

# GLAO Components Receive Assistance from the AAO Component Legal Support Fund

In **Ontario**, the AAO has and continues to work diligently to advocate on Canadian members' and orthodontic patients' behalves. Through the AAO's Component Legal Support Fund, on October 23, 2018, AAO's Sean Murphy met with Mr. Irwin Fefergrad, Registrar of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario to communicate concerns regarding new stores in Ontario that appear to be providing patients with orthodontic treatment absent any in-person evaluation or in-person supervision by a licensed dentist. With the help of a local attorney, a follow up memo was prepared for the Royal College. We hope that the College will take the necessary steps to enforce the laws, and we plan on continuing our efforts. Of course, individuals are entitled to exercise their rights as a citizen and individually, and independently, contact the Royal College regarding their own thoughts about any public health and safety matter.

The **Ohio** Association of Orthodontists (OAO) has received assistance from the AAO Component Legal Support Fund to address Ohio specialty advertising rules. The Ohio State Dental Board is currently in the process of reviewing and revising its rules. The AAO Legal Department has been able to attend an Ohio Dental Board meeting and participate in conversations with Board members during this ongoing process.

The AAO Component Legal Support Fund, established by a vote of the 2015 House of Delegates, provides grants to component organizations to assist with state legal and legislative issues that impact orthodontic practices. To date, the CLSF is assisting over 20 components with their issues, which primarily involve specialty advertising. If your component wants more information about how to apply for assistance from the AAO Component Legal Support Fund, contact Sean Murphy, VP, Advocacy and General Counsel, 800-424-2841, ext. 523, [smurphy@aaortho.org](mailto:smurphy@aaortho.org).

*Please note, every orthodontist (as a citizen of and licensed dental provider in his or her state) and orthodontic patient has the right, independently and individually, to express his or her opinion on any dental issue to his or her state dental board and elected officials. If you feel so compelled, you may contact your state's dental board. Contact information for state dental boards can be found by clicking [here](#).*