notice shall also be readily accessible to all individuals under the dentist's supervision, as required by California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section 1068.

# **Dental Licensing University Q&A Presentation**

The Board held its second annual Licensing University Q&A Presentation on November 20, 2024, for 60 school administrators. This event, which was held virtually, was a huge success.

The event aims to provide school administrators with valuable information to pass on to their students. The presentation covers topics such as the acceptability of electronic signatures, the application process, and submitting documents electronically rather than by mail.

This annual presentation benefits school administrators by helping them stay connected and informed of any changes

to dental application requirements and processing. It also aids in ensuring that California dental school students are well-prepared for the Board license application process, particularly during graduation season, which is from May to August.

Outreach is one of the Board's many goals. It is a proactive way to promote a more efficient application process for license applicants and Board staff. The Board looks forward to hosting its next Licensing University Q&A Presentation on October 22, 2025.

### Address of Record Notice

The Board is required to disclose the addresses of record of all Board licensees and permitholders through its website (BPC, § 27, subd. (a), (c)(14)). If you have a license or permit issued by the Board, you must provide an accurate address of record.

An address of record may be a post office box number or other alternative mailing address instead of the licensee's or permitholder's residence address. However, the Board may also require a physical business address or residence address for the Board's internal administrative use. Please note that licensees and permitholders must report their change of address of record within 30 days of making the change pursuant to BPC sections 136 and 1651 or risk the nonrenewal of their license or permit.

To report a change of address, you may log on to your BreEZe account at <a href="www.BreEZe.ca.gov">www.BreEZe.ca.gov</a> and change your address or submit a completed Change of Address form to the Board by mail. If you do not have a BreEZe account, you can create one and link your license and permits. See the instructions under <a href="License Update and Maintenance">License Update and Maintenance</a>.

Please note that the permit is address-specific for Fictitious Business Name Permits (FNP), so the address cannot be changed. If the business associated with the FNP has moved, you must apply for a new FNP. The address associated with an Additional Office Permit can be changed if the new address is within the same county.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS



## **BreEZe Service Charge**

As of January 2, 2025, all online applications and transactions submitted through the BreEZe system that require a fee will be charged a 2.3% non-refundable credit card service fee. This fee will be listed as a separate charge on your account statement, and you will receive a separate receipt.

# State-Required 2-Hour CE Course in Prescribing Schedule II Opioids vs. Federally Required 8-Hour MATE Course

#### Which One do I Need?

Since 2023, California dentist licensees are required to complete a two-hour, Board-approved continuing education (CE) course on the responsibilities and requirements of prescribing Schedule II opioids as part of their license renewal. (CCR, tit. 16, § 1016, subs. (b)(1).) This course must include the practices for pain management in dentistry, regulatory requirements for prescribers and dispensers, and dental office procedures for managing vulnerable patients or patients with a substance use disorder. (CCR, tit. 16, § 1016, subs. (b)(1)(D).) This course is required for dentist license renewal even if a dentist does not prescribe medications and/or Schedule II opioids.

This California-required two-hour course is often confused with the federally required eight-hour training in the

treatment and management of patients with opioid or other substance use disorders. The eight-hour training is required for all Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)-registered practitioners and was mandated by the DEA Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act of 2021. This MATE course is not required to renew a California license and will not be accepted in lieu of the mandatory two-hour Board-approved CE course. For more information regarding CE requirements for renewal of a dentist license, visit the Board's website at <a href="https://www.dbc.ca.gov">www.dbc.ca.gov</a>.

Please direct all questions and inquiries concerning the DEA MATE Act to **www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov**.

# The Hot Sheet Board Enforcement Actions July–December 2024



The Board's Enforcement Unit investigates reported criminal and administrative violations in the dental profession. Suspected violators are referred for administrative disciplinary proceedings or prosecution by local district attorneys if violations are substantiated.

Note: The table below lists administrative disciplinary actions taken in the most recently completed half of the fiscal year. To see current actions taken, visit the Board's Hot Sheets webpage.

