

MARIA A. SMITH, D.M.D., P.C.



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December 30, 2024

Ms. Kathlene Gerrity, Executive Director  
Connecticut State Dental Association  
835 West Queen Street  
Southington, CT 06489

Dear Ms. Gerrity,

I am writing to you today to place my name into consideration for nomination for the position of President-Elect of the Connecticut State Dental Association. I believe that I am well-qualified to serve in this position because of my vast years of leadership involvement and experience in many organizations, particularly the CSDA.

The desire to become involved in my profession was instilled in me many years ago by my father who I joined in practice when I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. He was an advocate for dentistry, involved in CSDA both at local and state levels as well as in other dental organizations and a firm believer in ongoing continuing education to remain current in dentistry in order to provide the best care for the patients we serve for their general health, function, esthetics and well-being. Being that role model and mentor for me so early in my career influenced me to volunteer and become involved to help shape not only my future but that of dentistry as well.

As is evident in my CV, I have served in many leadership roles not only in CSDA, which include my local dental society and at the state level, but also at the ADA level as Chair of the Council on Membership. I most recently had the honor of serving as Chair of Reference Committee "A" (Business, Membership and Administrative Matters) at the ADA House of Delegates in New Orleans, LA this past October appointed by President Linda Edgar. All of these positions, and notably, as national President of the Academy of General Dentistry and currently New England Section Chair of the American College of Dentists, I believe that I have honed my ability to work with many diverse groups and individuals successfully to continue to be able to move our organization forward.

To stay competitive, we have to look at our mission, look at our strategic plan and be willing to listen, to learn, to adapt and to change. We need to enhance and continue to improve both of these areas by being innovative, constantly looking for and capitalizing on new opportunities in order to remain relevant to our members and potential new members. But, because there are some things we cannot do ourselves, we need to continue to build upon the excellent relationships, collaborations and mutual trust with other organizations we have established over

FELLOW: INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS, AMERICAN COLLEGE

OF DENTISTS, ACADEMY OF DENTISTRY INTERNATIONAL

PIERRE FAUCHARD ACADEMY

MASTER: ACADEMY OF GENERAL DENTISTRY

the years. To position ourselves in this way can allow us to achieve real and not idealistic goals delivering the outcomes members deem vital and value.

I believe that I have the historical perspective and the knowledge of policy (both national and state), parliamentary procedure, membership initiatives and much, much more to help guide our state association to not only position ourselves to remain competitive but more important, to remain relevant. We should not be satisfied with just status quo.

The CSDA has definitely experienced and will continue to experience many aspects of change. It is healthy and adds to our progress and progressiveness as an organization. All of us have an innate obligation to contribute to ensure its success and growth, molding it to reflect the diversity of our members, our programs, our culture, to give us that “wow” factor which we all need to be a part of. I am honored to be a part of the CSDA and Board of Governors and look to the opportunity as President-Elect to help build a motivational culture which drives membership, improves performance and productivity which leads to continuing financial stability, health and growth of our organization.

I believe that I have the qualifications necessary to serve as President-Elect-- respectful of my fellow members, ability to build consensus, make knowledge-based ethical decisions to protect our members and our profession. I know that I can be fair and impartial in decisions that have to be made in the best interests of both the citizens of Connecticut and the dentists who practice here.

Henry Ford stated— “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” I have the discipline, the knowledge, the passion and the commitment to these challenges. I ask for the ability to so as the next President-Elect of the CSDA.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maria A. Smith".

Maria A. Smith, DMD  
CSDA Board of Governors, Vice President

Curriculum Vitae of  
Maria A. Smith, D.M.D.  
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Shelton, CT 06484  
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**Professional Experience:**

Private practice in general dentistry 1985-present

Dental Consultant, Hewitt Memorial Hospital, Inc., Shelton, CT  
In-Service Trainer for nursing staff, Hewitt Memorial Hospital, Inc., Shelton CT

Dental Consultant, Shelton Lakes Residence & Health Care Center, Shelton, CT  
In-Service Trainer for nursing staff, Shelton Lakes Residence & Health Care Center,  
Shelton, CT

Griffin Hospital, Liebel Dental Clinic, Derby, CT Volunteer services one day per month  
for low income and welfare patients

University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, Philadelphia, PA Preclinical Instructor to first  
year students in General Restorative Dentistry

University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, Philadelphia PA Instructor to third  
year students in Dental Auxiliary Utilization.

**Professional Affiliations:**

Academy of General Dentistry, Student Member, 1984-1985; Member, 1985-present

Academy of General Dentistry, President, July 17, 2016-November 5, 2017

Academy of General Dentistry, President-Elect, 2015-2016

Academy of General Dentistry, Vice President, 2014-2015

Academy of General Dentistry, Treasurer, 2010-2014

Academy of General Dentistry, Board of Trustees, Region I, 2003-2010

Academy of General Dentistry, Regional Director Region I 1997-2003 Vice Chair 2000-2002 Chair 2002-  
2003

Academy of General Dentistry, Audit Committee, 2010-2014, Chair, 2020-2021

Academy of General Dentistry, Budget and Finance Committee, 2005; Chair, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

Academy of General Dentistry, Building Committee, 2010-2017

Academy of General Dentistry, Compensation Committee, 2006-2010

Academy of General Dentistry, Delegate to AGD House of Delegates from  
Connecticut Academy of General Dentistry, 1988-2003

Academy of General Dentistry, Governance Task Force, Chair, 2010

Academy of General Dentistry, Leadership Development and Oversight Committee, 2016-2017  
Academy of General Dentistry, Leadership Training Task Force, Chair 2015-2016  
Academy of General Dentistry, Council on Membership, Member 1987-1993  
Academy of General Dentistry, Council on Constituent and Component Development, 1993-1999  
Academy of General Dentistry, Strategic Plan Committee, 2015  
Academy of General Dentistry, Strategic Advancement Committee  
Connecticut Academy of General Dentistry; Board of Directors 1987-1997;  
President 1991-1993, Board Member-at-Large 2021-2024

