



College of Opticians of British Columbia

CITATION

(Section 37 of the Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996, Chapter 183)

To: Sohrab Mohammadi

**TAKE NOTICE** that a Panel of the Discipline Committee of the College of Opticians of British Columbia (“the College”) will conduct a hearing into your conduct and competence as an optician registrant and automated refraction certificate holder under s.38 of the *Health Professions Act* R.S.B.C 1996, c.183 (“the Act”).

The hearing will proceed at 900-200 Granville Street, Vancouver B.C V6C 1S4, March 7 – 18, 2022, commencing at 10:00 a.m. You are requested to attend the hearing and have the right to be represented by legal counsel and to submit evidence. However, if you fail to attend the hearing, the Panel may proceed with the hearing in your absence, and, without further notice to you, may take any action that it is authorized to take under the Act. The in-person hearing is subject to Provincial Health Orders permitting such a hearing. In the circumstance that Provincial Health Orders do not allow such a hearing, the hearing will be conducted virtually.

The purpose of the hearing is to inquire into your conduct as follows:

1. During the period between January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2017, your records fell below the Standards of Practice, contrary to the Bylaws s. 53 (1)(3) & (4) for record keeping in that:
  - a. Records were inconsistent in that information recorded on work orders, printed invoices, and the patient diary did not align for the clients described in “**Schedule A**”, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 4.1.
  - b. Information was deleted from electronic records in your IFILE software, specifically in the notes section, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 4.2.
  - c. You did not have a back-up of your electronic filing system, which resulted in lost client data, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 4.2.
  - d. Records could not be retrieved in a timely manner for the College inspectors during an on-site inspection on February 14, 2020, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 4.2
  - e. Records were not easily understandable to the College, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 4.3 as described by virtue of their deficiencies set out in a, b, and c above.



2. During the period between January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2017, you inappropriately billed [REDACTED], contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 6.1, and the Code of Ethics s. 5(1)(b) including:
- Allocating insurance funds between family members, as described in “**Schedule B**” contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
  - Billing [REDACTED] in advance of the client’s service, as described in “**Schedule C**”, contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
  - Billing [REDACTED] for services not obtained by the client, as described in “**Schedule D**”, contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
  - Billing [REDACTED] an amount higher than the cost of service provided to the client, as described in “**Schedule E**”, contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
  - Applying [REDACTED] insurance amounts to non-prescription sunglass purchases, as described in “**Schedule F**”, contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
  - Holding insurance funds as a store credit for clients, as described in “**Schedule G**”, contrary to the [REDACTED] member agreement.
3. On or around January 17, and January 19, 2017, you created, altered, and/or fabricated client records some of which were then provided to [REDACTED] during its on-site inspection audits on January 18, 2017, and January 20, 2017, for clients described in “**Schedule H**”, contrary to the Standards of Practice s. 2.1 & 4.2, and the Code of Ethics s. 1(1)(a) & 2(1)(d).
4. Beginning on or about June 3, 2019, you made false statements to COBC investigators, in relation to their investigation of the complaint made against you by [REDACTED] on March 6, 2019, including false statements to the effect that:
- You do not ever bill insurance providers for non-prescription sunglasses.
  - You did not inappropriately bill [REDACTED] on behalf of clients.
  - A claim submitted to [REDACTED] for client [REDACTED] in June 2015 was reversed, and therefore Puzzled Looks did not collect insurance funds from [REDACTED] for client [REDACTED].
  - The insurance funds for [REDACTED] in June 2015 were applied to a pair of eyeglasses for [REDACTED].
  - You terminated employee MM for inappropriately billing to [REDACTED] for eyeglasses for client [REDACTED].
  - You did not create invoices on January 17 and January 19, 2017, to provide to the [REDACTED] investigation/audit.

False statements constitute a breach of the Code of Ethics s. 1(1)(a) & 2(1)(d) and the Health Professions Act s. 31(2).



5. The conduct described in the above paragraphs:
- Is a breach in the *Health Professions Act* as specified;
  - Is a breach of the Standards of Practice as specified;
  - Is a breach of the Code of Ethics as specified;
  - Constitutes professional misconduct or unprofessional conduct.

**FURTHER TAKE NOTICE** that after a hearing under s.38 of the Act, the Discipline Committee may make such determinations and orders under s.39 of the Act as it considers to be appropriate.

This Citation is issued at the direction of College's Inquiry Committee under s.37 of the Act.

**College of Opticians of British Columbia**

Dated November 1, 2021

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Lisa Bannerman, Registrar