

# **NOTICE TO ALL PATIENTS**

## **Composite Restorations**

**My goal is to give my patients the best dental treatment possible. It is for this reason that after much consideration I made a decision to only do composite restorations. I have not done any amalgam restorations for several years. The most important reasons for this decision are as follows:**

- 1. Over time amalgam restorations tend to over expand out of the cavity outline and are left unsupported by tooth structure. Upon vertical pressure of mastication and normal occlusal forces, amalgam margins break out. This is called marginal ditching. It is in such ditches or crevices that bacteria from oral flora flourish and inhabit in an anaerobic environment causing recurrent decay activities. Many times in the past ten years I have seen this result in invasion of the pulp (nerve) necessitating root canal therapy, post and cores and crowns which are more involved costly procedures.**
- 2. Unlike amalgam restorations, composite restorations do not tarnish or corrode.**
- 3. The mercury component of an amalgam restoration could be hazardous to some patients' kidney and /or nervous system.**
- 4. In the past five years manufacturers have improved composite properties, particularly the compressive and shear strength that make them usable for posterior teeth.**

**If you should have any dental questions regarding this matter, please discuss them with me. If you should have any dental insurance questions, please discuss them with our front office staff. They will be able to inform you of any dental insurance implications.**

**Patient Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Date**\_\_\_\_\_