

BELIZE

DENTISTS ACT CHAPTER 316

REVISED EDITION 2011 SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2011

This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2011.

CHAPTER 316

DENTISTS

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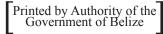
Dentist

CHAPTER 316

DENTISTS

	Ch. 81, R. L., 1958. CAP. 248, R. E. 1980-1990. 18 of 1960. 40 of 1963. 8 of 1978. 3 of 1979. 21 of 1982. 22 of 1987.		[1st October, 1923]	
Short title.	1. This Act may be cited as the Dentists Act.			
Interpretation.	2. In this Act, unless context otherwise requires,			
21 of 1982.		the Medical Council of Belize established under section Practitioners Registration Act, Cap. 318;		
	"Register" means the Dentists' Register kept under section 8 of this Act;			
	"Registrar" means the Registrar General.			
Prohibition of prac- tice of dentistry by	3. –(1) No person shall, unless he is registered under this Act,			
unregistered per- sons.	<i>(a)</i>	practise or hold himself out, di practising or prepared to practis		
	(b)	do or perform any dental work of which he demands or rece or other remuneration, profit of pretext of service rendered, loss other expenses, or under any pr	ives any fee, gratuity or compensation under s of time, travelling or	
	(2) Any person who acts in contravention of this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars.			

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- (3) Nothing in this section shall operate to prevent,
 - (a) the practice of dentistry by a registered medical practitioner;
 - (b) the extraction of a tooth by any person where the case is urgent and no registered medical practitioner or registered dentist is available and the operation is performed without the application of any general or local anaesthetic; or
 - (c) the performance in any public hospital of minor dental operations and extractions performed with the application of local anaesthesia by trained dental auxiliaries authorised to do so by the Director of Health Services.
- **4.**–(1) A person registered under this Act,
 - (a) shall, by virtue of being so registered, be entitled to take and use the description of dentist or dental practitioner;
 - (b) shall not take or use, or affix to or use in connection with his premises, any title or description reasonably calculated to suggest that he possesses any professional status or qualification other than a professional status or qualification which he in fact possesses and which is indicated by particulars entered in the Register in respect of him.

(2) Any person acting in contravention of this section commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars.

5. No person is entitled to recover any fee or claim in any court for the performance of any dental operation or for any dental attendance or advice, unless he is registered under this Act, or is a registered medical practitioner.

Unregistered person not to recover fees.

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3 of 1979.

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Use of title and descriptions.

Printed by Authority of the Government of Belize Qualifications 6. Any person who,

- (a) is registered or entitled by law to be registered as a dentist in the United Kingdom under any Act for the time being in force;
- (b) holds a certificate granted in a Commonwealth or foreign country, for the time being recognised by the Council as furnishing a sufficient guarantee of the possession of the requisite knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of dentistry; or
- (c) was on 1st October, 1923, *bona fide* engaged in Belize in the practice of dentistry either separately or in conjunction with the practice of medicine, surgery or pharmacy,

is entitled to be registered under this Act.

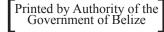
Government dentists.
18 of 1980.
7. The Director of Health Services may recommend to the Minister that a person qualified in a foreign country to practice dentistry be permitted to practise in Belize in the employ of Government. Subject to the approval of the Minister, and provided that the whole time services of such person are at the disposal of the Government, such person while so employed by the Government shall be deemed to be registered for the purposes of this Act.

Keeping of register and publication. First Schedule. Second Schedule. 8 of 1978. **8.**–(1) The Registrar shall keep a "Dentists' Register" in the form contained in the First Schedule in which he shall enter the names of all persons registered as dentists under this Act, and he shall give to each person at the time of registration a certificate in the form of the Second Schedule for which the stamp duty prescribed by the Stamp Duties Act, Cap. 64, shall be paid.

(2) The Registrar, in the month of January in each year, shall publish in the *Gazette* a copy of the Register.

