

SBDE NO. 2015-00664

IN THE MATTER OF § **BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
CRAIG S. MORRIS, DDS § **OF THE TEXAS STATE BOARD OF**
TEXAS DENTAL LICENSE 19121 § **DENTAL EXAMINERS**

ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

On the 17th day of November, 2015, an Executive Committee of the State Board of Dental Examiners (Executive Committee) met in an emergency meeting to hear evidence and information in the above-styled case pursuant to section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code.

The Executive Committee heard evidence and information that the continued practice of dentistry by Craig S. Morris, D.D.S., License No. 19121, would constitute a clear, imminent or continuing threat to a person's physical health or well-being.

The Executive Committee finds, based on the evidence and information presented, that the continued practice of dentistry by Craig S. Morris, D.D.S., would constitute a clear, imminent or continuing threat to a person's physical health and well-being.

IT IS, THEREFORE ORDERED that the license and sedation/anesthesia permits, issued to Craig Morris, D.D.S., are hereby temporarily suspended pursuant to section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code. This Order is final and effective as of the date of signing.

This matter shall be set for a hearing before the State Office of Administrative Hearings not later than the 30th day after the date the license and sedation/anesthesia permits are suspended by the Order. At that time, the State Board of Dental Examiners will present evidence to show that the license and sedation/anesthesia permits of Craig S. Morris, D.D.S. should remain suspended.

STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

SIGNED this 17th day of November, 2015.



Rudy G. Ramos, Jr., D.D.S.
Presiding Officer
Texas State Board of Dental Examiners

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PETITION FOR TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

Now comes the Staff of the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE) and files this Petition for Temporary Suspension (Petition) against Craig S. Morris, DDS (Respondent), Texas Dental License No. 19121, based on alleged violations of the Dental Practice Act (the Act), Tex. Occ. Code §§ 251.001 *et seq.* and Board Rules, 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 101.1 *et seq.*

In support of this Petition and based upon reasonable information and belief, SBDE states the following:

JURISDICTION

1. The SBDE has authority and jurisdiction over Respondent's dental license and sedation/anesthesia permits pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code §§ 251.001 *et seq.* and 22 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 101.1 *et seq.*
2. Respondent's dental license and sedation/anesthesia permits were in full force and effect at all dates and times material and relevant to this Petition.
3. Section 263.004 of the Act requires the SBDE or an executive committee of the SBDE to temporarily suspend a person's license or permit if it determines that the continued practice of dentistry by the person would constitute a clear, imminent, or continuing threat to the person or another's physical health or well-being.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Staff has received information and based on that information believes that Respondent has engaged in conduct in violation of the Act and SBDE Rules. Staff further believes that this conduct shows that this petition and the relief requested are necessary to protect the health and public interest of the citizens of the State of Texas. Based on such information and belief, Staff alleges:

- a. On or about February 5, 2014, the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners entered into a Disciplinary Stipulation Agreement with Respondent for violating rules on professional conduct and administration of anesthesia regarding two patients who ultimately died under Respondent's care.

Respondent was required to surrender his general anesthesia permit and site permit. Respondent was prohibited from administering conscious sedation, deep sedation, or general anesthesia. Respondent was not allowed to apply for permits to administer conscious sedation, deep sedation, or general anesthesia for a period of eighteen (18) months. Respondent currently does not hold an active general anesthesia permit with the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners.

Respondent was also placed on probation for a period of forty-eight (48) months. Respondent is currently on probation until February 5, 2018.

- b. Respondent engaged in dishonorable conduct by obtaining his Texas dental license by fraud. Specifically, on or about October 24, 2014, Respondent stated on his Texas dentist renewal application that he did not have disciplinary action taken against his license or certification in another jurisdiction in the preceding twelve (12) months. However, disciplinary action was taken against Respondent's license by the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners on February 5, 2014.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

1. The conduct described above constitutes a violation of Tex. Occ. Code § 263.002(a)(3), (4), (6), (10), and (13); and 22 Tex. Admin. Code § 108.9(3), (6), (8), and (11).
2. Section 263.004 of the Act authorizes the SBDE to temporarily suspend a person's license or permit.

PRAYER

Staff requests that the Executive Committee of the SBDE determine that Respondent has engaged in conduct that shows that the continued practice of dentistry by Respondent would constitute a clear, imminent, or continuing threat to a person's health or well-being. Staff further requests that the Executive Committee enter an *Order of Temporary Suspension* suspending Respondent's license and/or sedation/anesthesia permits, pursuant to Section 263.004 of the Texas Occupations Code.

Filed this 17th day of November, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF
DENTAL EXAMINERS



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