Licensee Name	License No.	Action	Effective Date
Acevedo, Lidya Soraya	DDS 55423	Accusation Filed	10/29/2024
Adeeb, Ayman K.	DDS 61190	First Amended Accusation Filed	11/19/2024
Aghaloo, Javad Sage	DDS 51184	Accusation Filed	9/13/2024
Alfroukh, Rami Sady	DDS 101072	Accusation Filed	8/01/2024
Alijanian, Ali	DDS 42108	Accusation Filed	9/24/2024
Alsamaan, Tariq Hafez	DDS 50884	Accusation Filed	8/28/2024
Anderson, Dawn M.	DDS 54982	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Granted	9/20/2024
Anguiano, Charlene Isabel	RDA 92229	5 Years Probation	9/20/2024
Aslani, Ashkan	DDS 60074	3 Years Probation	8/29/2024
Atkinson, Stanley Wayne	DDS 22039	Accusation Filed	9/17/2024
Bae, Michael Yoonbum	DDS 27952	Voluntary Surrender	11/26/2024
Baker, Bruce	DDS 32267	Accusation Filed	12/12/2024
Berrios, Ricardo J.	DDS 34931	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Denied	10/31/2024
Bezad, Patricia	DDS 54696	3 Years Probation	10/31/2024
Boval, Diane	DDS 48630	Public reproval	8/29/2024
Bradford, John Philip	DDS 44657	Accusation Filed	9/13/2024
Bullard, Sean	DDS 50218	Petition to Revoke Probation	7/08/2024
Burlingame, Shaun Colin	OMS 127	Accusation Filed	9/10/2024
Carter, Parvin S.	DDS 53161	Accusation Filed	12/05/2024
Chan, Susan	DDS 41003	Revocation	7/25/2024
Cheema, Jasbir Singh	DDS 48243	35 Months Probation	10/31/2024
Chen, Christy Yan-Ching	DDS 43914	First Amended Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation Filed	9/05/2024

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Licensee Name	License No.	Action	Effective Date
Chiu, Yungming	DDS 36347	Accusation Filed	11/07/2024
Clinciu, Adran Teodor	DDS 54653	Petition to Revoke Probation Filed	8/01/2024
Covarrubias, Rosanna	RDA 84416	Voluntary Surrender	7/16/2024
Cruz, Adrieanna	RDA 84273	Revocation	7/25/2024
Dao, Hoa	DDS 49295	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Denied	7/25/2024
Dean, Jon	DDS 42537	Accusation Filed	7/22/2024
Deverill, Eric Duane	DDS 30308	Accusation Filed	11/19/2024
Doherty, Shannon Elise	RDA 95318	Revocation	9/20/2024
Drago, Jose Alberto	DDS 47879	Accusation Filed	9/26/2024
Enamorado, Maria	RDA 103244	3 Years Probation	8/29/2024
Fernandez Macias, Kennia N.	RDA 103430	3 Years Probation	9/20/2024
Fleming, Donald Robert	DDS 22215	Voluntary Surrender	12/10/2024
Floras, Johnny Marcus	RDA 93412	Accusation Filed	11/07/2024
Frangopol, Orest	DDS 49549	Accusation Filed	8/16/2024
Galgali, Anand A.	DDS 49522	Accusation Filed	10/10/2024
Galvan, Anthony Halili	DDS 44173	Accusation Filed	8/22/2024
Garcia, Danielle Lynn	RDA 72048	3 Years Probation	11/22/2024
Garcia, Olivia	RDA 103094	3 Years Probation	7/25/2024
Ghiassi, Nadar D.	DDS 49887	Public Reproval	8/29/2024
Gredinberg, Tala Victoria	DDS 56303	Public Reproval	8/29/2024
Hamed Majd, Nzali	DDS 100422	Accusation Filed	7/08/2024
Hernandez, Rosanna	RDA 85663	Accusation Filed	11/19/2024
Hildebrand, Krista Lyn	RDA 39232	Accusation Filed	9/05/2024
Hizon, Maria Teresa Inductivo	DDS 59973	Accusation Filed	9/05/2024
Jang, Yi Kwon	DDS 102686	3 Years Probation	10/31/2024
Kandar, Mohammad Agihad	DDS 107708	Accusation Filed	9/05/2024
Kandar, Mohammad Amjad	DDS 104860	First Amended Accusation Filed	9/12/2024
Karapetian, Hamlet	DDS 53228	Accusation Filed	7/22/2024

