

Leslie Canham is a Certified Speaking Professional specializing in Infection Control, OSHA Compliance, Dental Practice Act, HIPAA regulations, and Accommodating Patients Who Are Disabled. In dentistry since 1972, Leslie has worked as dental assistant, treatment coordinator, and office manager. Leslie has since formed a successful business, Leslie Canham and Associates, providing in-office training, mock-inspections, consulting, online home study seminars and webinars. Leslie's goal is to help the dental team navigate the sea of state and federal regulations by providing up to date and accurate information.

Leslie's live seminars are fast paced, entertaining and have earned her the reputation as an outstanding speaker in dentistry. Leslie is recognized as a continuing education provider by the California Dental Board and the Academy of General Dentistry. Leslie is also authorized by the Department of Labor as an OSHA Outreach Trainer in General Industry Standards.

Leslie's memberships include: The Organization for Safety, Asepsis and Prevention, The Speaking, Consulting Network, The Academy of Dental Management Consultants, The California Dental Assistants Association, The California Association of Dental Assistant Teachers, The California Dental Association and the National Speakers Association.

Dental Background

Leslie began her career in dentistry in working as a dental assistant for her father, a dentist. Leslie's experience gives her first hand knowledge of dental office operations from both the employee and employer perspective. Learning all aspects of running a dental office, Leslie gained an "in the trenches" understanding what it takes to work in both the administrative and clinical areas of a successful dental practice. When Leslie's father sold his dental practice in 1982, she worked as a temporary receptionist and assistant for several dentists. Soon the demand for her temporary services gave Leslie the idea to open a dental employment agency. Leslie recruited, interviewed and placed dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and front office personnel in temporary and permanent jobs. Leslie was able to match the employee to the employer by her unique perspective of what employers and employees want from working together. Within six years Leslie sold her business and moved to northern California where she worked for a local dentist. When Leslie was assigned the task of "OSHA Coordinator", she immediately saw a need to simplify the complex regulations. One of her responsibilities was to set up and present the OSHA safety program. This presentation was the beginning of Leslie's speaking career.

Committees

- **American Dental Association** Consultant to the Council on Dental Practice as a Dental Team Advisory Panel member 2012, and Dental Team Focus Group 2012-14.
- **California Dental Association:** Policy Development Council 2008-2009, Allied Dental Health Professional Committee
- **Organization for Safety and Asepsis Procedures:** Planning Committee for OSAP Symposia, Nominating committee 2007, 2008, 2009, and Co-Chair 2010.
- **Dental Assisting National Board:** Test Construction Committee for National Infection Control Examination 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
- **San Fernando Valley Dental Assistants Association:** President, Employment Chairman, Treasurer, Budget Committee, Education Chairman 1983-1988
- **Southern California Dental Assistants Association:** Benevolence Chairman 1986-1987

Committees

- **California Dental Assistants Association:** Government Relations Chair 2009-2011, State Director 1987-1988
- **Dental Assisting Alliance-Co Chair** 2009-2011

Leslie has a reputation for taking dry subject matter and presenting it in a fast-paced and entertaining manner. Her humorous and engaging personality have audiences begging for more. In 2003, Leslie expanded her seminar business by holding her own day-long public dental seminars. Leslie understands the responsibilities of the meeting planner is eager to facilitate planners with whatever is needed. Leslie has a long list of dental organizations and study clubs that hire her to come back every year.

Leslie maintains a high profile in the online dental community by her presence on internet based forums and publications. She has served as the moderator of the Infection Control forum on Dentaltown.com since 2003.

Publications

- Canham, L. *The First Step in Infection Control is Hand Hygiene*. Journal of the American Dental Assistants Association, 2011.
- Canham, L. *Infection Control is in Your Hands*. Orthodontics Products, 2010
- Canham, L. *Hand Hygiene for the Dental Professional*. Continuing education course, American Dental Assistants Association 2009
- Canham, L. *Who's in charge of Infection Control?* Contemporary Dental Assistant Magazine November/December 2007
- Canham, L. *Step Up Your Instrument Reprocessing Efficiency With Cassettes*. OSAP, Infection Control in Practice Newsletter Vol. 5, No. 4, May 2006
- Dorst, J, Canham, L. *Infection Protection*. Orthodontics Products, October 2005
- Canham, L. Presentation on the Web *OSHA for Dentistry and the Basic Elements of a Bloodborne Pathogen Program*. www.Dentaltown.com, online CE course
- Canham, L. *Keep Yourself In Business: Protect Your Eyes*. OSAP, Infection Control in Practice Newsletter, Vol. 3, No. 2 February 2004

Learn at Home Programs

- **Webinars:** OSHA for Dentistry, Infection Control for California, Your Role in Infection Control, Legislative Update-What do the new regulations really mean?, About MRSA's in Dentistry, HIPAA for Dentistry, Hand Hygiene for Dental Professionals, and California Dental Practice Act.
- **Home Study Courses:** OSHA Annual Bloodborne Pathogen Training, Infection Control for California and California Dental Practice Act, What is the Role of the Infection Control Coordinator, About MRSA's in Dentistry, HIPAA for Dentistry, Safe Dental Care begins with Sterilization and Disinfection, and Hand Hygiene for Dental Professionals.

Leslie's Personal Background

Leslie was born at in El Paso, Texas. Shortly thereafter her family moved to California. Leslie has remained in California and resides on a 21 acre ranch in the foothills of the Sierras. Leslie enjoys scuba diving, standup paddle boarding, and training horses. Leslie is married and has eight children, thirteen grandchildren, 4 horses, 6 cats, and a chocolate lab named Mocha.