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April 18, 2016

Dear Ms. Allensworth,

I am desperately writing in response to the Commission's report on the State Board of Dental Examiners (SBDE).

I am a dental assistant (DA) for over 35 years and I am a Certified Dental (CDA) and Registered Dental Assistant (RDA). I also hold certificates in coronal polishing and Nitrous Oxide monitoring and I am a dental assistant instructor at one of the colleges for adult learners in San Antonio, Texas.

I am ***not*** in favor of abolishing Registration or Certifications for dental assistants.

If the Registration or Certifications for dental assistants are abolish will create issues in radiology, infection control, and Jurisprudence. We are here to assist the dentist in all aspect of dentistry in doing so a person without education will not be able to understand the reasoning for infection control, what is the purpose of high quality radiographs, why fraud could be high in a dental office and keeping the office of in the straight and narrow. Not having knowledge of infection control is necessary to protect patients, the doctor and staff and the dental assistant. We are part of the dental team that is not given our dues. Taking our Registration or Certifications will make us less and will not be able to negation on salary and benefit.

I have wonderful memories as a dental assistant and I share that with my students and encourage them to continue their career as a dental assistant but how can I encourage them if you vote to take the education they need to be successful dental assistant. Sure you can train a non-educated person to do what an educated person can do. Eventually that person will get it. If you (dentist) had a choice to hire a non-qualified

person or a well qualify dental assistant who would you prefer? Voting for taking the Registration or Certification will not give you a choice because you will not have a non-qualify assistant. This will cause the office more issues.

Any DA who has not been educated in nitrous monitoring would not know the signs and symptoms to recognize a patient in distress or how to react. My membership in American Dental Assistants Association provides me with \$50,000.00 of liability insurance because I am liable for my actions in the office. The dentist's liability insurance will not cover me if I am sued, even if innocent.

Respectfully submitted,

Delmera Arriola CDA, RDA