Academy of General Dentistry Foundation, Board of Trustees, 2021- present, Treasurer/Secretary 2022-present  
Academy of General Dentistry Foundation Oral Cancer Screening Co-Chair, AGD Scientific Session 2017, 2022

American Dental Association, 1985-present  
American Student Dental Association, 1981-1985  
American Dental Association - Alternate Delegate to ADA House of Delegates  
from the Connecticut State Dental Association 1992-1998; Delegate 1998, 2024  
American Dental Association, Chair, Reference Committee "A" House of Delegates 2024  
American Dental Association, Council on Membership, 1996 -2000; Vice-chair 1998-1999, Chair 1999-2000

Connecticut State Dental Association, 1985-present  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Vice President May 2024-present  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Board of Governors Member District 3 1995-1999, 2023  
Connecticut State Dental Association Chair, Membership Committee 1989-1994, Chair  
Connecticut State Dental Association Chair, Membership Council 1995, Chair  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Budget Committee, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012  
Connecticut State Dental Association Audit Committee member 2010, 2011 Chair, member 2021-2023  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Council on Dental Trade and Laboratory Relations,  
1988-1995  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Task force on Professionalism, 1988-1989  
Connecticut State Dental Association, New Dentist Committee, 1994-1995  
Connecticut State Dental Association Executive Director Search Committee, Member 2021  
Connecticut State Dental Association to Evaluate Programs, Member, 2020  
Connecticut State Dental Association, District III Caucus Leader, 2003-2023  
Connecticut State Dental Association, Delegate to CSDA House of Delegates from the Naugatuck Valley  
Dental Society, 1988-2023; Chairman, Reference Committee #3 CSDA  
House of Delegates, 1993-1994  
Naugatuck Valley Dental Society; Chairman, Children's Dental Health Month, 1987;  
Treasurer, 1988-1989; Secretary, 1989-1990; Vice President, 1990-1991;  
President, 1991-1992, Treasurer, 1998-present

### **Dental Volunteer Affiliations:**

Connecticut State Dental Foundation, Member and Vice President, 2017 to present  
American College of Dentists, New England Section, Board Member and Ambassador from Connecticut  
2020-present, New England Section Chair, Regency 1, 2022- present  
International College of Dentists Chair, Educational Programs Ad Hoc Committee 2022- present

Friends of the School of Dental Medicine, University of Connecticut,  
Board Member 1988-95  
Commission on Dental Competency and Accreditation (CDCA/WREB/CITA) Consultant Board  
Examiner 2018- present  
Mentor, Student Mentorship Program, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, 1999-  
present  
Bishop Wicke Health Center, Shelton, CT 2014-present, Staff privileges  
Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT, Staff Member 1985-present  
Hewitt Memorial Hospital, Shelton, CT, Staff privileges

### **Education:**

University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Philadelphia, PA  
Extracurricular Activities:  
Member, Psi Omega Fraternity

Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT, Externship in Oral Surgery, July-August

Wheaton College, Norton, MA, Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, Biology, minor Chemistry  
Extracurricular Activities:  
President, Biology Club  
Member, President's Committee on Educational Policy  
Member, Academic Council  
Member, Glee Club  
Member, American Chemical Society

### **Awards:**

Alfred C. Fones Memorial Medal, Connecticut State Dental Association May 10, 2017  
The Daniel F. Lynch Award by the Dental Society of Greater Waterbury, April 11, 2017

Fellow, Academy of General Dentistry 1992  
Master, Academy of General Dentistry, Induction at Academy of General Dentistry Annual  
Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah July 24, 1999  
Life Long Service Recognition, Academy of General Dentistry, 2010

Fellow, Academy of Dentistry International 1990, Vice Regent Connecticut 2001  
Fellow, American College of Dentists, Induction at American Dental Association Annual  
Meeting. Washington, D.C., October 18, 1997  
Fellow, International College of Dentists, Induction at American Dental Association Annual Meeting,  
Orlando, Florida September 27, 1996  
Fellow, Pierre Fauchard Academy 1989

### **Volunteer Affiliations:**

Birmingham Group (Mental Health/Domestic Violence), Corporator 1993-present  
Healthways Board, Member October, 2000-present  
Boy Scouts of America, Housatonic Council, Board of Directors

Griffin Hospital, Derby, CT, Staff Member 1985-present  
Hewitt Memorial Hospital, Shelton, CT Corporator  
Valley United Way, Corporator, Campaign Team Professional Division, Board of  
Directors  
Junior League of Greater New Haven, New Haven, CT, Member 1986-1991

Richardson Vicks Employee Health Fair Shelton, CT: Spring Dental Table Clinic,  
Shelton High School Career Day Speaker  
Speaker, Connecticut Trail Council of Girl Scouts 75th Anniversary, Derby/Shelton Division,  
“Women: Past, Present, Future”  
The Emeline Roberts-Jones Symposium “A Celebration of Women in Dentistry”: Panelist with Dr.  
Geraldine Morrow, President, American Dental Association, University of Connecticut Health Center,  
Farmington, CT  
Speaker, Career Day, Female Students at Shelton Intermediate School, Shelton, CT,  
“Women in Successful Careers”  
Speaker and Moderator, “Learning to Lead” - Fundamentals From Successful Women Leaders in  
Organization and Business Culture, Academy of General Dentistry Scientific Meeting, New Orleans, June  
7, 2018

**Personal Information:**

Interests: skiing, sailing, tennis, squash, symphony, theater, English Springer Spaniel show dogs