PASSING THE THEORETICAL PHASE OF THE DENTAL LICENSURE EXAMINATION AS A PRE-REQUISITE TO TAKING THE PRACTICAL PHASE THEREOF

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WHEREAS, the Board of Dentistry (the Board) and the Professional Regulation Commission issue certificates of registration and professional registration cards to those who have met all the requirements of R.A. No. 4419, “The Philippine Dental Act of 1965”, and R.A. No. 8981, the “PRC Modernization Act of 2000”, for the practice of dentistry including passing the dental licensure examination which covers the Theoretical (written) and Practical (performance) phases;

WHEREAS, the said two (2) phases are being taken and rated pursuant to Board Resolution No. 277, Series of 1989, which states, to wit: “x x x in order to pass the Dentist Licensure examination, an examinee must obtain a General Average Rating of at least 75% after combining the average rating in the theoretical and practical examinations and dividing the suM by two: Provided, that the examinee’s average rating either in the theoretical or in the practical examination shall not be less than 70% and has no rating below 50% in any given subject or exercise: Provided, further, that if an examinee obtained a general average rating of 75% but gets an average rating of below 70% in the theoretical examination or in the practical exercises, or vice-versa, is considered conditioned, and shall repeat the examination below 70%: Provided, finally, that an examinee who obtained a general average rating below 75% but gets an average rating of 75% in the theoretical or in the practical exercises, or vice-versa, is also considered conditioned and shall repeat only the examination where he/she gets below 75% x x x”;

WHEREAS, under the aforequoted rule, there are numerous examinees who took the dental licensure examination for five (5) to eight (8) times, failing its theoretical phase but passing its practical phase;

WHEREAS, it is reported that these examinees, albeit not registered as dentists, have illegally practiced dentistry in the provinces and far-flung places;

WHEREAS, these illegal practitioners’ possession of mere skills alone without knowledge of the dental theories poses great danger to their unwary dental patients;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to modify and improve the present system of conducting and rating the dental licensure examination by requiring examinees to take the practical phase only after they shall have first passed its theoretical aspect;

WHEREAS, this change will enable the board to determine if the examinees are equipped with cognitive knowledge of the profession before the evaluation of their psychomotor abilities or practical skills; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the different Deans of Dental Colleges nationwide discussed this change and agreed thereto;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board resolves, as it is hereby resolved, to henceforth require the examinees in the dental licensure examination to first pass its theoretical/ written phase before they are allowed to take its

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practical/performance phase; provided that pursuant to Board Resolution No. 277, Series of 1989, and at the same time of the adoption of this Resolution, examinees who have passed the theoretical phase shall be allowed to take only the practical phase, and examinees who have passed the practical phase shall still be allowed to take the theoretical phase.

ALSO RESOLVED, that the results of the theoretical phase shall be released not earlier than one (1) day but not later than two (2) days after the last day of the said phase.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that those who have illegally practiced shall not be allowed to take the licensure examination and shall be criminally and/or administratively charged therewith.

FINALLY RESOLVED, that the herein Resolution shall be implemented in the May 2007 and subsequent dentist licensure examinations.

This Resolution shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete and full publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Let a copy hereof be circularized to the Schools/Colleges of Dentistry through the Philippine Association of Dental Colleges, Inc. (PADC) for their guidance and information.

Adopted: 13 Sept. 2006

(SGD.) MARIA LIZA C. CENTENO, DMD
Chairman

(SGD.) MA. TERESA DE JESUS-AMADOR,DMD
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(SGD.) LEONOR TRIPON-ROSERO
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