

TUAN PHAM

Age: 37 **City:** Austin, Texas

Specialty: General dentistry

Name of Practice: Circle C Dental

Education: DDS, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Why He Was Nominated: The author of three professional-improvement books, this self-styled "dental maverick" runs an online communication, leadership and management training program of the same name (DentalMaverick.com). He also hosts an annual continuing-education conference, the Dental Maverick Summit.

Favorite Aspect of Dentistry: "The psychology. I enjoy learning about patients so I understand their values and can present treatment in a manner that addresses their concerns. Outside of clinical dentistry, my favorite part is teaching other dentists to be successful in their practice."

Philosophy: "Everyone has a style that best suits who they are. For me, it's a slower-paced practice. With plenty of time for patients, I never have to rush my work and can spend time conversing with patients and still have plenty of time to appease the obsessive-compulsive nature of practicing dentistry."

Sage Advice: There's a way out of every single difficulty, Dr. Pham says. "Solve every little problem, and over time, very few problems will persist in daily practice. I wish I had recognized that when I was a dental student."

Something People Don't Know: "I'm an awesome fly-fisherman."



BRADFORD PICOT

Age: 37 **City:** Charlotte, North Carolina

Specialty: General and cosmetic dentistry

Name of Practice: SouthEnd Dentistry

Education: DDS, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry

Why He Was Nominated: A native of Shaker Heights, Ohio, Dr. Picot got interested in dentistry when he shadowed an endodontist and general dentist in sixth grade. In 2004, while in dental school, he founded the UNC Malawi Dental Project, which sends students annually to that southern African country to provide free dental services and education about HIV and AIDS. He founded SouthEnd Dentistry in 2009 and has donated a student locker room, which bears his name, at the UNC School of Dentistry. He received the 2016 Charlotte Chamber of Commerce's Young Professional of the Year award and for eight years running has been named a Top Dentist by *Charlotte* magazine.

Something People Don't Know: Dr. Picot is a former competitive springboard diver who still cliff-dives when traveling abroad. He has also played the saxophone since he was in sixth grade.