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9. –(1) When a person desires to be registered under this Act, make application to the Director of Health Services and shall statutory declaration setting out that he is the person referred diploma or diplomas in respect of which he seeks registration art is of good character.	submit a to in the	Registration of persons in Register.
(2) The Director of Health Services shall forthwith lay the ap before Council, and if the Council is satisfied that such person i to be registered, it shall direct the Registrar to register such per	s entitled	21 of 1982.
(3) The Registrar shall thereupon register such person and notice thereof in the <i>Gazette</i> .	d publish	
10. –(1) Where any applicant for registration is dissatisfied decision of the Council, he may appeal to a judge in champetition to be lodged with the Registrar.		Appeal from Council. 21 of 1982.
(2) The Registrar shall, within ten days after the petition i bring it to the notice of a judge who, with the assistance, if he it, of two duly qualified dentists, shall hear and determine such	requires	
(3) Where the judge in chambers, with such assistance (if he it), thinks the applicant duly qualified and entitled to be register this Act, he shall direct the Registrar to place the name of the on the Dentists' Register.	ed under	
11. A copy of the Register for the time being published in the in accordance with section 8 (2) of this Act, is evidence in a until the contrary is made to appear, that the persons therein are registered under this Act, and the absence of the name of ar from such copy is evidence, until the contrary is made to app such person is not registered under this Act, but in the case of whose name does not appear in the copy, a certified copy under of the Registrar of the entry of the name of such person in the shall be evidence that such person is registered under this Act.	all cases, specified by person bear, that a person the hand	Evidence of regis- tration.

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3	[CAP. 316	Dentist
	Disgraceful conduct. 21 of 1982.	judged by a majorit or disgraceful cond	dentist registered under this Act after due inquiry is y of the Council to have been guilty of any infamous luct in any professional respect, the Council may, if e Registrar to erase the name of such dentist from the
		given in pursuance to be lodged with	ered dentist aggrieved by the judgment of the Council of subsection (1) of this Act may appeal by petition, the Registrar, to the Supreme Court which shall such judgment and order the costs to be paid by the
Correction of Register, and removal of name therefrom.			ar shall from time to time insert in the Register any ay come to his knowledge in the name or address of ed.
		(2) Where any	dentist,
		(a)	is convicted of any felony or deprived of the qualifications under which he is registered by the body or bodies which granted them or his name is erased by the authorised dental authorities of the United Kingdom; or
		<i>(b)</i>	dies or is absent from Belize for a period exceeding three years or has ceased to practise, then in any

21 of 1982.

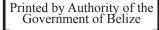
(3) Where the name of any dentist has been erased in consequence of absence for the period prescribed in subsection (2) of this section and such dentist returns to Belize, or after having ceased to practise resumes practice, the Council is hereby authorised and required to grant a new certificate on the application of such dentist and he is entitled to have such certificate registered free of charge.

dentist from the Register.

such case the Registrar shall erase the name of such

(4) In the execution of his duties, the Registrar shall act on such evidence as in each case appears sufficient.

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14. Any person who, for the purpose of procuring or attempting to procure the registration under this Act of himself or any other person as a dental practitioner, makes or produces or causes to be made or produced any fraudulent representation or declaration either verbally, in writing or otherwise, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

Penalty for obtaining registration by false representations.

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Dentist

FIRST SCHEDULE

DENTISTS ACT Dentists' Register [Section 8 (1)]

Name	Residence	Qualification	Date of Registration	

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SECOND SCHEDULE

DENTISTS ACT Dentist's Certificate of Registration [Section 8 (1)]

Belize.

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION UNDER THE DENTISTS ACT

I HEREBY certify that in accordance with the provisions of the Dentists Act, Cap. 316, I have this day entered the name of

of in Belize, in the Dentists' Register of

Belize.

GIVEN under my hand at Belize City in Belize, this day of

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Registrar General

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