

Page 1 Resolution R1 MDA will Assign: Reference Committee B

Resolution No.	R1	New
Report: MEME	BER CODE OF CONDUCT REVISION	Date Submitted: June 15, 2024
Submitted By (Name):	Dr. Mike Kurkowski, Chair, CB&E Commit	tee
District	Choose an item.	
Email address	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Phone Number	Click or tap here to enter text.	
Submitted By:	Committee	
Reference Comm	Constitution, Bylaws and Ethics; [	er Reports; Administrative Matters; Dentists Concerned for Dentists (DCD); Affinity ist; Peer Review; Editorial Advisory Board; nt

How does this resolution increase member value: [Required]

## Submit form to hod@mndental.org or fax 612-787-8500

## Must be submitted on this form no later than June 15, 2024 to be considered without a 2/3 vote at the House

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## **TOPIC: MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT REVISION**

- 2 Background: The ADA Principles of Ethics & Code of Professional Conduct informs our behavior as
- dentists toward our patients. Conversely, our Member Conduct Policy speaks to behavior and
   responsibility beyond our patients.
- 5 Rather than trying to iterate who "merits" respectful communication, this amendment appropriately places
- 6 the responsibility upon a Dentist to develop a habit of respect in all outward facing interactions. By
- 7 broadening the scope of our Conduct Policy, we remind our members that word choices and the tone
- 8 used in communication should reflect positive intention and interpersonal respect.
- 9 One responsibility of belonging to a profession includes conducting oneself in a manner that does not
- tarnish your personal image or diminish the collective reputation of dentistry. Individuals who interact with
- a dentist will likely not distinguish between "off duty" behavior and polite (potentially self-serving) in-office interactions. Inappropriate or disrespectful communication at a school board meeting, legislative hearing,
- 13 or a local hair salon are examples of the myriad of settings where members will be clearly identified as
- 14 "dentists".
- Social media's ability to trumpet rude and inappropriate language creates an added ongoing risk to the
   trust and reputation we strive to create.
- 17 To more clearly describe the expected behavior of a dental professional in circumstances beyond the
- 18 dentist-patient relationship, the following amendment to the MDA Member Conduct Policy is offered.



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3	Resolution
4	Resolved, That the MDA Member Conduct Policy be amended as follows: Conduct
5	Policy:
6 7 8	<ol> <li>Members should communicate respectfully in all <u>public settings and in all professional and</u> <u>Association activity</u> interactions with other dentists, dentist members, Association officers, trustees, and staff.</li> </ol>
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10	Fiscal Impact: \$0
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12	Strategic Plan Goal Organizational
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14 15	BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS: The Board discussed the Resolution and voted to support the Resolution as written.
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17	BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOMMENDATIONS: Click or tap here to enter text.
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NOTES