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Licensee Name	License No.	Action	Effective Date
Kasiri, Resa	DDS 36309	Accusation Filed	8/01/2024
Khoupradit, Amelia	RDA 91423	Accusation Filed	12/24/2024
Kimura, Jeffrey R.	DDS 39429	Accusation Filed	9/26/2024
Koo, David	DDS 35925	First Amended Accusation Filed	9/19/2024
Lai, Vincent Hoa	DDS 48816	1 Year Probation	11/22/2024
Landis, Charles R.	DDS 31940	Accusation Filed	12/24/2024
Lee, Joseph	DDS 60252	Accusation Filed	12/30/2024
Leung, Angela	DDS 41640	Accusation Filed	9/19/2024
Logan, Bruce Alan	DDS 34992	Accusation Filed	10/08/2024
Lopez Tinoco, Yara	DDS 57581	2 Years Probation	7/25/2024
Luna, Yvette Christine	RDA 95241	Revocation	8/01/2024
Maher, Ivette Bar Soume	DDS 44931	Petition to Revoke Probation Filed	11/19/2024
Martinez, Aquileo	DDS 42362	Accusation Filed	11/19/2024
Medina, Diana Marcela	DDS 41640	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Granted	9/20/2024
Nevarez, Ashley Nicole	RDA 90125	Accusation Filed	10/03/2024
Nguyen, Dong Hoai	DDS 59883	Accusation Filed	9/19/2024
Nguyen, Khuong Huu	DDS 44965	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Denied	9/20/2024
Nigoghosian, Harry V.	DDS 63486	Public Reproval	11/22/2024
Noh, William Huyn	DDS 104917	Accusation Filed	9/10/2024
Nuno, Isaiah Rene	RDA 86327	5 Years Probation	11/22/2024
O'Reilly, Carey Alexander	DDS 32375	Accusation Filed	9/05/2024
Olivos, Cynthia Sanchez	RDA 103894	3 Years Probation	11/22/2024
Overley, Bryn Erin	RDA 54223	3 Years Probation	8/29/2024
Pages, Harry J.	DDS 34539	Public Reproval	10/31/2024
Poksay, Thomas Jeffrey	DDS 33831	3 Years Probation	10/31/2024
Potts, Zachary Leroy	DDS 53727	Petition for Early Termination of Probation Granted	9/20/2024
Powell, James Dennis	DDS 34889	Voluntary Surrender	10/28/2024
Refoa, Janet	DDS 29656	3 Years Probation	10/31/2024

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Licensee Name	License No.	Action	Effective Date
Rhee, Sunki	DDS 52678	Public Reproval	7/25/2024
Rocha-Peralta, Jazmine	RDA 94229	5 Years Probation	11/22/2024
Rodas, Ana Rachelle	RDA 84796	Revocation	9/30/2024
Rodriguez, Angelica	RDA 103928	3 Years Probation	11/27/2024
Rodriguez, Raul Alvarez	DDS 38357	Voluntary Surrender	12/10/2024
Rohatgi, Rosemarie	DDS 56743	Accusation Filed	7/02/2024
Safarian, Shahin	DDS 49204	Accusation Filed	11/20/2024
Salazar, Jorge	RDA 92454	Accusation Filed	8/28/2024
Salazar, Roberto	DDS 60887	Accusation Filed	12/20/2024
Shaer, Dan Mark	DDS 100673	Accusation Filed	11/14/2024
Shaheedy, Haleh	DDS 42416	4 Years Probation	10/31/2024
Shlosberg, Stuart	DDS 36611	Accusation Filed	7/02/2024
Siderman, Jerry	DDS 41789	Accusation Filed	9/13/2024
Smith, Monte	DDS 31863	Accusation Filed	10/18/2024
Sood, Ritu	DDS 52004	Accusation Filed	12/05/2024
Stephens, Shandy Michael	RDA 36816	Accusation Filed	9/05/2024
Tran, Kim Le	RDA 90067	Accusation Filed	12/23/2024
Vega, Maribel	RDA 56224	5 Years Probation	8/29/2024
Velazquez, Magaly	DDS 60169	Accusation Filed	12/03/2024
Villalobos, Martha Lourdes	RDA 67458	Voluntary Surrender	8/13/2024
Westcott, Yvone Alicia	RDA 67868	Accusation Filed	9/13/2024
Wong, Dennis R.	DDS 33691	Voluntary Surrender	12/19/2024
Wright, Rhonda	RDA 28236	Revocation	10/31/2024
Yeliazyan, Aram	DDS 50025	3 Years Probation	9/20/2024
Youn, Kiwon	DDS 64609	First Amended Accusation Filed	10/03/2024
Young, Joshua Leon	RDA 70041	Accusation Filed	12/23/2024
Zamora, Alejandro	RDA 89628	Accusation Filed	12/12/2024
Zhang, Jiachang	DDS 50552	Public Reproval	9/20/2024
Zhang, Jin	DDS 52136	5 Years Probation	10/31/2024

## **State Service Milestone: 25 Years**

The state and DCA recognize employees who have completed 25 years of state service. The Board would like to congratulate our employees (pictured) for their dedication to California state service and for reaching this incredible milestone in 2024.



Jimmy Zermeno, Investigative Analysis Unit South.



Gary Almany, Customer Service and Support Unit.



Isis Stanley (left), DDS Licensing and Examination Unit.