REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE 1 2 3 2024 4 5 Members 6 7 Michael Kurkowski, Chair; Michael Hamann; Jeffrey Johnson; Stephen McDonnell; Allison McMillen; 8 Howard Taylor; Lee Ann Herbert, Board Liaison; Carmelo Cinqueonce, Ex-officio. 9 10 **Duties** 11 12 Pursuant to the Committee Policy Manual of the Board of Trustees, it is the duty of this committee 13 14 1. Review the Articles of Incorporation and the Constitution and Bylaws in order to keep 15 them consistent with Association programs. 2. Act as a consultant to this Association on the Constitution and Bylaws. 16 17 3. Process and adjudicate all matters pertaining to violations of the MDA Bylaws, Principles of Ethics, or the MDA Member Conduct Policy which have been referred to the committee using 18 the process and procedures of the Bylaws and Governance Manual of the American Dental 19 Association. An appeal of any decision may be made in accordance with the Bylaws of the 20 MDA. 21 22 4. Review the ADA Principles of Ethics, including any updates, and recommend any needed action by the MDA House of Delegates. 23 24 5. Assist and facilitate an annual review of the "Digest of Adopted Resolutions" for changes or revisions which may be obsolete, and forward those recommendations to the House of 25 26 Delegates. 27 28 Activities 29 30 Our committee met on November 28, 2023, and on March 19, 2024. 31 32 During its November meeting, the committee discussed its resolution on Practice Modality and its 33 intent. Suggestions were made regarding R1 to: Remind members about the ultimate ethical responsibility. 34 35 Multiple communications via articles, e-communications etc. Possibly educate nonmembers about dentists' responsibilities. 36 37 Possible Lunch and Learns on ethical responsibility regardless of practice modalities. Approach large group dental practices to share ethical documents. 38 39 The committee discussed the definition of a "Member in Good Standing". It was agreed that no change 40 to the definition was necessary. 41 42 The committee approved a resolution to be brought forward to the House (found in your 2024 43 44 manual). The proposal revises the MDA Code of Conduct with regard to communication by members. The proposed changes are as follows: 45

4849 Any and all ethical complaints and inquiries were addressed as received.

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"Members should communicate respectfully in all interactions with other dentists, dentist members, Association officers, trustees, and staff public settings and in all professional and association activities."

1 2	The committee will review the existing Digest of Adopted Resolutions for 2025.	
3	The committee continues to facilitate and encourage the inclusion of articles regarding ethics in the	
4	organization's Northwest Dentistry.	
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7		Goals and Objectives
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9	1.	Continue to be a resource for our membership on ethical issues.
10 11	2.	Keep ethics in the forefront of dental practice decision-making and reinforce a culture of ethical behavior.
12	3.	Address new or continuing ethical issues and questions as they arise.
13 14	4.	Further enhance state/district interactions that may promote broader interest in service to this and other committees of the MDA.
15	5.	Assist the MDA president in populating this committee by encouraging districts and
16		committee members to provide possible candidates to serve.
17	6.	To continue to develop Ethics Committee rosters that reflect the evolving demographics
18		and practice settings of our Association.
19	7.	Maintain clarity and organization of our Bylaws and address potential conflict with ADA
20		Bylaws and policies.
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22		<u>Recommendations</u>
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24	•	That the MDA continue to provide ethical guidance for our members in the areas of
25		advertising and marketing.
26	•	That this committee serve as a governance resource for this Association at all levels.
27	•	That this committee maintain an ongoing liasion with the Resolution Review Committee.
28	•	That all districts strive to have a member on our state Constitution, Bylaws, and Ethics
29		Committee.
30	•	That each district empower and fill out the roster of their component ethics committee.
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32	Submitted by:	
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34	Dr. Michael Kurkowski, D.D.S.	
35	Chair	