

# MIDWESTERN SOCIETY OF ORTHODONTISTS

## Component Report MSO Board of Directors March 6, 2026 Meeting

**Component Name:** Illinois

**Submitted By (Director Name):** Bronwen Richards

**Component Officers/Trustees:** (2025-2026)

**Officers:**

President:	Dr. Therese Galang
President-Elect:	Dr. Andrew Clark
Vice President:	Dr. Dan Kelly
Secretary/Treasurer:	Dr. Bronwen Richards
Immediate Past President:	Dr. Ray Tsao

**Trustees:**

Dr. Ben Youel	Dr. Ben Youel	Dr. Clarence Red
Dr. Samim Taraji	Dr. Lauren Pass	Dr. Jessica Piepenbrink

**Illinois Dental Society Liaison:** Dr. Spencer Pope

**Chicago Dental Society Liaison:** Dr. Mike Durbin

**University Relations Liaison:** Dr. Sath Allareddy

**Date of Report:** Ad Interim March 6, 2026

**Ongoing Initiatives:** Host two annual meetings at Maggiano's in Oak Brook to provide education and camaraderie to orthodontic colleagues. The size is nice to accommodate speakers and attendees with exhibitors in part of the space with space for board meeting on same day as continuing education

**Date of Report:** February 12, 2026

**Ongoing Initiatives:** annual continuing education and collaboration with ISDS membership to promote advocacy

**Legislative Efforts:**

**2025 Key Legislative Victories**

**Dental Practice Act reauthorized Through 2030** – Recognizes all 12 ADA specialties, expands licensure flexibility for new graduates, and extends hygienist supervision in correctional facilities from 45-180 days

**Assignment of benefits Reform Passed**

Ensures patients can authorize insurers to pay dentists directly, reducing billing delays and administrative burden.

**Electronic Claims Submission Modernized**

Beginning in 2027, insurers must provide 22 key data points about patient coverage. The legislation defines reasonable exemptions and requires electronic attachments like X-rays to streamline the process

### More Member Wins:

**Continued advocating for Medicaid rate** increases and laid groundwork for future reform despite funding obstacles.  
**Monitored virtual credit card enforcement** and kept pressure on insurers to stop hidden payment fees.  
**Led Negotiations** to improve fairness and representation on the State Board of Dental anesthesia panel

### What ISDS Stopped:

**Stopped legislation** that would have licensed denturists in Illinois  
**Stopped a second attempt to license dental therapists** that would have allowed them to practice in Illinois  
**Stopped the expansion of public health dental hygienist** practice locations like mobile vans, home health visits, and other undefined settings

**New Initiatives:** Secure additional speaker for fall 2026 and continue to create opportunities for board engagement and outreach to members

### Upcoming Meetings/Events (with dates):

#### CDS Midwinter Meeting 2026 - ISO Sponsored Talk

Friday, February 20, 2026 - 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Drs. Ron Jacobson (Orthodontist) and Pravin Patel (Craniofacial Plastic Surgeon, UI Health/ Shriners Hospital)  
**Faces of the Future: Technology Transforming Craniofacial Surgery and Orthodontics**

#### ISO Spring Meeting - 2026

MARCH 13, 2026 - MAGGIANO'S OAK BROOK -

**"STRAIGHT TALK ON SLEEP: WHAT EVERY ORTHODONTIST SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PEDIATRIC SLEEP DISORDERS".**

*For our Spring 2026 meeting, our aim is to uncover common myths and understand the **facts** about pediatric sleep health especially as it relates to our own practices. We have two renowned experts, a pediatric sleep medicine specialist and a combined orthodontist-dental sleep medicine specialist. Both are professors and active in their respective national organizations.*

**Speaker 1: Dr. Pallavi Patwari, MD, FAAP, FAASMDr.** Pallavi P. Patwari is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Pediatric Sleep Medicine Clinic and Laboratory at Rush University Children's Hospital in Chicago, where she also serves as the Division Chief of Pediatric Sleep Medicine and Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs in the Department of Pediatrics

**Speaker 2: Dr. Mitchell Levine, DDS, MD, FACSDr.** Mitchell Levine is Associate Professor of Orthodontics at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. He is a diplomate of both the American Board of Orthodontics and the American Board of Dental Sleep Medicine

#### ISDS Lobby Day - 2026

April 22, 2026 ISDS Tooth Party Lobby Day, Springfield, IL

**Other:** Thank you to Dr. Spencer Pope who continues to bridge the gap of transitioning from having a management company to having a board run organization. He helps maintain the website and manages member communication for ISO and provides a wealth of knowledge and historical perspective to help

**Do You Need the MSO Board of Directors to act on any Component-related business at this time?** Yes/No (if yes, state below and it will be addressed at the next Board meeting): no