

From: [Dulaigh, Joel \(HHS/OASH\)](#)
To: [Ricks, Tim DMD \(IHS/HQ\)](#); [Wright, Janet \(HHS/OASH\)](#)
Subject: RE: Request signature and support
Date: Friday, May 29, 2020 7:05:47 PM

Thank you Sir.

V/R,
Joel

CAPT Joel Dulaigh, ACNP-BC, FAANP
Chief of Staff to the Surgeon General
United States Public Health Service
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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In Officio Salutis

From: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ) <Tim.Ricks@ihs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 6:46 PM
To: Dulaigh, Joel (HHS/OASH) <Joel.Dulaigh@hhs.gov>; Wright, Janet (HHS/OASH) <Janet.Wright@HHS.GOV>
Subject: Re: Request signature and support

Yes, I can make myself available at that time.

Timothy L. Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD
Rear Admiral (RADM), Assistant Surgeon General
Chief Dental Officer, U.S. Public Health Service
IHS Headquarters Division of Oral Health

- - Continuing Dental Education Coordinator
- - Oral Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Coordinator
- - Expanded Function Dental Assistant Program Coordinator
- - Dental Lead, Government Performance and Results Act
- - Oral Health Surveillance Coordinator

From: Dulaigh, Joel (HHS/OASH) <Joel.Dulaigh@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 5:33:45 PM
To: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ); Wright, Janet (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Request signature and support

RADM Ricks,

Would you have availability next Tuesday, June 2 from 1330 – 1400 to brief the SG on this issue?

V/R,
Joel

CAPT Joel Dulaigh, ACNP-BC, FAANP
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In Officio Salutis

From: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ) <Tim.Ricks@ihs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Wright, Janet (HHS/OASH) <Janet.Wright@HHS.GOV>
Cc: Dulaigh, Joel (HHS/OASH) <Joel.Dulaigh@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Request signature and support

Good afternoon Dr. Wright,

I think that the three attached e-mails should help in re-orienting you to the community water fluoridation topic.

1. May 14, 2020 correspondence – this e-mail to CAPT Dulaigh contains the draft SG statement that Dr. Rollins and I developed in February 2019 for VADM Adams. At the time, he didn't want to sign such a statement because NTP was developing a monograph on fluoride that would undercut our long-standing support. However, that report had major methodological flaws according to a NASEM review.
2. May 20, 2020 correspondence – this e-mail to CAPT Dulaigh provides an overview of the NTP monograph and the NASEM review and is a great background.
3. Yesterday's correspondence – this is the request to have me sign a statement of support done by the 8 living former USPHS chief dental officers. This would be independent of VADM Adams' statement; I just need approval to endorse fluoridation by signing this letter.

Bottom line: now is the perfect time for a statement of support for fluoridation. We are celebrating the 75th anniversary, and every past SG has supported fluoridation. Attached are statements of support by SGs Benjamin, Carmona, Murthy, and Satcher, if that helps. In addition, fluoridation will be in the SG's Report on Oral Health when it is released and it is one of the 11 oral health objectives in Healthy People 2030, so I can't imagine a reason that the SG wouldn't want to sign it.

V/r,
Tim

P.S. – If you would like to have a meeting to discuss in greater detail, with or without the SG, please

let me know. Dr. Rollins could be included if you'd like as she helped me draft the letter in the first place.

Timothy L. Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD

Rear Admiral (RADM), Assistant Surgeon General
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IHS Headquarters Division of Oral Health

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- Oral Health Surveillance Coordinator

From: Wright, Janet (HHS/OASH) <Janet.Wright@HHS.GOV>

Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 9:19 AM

To: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ) <Tim.Ricks@ihs.gov>; Dulaigh, Joel (HHS/OASH) <Joel.Dulaigh@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Request signature and support

Thank you, RADM Ricks.

I personally need a little refresher in where we stand on the fluoridation issues before offering anything even close to guidance. And in an exchange with CAPT Dulaigh last night, we wondered if maybe an SG briefing might be a good idea. Do you think it is time for that and/or that it would be helpful?

From: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ) <Tim.Ricks@ihs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 5:49 PM

To: Dulaigh, Joel (HHS/OASH) <Joel.Dulaigh@hhs.gov>

Cc: Wright, Janet (HHS/OASH) <Janet.Wright@HHS.GOV>

Subject: FW: Request signature and support

Importance: High

CAPT Dulaigh and Dr. Wright,

Community Water Fluoridation (CWF), which was begun by the U.S. Public Health Service, is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2020. I am scheduled to speak at a symposium hosted by the American Dental Association (ADA) on July 7th to commemorate this event. A week ago I sent you a request to have the Surgeon General join previous SGs in signing a statement of support for this historic moment since he has been such a supporter of oral health.

Now today I received an e-mail and letter from eight former USPHS chief dental officers showing their support of CWF and requesting my signature on the statement as well. Please see both of the attached letters.

Please let me know if I have approval to sign this letter and join the former chief dental officers in supporting CWF, and please let me know if VADM Adams will sign a letter of support as well. I've included Dr. Wright on this message as well in case she would like to provide guidance.

Very Respectfully,
RADM Ricks

Timothy L. Ricks, DMD, MPH, FICD

Rear Admiral (RADM), Assistant Surgeon General
Chief Dental Officer, U.S. Public Health Service
IHS Headquarters Division of Oral Health

- Continuing Dental Education Coordinator
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- Expanded Function Dental Assistant Program Coordinator
- Dental Lead, Government Performance and Results Act
- Oral Health Surveillance Coordinator

From: Collins, Robert Joseph <rcollins@upenn.edu>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 4:31 PM

To: Ricks, Tim DMD (IHS/HQ) <Tim.Ricks@ihs.gov>

Cc: Nick Makrides <(b) (6)>; Bailey, William D
<WILLIAM.BAILEY@CUANSCHUTZ.EDU>; Robert Mecklenburg <(b) (6)>;
William Maas <(b) (6)>; Halliday, Christopher (IHS/HQ)
<Christopher.Halliday@ihs.gov>; Stephen Corbin <(b) (6)>; Dushanka Kleinman
<dushanka@umd.edu>

Subject: Request signature and support