

POLICY TO CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR CORPORATE NAMES

Preamble: The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Board's position regarding corporate names of dental practices in light of the language set forth in Ohio R.C. 4715.18 and Ohio Admin. Code 4715-13-01 and 4715-13-02.

Based on the language of the statute and rule, it is the Board's position that the corporate name must include at least the last name of the owner dentist (i.e. Smith Dental Associates, Inc., or Happy Dental Practice Inc., John Smith, DDS).

Further, not all signs need to include the names of all the practicing dentists, however, the first and last names of all practicing dentists shall be prominently displayed at the front or main entrance of the office.

All names of owner dentists of the practice must be on file with the Secretary of State's Office, and the corporate name filed with the Secretary of State's Office must include the names of all owner dentists. Further, it is not necessary that the corporate name include the letters "D.D.S. or D.M.D."

Finally, all advertising statements in print, broadcast, and/or internet form must include the first and last name of the owner of the dental practice, even though the first name might not be included in the name of the practice itself.

This policy is based on the language contained in Chapter 4715 of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code only. This policy does not take into account any requirements contained in Title 17 of the Ohio Revised Code.

(February 21, 2002)