

## COUNCIL ON ETHICS, BYLAWS AND JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

### **WHY DOES THIS COMMITTEE/COUNCIL EVEN EXIST?**

The goal of the Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs (CEBJA) is to maintain and enforce the ADA/FDA Code of Ethics. It also serves to ensure that the FDA's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are correctly drafted and procedurally correct when proposed and to advise the House of Delegates on potential conflicts with association policies, procedures and Bylaws.

### **“JOB DESCRIPTION”: WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?**

*General Responsibilities of a Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs member:*

- Review proposals to amend the FDA Code of Ethics and make appropriate recommendations to the House of Delegates;
- Issue advisory opinions that interpret the FDA Code of Ethics;
- Hold hearings to decide disputes between affiliate and component societies;
- Periodically review the FDA Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Articles of Incorporation and policies of the FDA to ensure that they are consistent with each other and the Association's strategic plan and, if necessary, recommend amendment;
- Periodically review the Workgroups Manual to ensure that it remains consistent with FDA Bylaws;
- Provide guidance and advice on ethical and professional issues to component and affiliate societies; and
- Monitor and standardize the FDA's peer review system and serve as the appellate body for component peer review cases.

### **WHAT WILL I GAIN BY DEDICATING MY TIME AND TALENTS (What's in it for me?)**

You will become skilled at understanding the substantive and procedural workings of the ADA/FDA Code of Ethics and ethics review. You will learn the mediation / arbitration mechanisms used by the FDA to resolve patient disputes quickly, confidentially and without becoming reportable as a malpractice settlement to government regulators. You will be involved with helping FDA members succeed by settling disputes regarding the standard of care. You will interact with the ADA Council on Ethics, Bylaws and Judicial Affairs. If you would like your headshot to be included on the FDA website, please send a JPEG image to [lbell@floridadental.org](mailto:lbell@floridadental.org).

### **SERIOUSLY, I'M REALLY BUSY! HOW MUCH TIME WILL THIS TAKE?**

A few hours per month. Most of the council's business is conducted through email exchanges. For example, staff will draft a position paper and council members will edit and finalize it via listserv. Once or twice per year there will be a telephone conference call of about one hour. Staff will notify you and provide you with agenda materials in advance of the call. Also, there is a thirty minute “meet and greet” session for in-person strategic planning and exchange of ideas. The in-person meeting happens in conjunction with the Florida Dental Convention.

### **WHAT ARE THE TERMS OF THIS COMMITTEE/COUNCIL?**

Terms are 2-years, up to a maximum of four consecutive terms, based on component nomination and appointment by the FDA President-elect for the year in which he or she serves as President, with Board of Trustee approval.