

Judicial Council

Action Plan

Purpose:

The Judicial Council upholds the integrity and ethical standards of the association through the careful review, interpretation, and application of the Code of Ethics, Constitution, and Bylaws. Through its responsibilities the Judicial Council fosters a just and ethical environment for the dental profession in New Jersey.

Duties:

1. To consider proposals for amending the Code of Ethics.
2. To provide advisory opinions regarding the interpretation of the Code of Ethics, Constitution and Bylaws.
3. To consider applications for component society charter and applications for surrender of component society charters and make recommendations regarding same to the Board of Trustees.
4. To receive and review revisions or amendments of component society constitutions, bylaws and codes of ethics for the purpose of determining conformity with the Constitution, Bylaws and Code of Ethics of this Association and the Constitution, Bylaws and Principles of Ethics of the American Dental Association and report the findings to the Board of Trustees.
5. To consider appeals from members or applicants for membership from rulings of a component society relating to membership jurisdiction and transfer of membership and to render decisions thereon. Such decision shall be subject to the approval by the Board of Trustees and shall be subject to appeal to the House of Delegates.
6. To hold hearing and render decisions in disputes arising between component societies. Such decisions shall be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees and shall be subject to appeal to the House of Delegates.
7. To consider appeals from members of this Association who are under sentence of censure, probation, suspension or expulsion by a component society and to hold hearings and render decisions thereon subject to the requirements of Article XIII of these Bylaws.
8. To hold hearings and render decisions in ethics proceedings subject to the requirements of Article XIII of these Bylaws.
9. To hold a hearing and render a decision whenever the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry has imposed against a member dentist either (a) a period of active license

suspension for any term longer than six months, or (b) a period of inactive license suspension for any term longer than six months if the suspension becomes active for any period of time.

10. To hold hearings and render decisions in matters involving the American Dental Association Member Conduct Policy.

Composition:

The Judicial Council shall be composed of:

- A Chairperson, who shall be appointed to serve for a three-year term.
- A member from each component society, who shall be designated by the component society except the student component at RSDM.
- A past president of this Association shall serve as Chairperson.
- Vice Chair must be elected by the Council.

Time Commitment:

The council meets on an as needed basis.

Participation Expectations:

Terms:

- The number of members of the Judicial Council equal to the number of the class whose term expired shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years.
- Chair appointed by President for a three (3) year term.
- No member can serve more than two (2) full consecutive three (3) year terms.

Attendance: Since meetings are called only as needed, meeting attendance is expected.

Engagement: Council members are expected to actively participate in all meetings, hearings, and deliberations, providing thoughtful and informed contributions to discussions on ethics, governance, and member disputes. Members should thoroughly review materials in advance, remain impartial in decision-making, and uphold the highest ethical standards. Timely communication and responsiveness to council matters are essential, as well as collaboration with fellow members to ensure consistency and fairness in all actions. Members are also expected to stay informed on relevant changes within the association, the American Dental Association, and the broader profession to maintain alignment with governing principles.

Conduct: The Association is committed to the principle that all individuals should be treated with dignity and respect. The Association strongly disapproves of any action or conduct by members or employees which constitutes harassment of an individual on account of race, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, national origin or any other characteristic protected by law.

Resources:

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