

FILED
BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS
OCT 30 2000
Susan Gartland
Susan Gartland
Executive Director

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

CHRISTA J. MULLER, O.D. :
License No. OA 05561 :

TO PRACTICE OPTOMETRY :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Optometry upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is an optometrist in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. Renewal of licenses for optometrist occurs biennially(N.J.S.A.45:1-7). In approximately, February 1999, a renewal application for the license period beginning April 30, 1999 through April 30, 2001 was forwarded to the respondent at the last known address on file with the Board: 30 So. Warren Street, Trenton, New Jersey.

3. A renewal of license application and the corresponding renewal fee were not received by the Board prior to or after the April 30, 1999 expiration date.

4. On October 25, 1999 written notification regarding respondent's failure to renew was mailed to the respondent at the respondent's last known address. This notification also informed

the respondent that the said license to practice optometry would be removed from the active license list within 10 days of the date of the notice. The notice was mailed via certified and regular mail. Neither the certified nor the regular mail has been returned to the Board. Copy of the notice of lapsed license is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The above facts provide grounds for the revocation of his license to practice optometry in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A 45: 12-9 in that it is based on findings that the respondent is in default of his payment of registration renewal fees .

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline suspending respondent's license to practice optometry in the State of New Jersey was entered on July 19, 2000 and a copy served on respondent. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor. The respondent submitted a letter on September 4, 2000 for Board consideration. Respondent stated that she inadvertently allowed her license to expire and she had not been aware that she could apply for inactive licensure status. The respondent also included the required fees with her submission.

Respondent's submissions were reviewed by the Board, and the Board determined that the respondent's explanation was reasonable. The Board accepted respondent's request to be placed on inactive status along with payment of a \$200 late fee and \$100 inactive status fee.

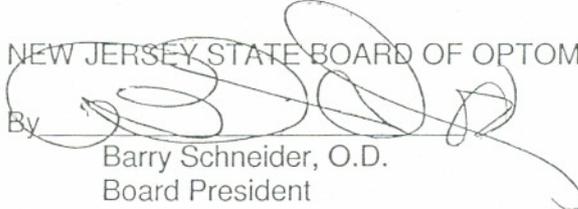
ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 30th day of October 2000,

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice optometry in the State of New Jersey be and hereby is placed on inactive status. Thus, respondent shall not engage in the practice of optometry in this State.

2. Prior to resuming active practice in New Jersey respondent shall be required to demonstrate that she has maintained proficiency by providing proof that she has completed the continuing education credits for renewal of an active license as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:12-9.3 and 45:12-9.4.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

By 

Barry Schneider, O.D.
Board President



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS
124 HALSEY STREET, 6TH FLOOR, NEWARK NJ

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

JOHN J. FARMER,
Attorney General

NOTIFICATION OF LAPSED LICENSE STATUS

The Practicing Optometry Licensing Act
N.J.S.A. 45:12-1 et seq.

MARK S. HERR
Director

Mailing Address:

PO Box 45012
NEWARK NJ 07101
(973) 504-6440

October 25, 1999

Christa J. Muller, O.D.
50 Mall Drive West
Jersey City, NJ 07310-1601

License Number: OA 05561
Expiration Date: April 30, 1999

Dear Dr. Muller:

State law requires that you renew your license biennially. Our records indicate that you have not renewed your license since the date listed above.

This is official notification that your license will be automatically removed from the license list if we do not hear from you within 10 days of this letter. The practical implications of this is that you are not considered to have a license to practice optometry in the State of New Jersey. Should an insurance company, consumer, or any interested party call to verify licensure, they will be advised that your license is lapsed and that you cannot practice. You may be in violation of the law if you continue to practice with a non-current license.

If you wish to remedy this situation, you must do the following:

1. Pay all past renewal fees;
2. Late fees for each renewal missed; and
3. Supply the Board with sufficient continuing education for each renewal period missed.

Very truly yours,
Board of Optometrists

By: Susan H. Gartland
Susan H. Gartland, Executive Director

SHG/meb
Via Certified and Regular Mail
CM: RRR 307 388 510

SEP-11 2000

September 4, 2000

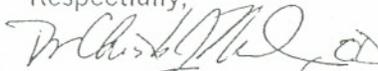
State of New Jersey
Department of Law and Public Safety
Division of Consumer Affairs
New Jersey State Board of Optometrists
P.O. Box 45012
Newark, NJ 07101

To Whom It May Concern:

I inadvertently let my New Jersey Optometric license expire and have every intention of practicing in New Jersey again at some point. I was not aware that I could not just apply for it again in a couple of years. I spoke with Susan Gartland on September 1 and she informed me that to make restitution I needed to pay a \$200 late fee and \$100 to keep my inactive license current. I have enclosed a check for \$300 to satisfy that requirement. Also, I was told that at this time I do not need to enclose proof of continuing education because I graduated in May of 1998 and my first license was only for a period of 8 months. Thank you for offering me the opportunity to make restitution and I hope to work with the New Jersey Board of Optometrists soon in the future.

My New Jersey license numbers are OA 05561 and T 0946. I would also like to request that all further correspondence be sent to the above address.

Respectfully,



Dr. Christa J. Muller
Optometrist