

MIDWESTERN SOCIETY OF ORTHODONTISTS

Component Report MSO Board of Directors March 6, 2026 Meeting

Component Name: Midwest

Submitted By (Director Name): Heather Horton

Component Officers/Trustees: Molly McMahon, President; Allison Van Vooren, President Elect; Abby Syverson, Secretary Treasurer; Brooke Brown, Public and Professional Relations Committee; Sharmila Arjunan, Education Committee; Rachel Thorstenson, Committee on Dental Care Plans; Adam Sperl, Membership Committee; Zachary Slama, Constitution and Bylaws Committee; Deborah Lien, Regulatory and Governmental Affairs Committee

Date of Report: 02/23/2026

Ongoing Initiatives: N/A

Legislative Efforts: We recently did a survey of our membership regarding what their challenges are, and the main one that came up was a shortage of licensed assistants in our state and interest in adding duties that unlicensed assistants would be allowed to do. We will be exploring what this could look like, and if there are duties we feel that could be on the job trained, we will make a resolution to send to the Minnesota House of Delegates.

New Initiatives: This past state meeting (January 2026) was only a few months after the MSO meeting, which was also held in the Twin Cities area. Due to this we felt it was difficult to obtain sponsors for the meeting, and attendance was slightly strained as well. There was discussion that in the future, if there are other MSO meetings in the Twin Cities area in the fall, we may consider forgoing a state only meeting that cycle, and instead encourage our membership to attend the MSO.

Upcoming Meetings/Events (with dates): MAO state meeting, January 8th, 2027

Other: Decisions that the MSO makes regarding the annual MSO meeting will impact planning for future MAO state meetings.

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