

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF OPHTHALMIC DISPENSERS  
AND OPHTHALMIC TECHNICIANS  
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES  
JUNE 4, 2008

The June meeting of the Board was convened in accordance with its notice to the Secretary of State, the Bergen Record, the Record of Hackensack, the Trenton Times, the Courier Post and the Star-Ledger and was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

President Cohen convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded for these minutes:

PRESENT: Linda Cohen, Joseph Grodman, Michael Higgins, Jerry McMullian, and John Valeri, Esq.

EXCUSED OR ABSENT: Jane Kenny, Gary Iavarone and Dorcas K. O'Neal, Executive Director.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: NONE

Also in attendance: Susan Berger, Deputy Attorney General, Kathleen Griffith and Monica Carrington, staff.

The Board adjourned the Public Session in order to hold examination review.

The Board held examination reviews for the March 19, 2008 examination from 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m. The following candidates attended this review:

Ali Elhabbak David Mandel Raul Cruz Sheetal Davda Robert Zimmerman Eduardo Genao Tzippy Abramowitz Jennifer Nelson

The Board reconvened in Public Session to complete the Public Agenda.

#### I. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

The Board reviewed the Public Session Minutes for April 9, 2008. On a motion by Michael Higgins, seconded by Jay McMullin, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

#### II. OLD BUSINESS

a. The Board reviewed an email from Mr. Sergio Lojkasek inquiring as to the duties of an Ophthalmic Medical Technologists. He enclosed a response from former Deputy Director, Tony Miragliotta. On a motion by John Valeri, seconded by Jay McMullin, Mr. Lojkasek will be advised that the cited tasks cross several licensed fields and the inquiry will be referred to the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Optometrists.

#### III. APPRENTICE MATTERS

a. The Board discussed Candidate #600B inquiry relative to the unsuccessful attempt on the dispensing portion of the Ophthalmic Dispensers Examination.

It was the consensus of the Board to reaffirm the unsuccessful score of 62 on the dispensing portion of the examination. Candidate #600B will be so advised.

b. The Board reviewed a letter from an out of state candidate Raul Cruz requesting a detailed explanation of his unsuccessful attempt on the dispensing portion of the March 2008 Ophthalmic Dispenser Examination. This matter was moved to Executive Session for further discussion.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Board reviewed the Division of Law Billing as informational.
- b. The Board reviewed the Board of Optometry Agenda for April 16, 2008 as informational.
- c. The Board reviewed the Board of Optometry Minutes for March 19, 2008 as informational.
- d. The Board reviewed a question submitted by Diane Racer TD-3624 inquiring as to whether prescriptions are valid when received on the phone by office staff. On a motion by John Valeri seconded by Jay McMullin, the Board unanimously determined to forward a copy of the federal statutes regarding contact lens prescriptions be sent to Ms. Racer.

#### V. OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business to come before the Board, on a motion by John Valeri seconded by Michael Higgins the Public Session was adjourned and the Board convened in Executive Session for the purpose of receiving counsel, to conduct one investigative inquiry, to review two consumer complaints, to review five criminal history summaries, and four matters of old business.

The Board reconvened in Public Session.

#### DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The following disciplinary actions have been reported in Public Session

I/M/O Malik Abdullah, Applicant - Appeared before the Board on February 13, 2008 in connection with his negative response to the crime question on the Certification and Authorization form. A positive criminal history was reported. A Provisional Order of Denial was issue for being dishonest on his Ophthalmic Dispenser Apprentice application and for practicing without a valid New Jersey Ophthalmic Dispenser License.

I/M/O Donna Ford/For Eye Optical in Maple Shade, NJ - Ms. Ford waived her right to an administrative hearing scheduled on March 12, 2008 with the Board and agreed to sign a Consent Order for violation of N.J.A.C. 45:1-21 aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of Malik Abdullah. A penalty of \$10,000.00 was assessed.

The next scheduled meeting is July 9, 2008. There being no other business to come before the Board, on a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorcas K. O'Neal  
Executive Director