

## **DC Smiles Press Release**

*For Immediate Release*

December 5, 2016

Alexandria, VA -- DC Smiles, an advanced multi-disciplinary dental center led by Dr. Lawrence D. Singer, announced the issuance by the US Patent Office of a patent covering an innovative and pioneering method of treating facial trauma with resulting damage to teeth and jaws.

Patent US 0295516, which was filed on an invention created by Dr. Singer and co-sponsored by plastic surgeon Dr. Mark C. Domanski, covers a unique, less invasive maxillomandibular fixation(MMF) device and method of bonding it to a patient's teeth and jaw segments as part of reparative trauma surgery.

"I saw a need in the industry for a new way of immobilizing a patient's jaw after a fracture or other injury that requires long-term stability," said Dr. Singer. "Current methods use screws, wires or flexible metal bars that penetrate the gums and bone in multiple places. They are painful, can cause inflammation or infection and require a patient's mouth to be wired shut. Plus, removing them can be extremely painful and traumatic to both the doctor and the patient."

Dr. Singer's revolutionary new device involves flexible arches which adhere to teeth using a curable resin component. The resin is pliable during application, but quickly hardens to hold the arches in place around the jaw. The apparatus provides a quicker, less painful and more secure method to keep the teeth and jaw segments immobile following surgery. Unlike traditional devices, Dr. Singer's method is also able to save teeth which results in a better patient outcome

"We're excited about what this means for reparative oral surgery," added Dr. Singer. "We hope to change the way fractured jaws and facial traumas are treated and lead the way toward becoming the new standard of care for patients."

Dr. Singer currently uses the now patented device and procedure on trauma patients at George Washington Hospital and in his dental center.

### **About DC Smiles**

With locations in Alexandria, VA and Washington DC, DC Smiles provides a holistic approach to dental care that incorporates total-body health and wellness. Led by Dr. Lawrence D. Singer, the practice focuses on general, cosmetic and restorative dentistry, and advanced dental procedures such as temporomandibular joint dysfunction treatments, implants, orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics orthodontics.

DC Smiles strives to educate patients about the benefits of integrated healthcare, and provide people at every age and stage of life with quality information that enables them to make informed choices about their care.

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