



MEMORANDUM

DATE	June 8, 2010
TO	DHCC Committee Members
FROM	Lori Hubble, Executive Officer Dental Hygiene Committee of California
SUBJECT	AGENDA ITEM 7 – Temporary Suspension of Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Law and Ethics Written Examination

On April 26, 2010, the Office of Professional Exam Services (OPES) informed the DHCC that the Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) written computer-based Law and Ethics Examination was compromised. The DHCC immediately placed an announcement on the home page of the website indicating that the exam was compromised and would not be given until a new exam could be developed. The letter regarding the exam breach is as follows:

Dear Dental Hygiene Candidates, Students, Faculty and Colleagues,

Recently the Dental Hygiene Committee of California (DHCC) learned that the integrity of the Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Law and Ethics written examination, which is one of several statutory requirements towards California dental hygiene licensure, has been compromised. Exam administration at all test sites has been temporarily suspended until the DHCC can investigate the breach and develop a new written examination.

An investigation is being conducted by the Division of Investigations (DOI) and all stakeholders are being asked to refrain from queries to the DHCC, so as not to impede or compromise the process. Staff is currently developing frequently asked questions that will be posted on the DHCC Web site. During this time we ask that all educational programs address and emphasize the significance and ramifications of law and ethics as it applies to the examination process.

As DHCC is aware that this will affect licensure for many candidates, we are focusing our efforts to remediate the situation as soon as possible. Although currently DHCC does not have an expected date for the new exam, DHCC's Web site will be used as an outreach modality to keep all stakeholders informed. Starting in late August please visit DHCC's Web site for updates.

We will work diligently to minimize the delay in licensure and wish you success in achieving licensure in the State of California.

**Sincerely yours,
Lori Hubble, Executive Officer**

Further information regarding the status of the new test development will be reported at the meeting.