

BEFORE THE IOWA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE STATEMENT) NO. OPT 05-005
OF CHARGES AGAINST)
)
Paul Mann, O.D.,) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
) **AND STATEMENT OF CHARGES**
RESPONDENT.)

COMES NOW the Iowa Board of Optometry (hereinafter “Board”) and files this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.12(2), 17A.18(3), and 645 IAC 11.6. Respondent Paul Mann was issued Iowa Optometry license number 152-01532 on July 11, 1969. Respondent’s license is current and will next expire on June 30, 2008. Respondent’s address as reported to the Board is 3725 Ingersoll, Des Moines, Iowa, 50312.

A. TIME, PLACE AND NATURE OF HEARING

Hearing. A disciplinary contested case hearing shall be held on October 4, 2007, before the Board of Optometry. The hearing shall begin at 11:00 a.m. and shall be located in the Lucas State Office Building, Fifth Floor Board Conference Room 526, Des Moines, Iowa.

Answer. Within twenty (20) days of the date you are served this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges you are required by 645 IAC 11.12 to file an Answer. The Answer should specifically admit, deny, or otherwise answer all allegations contained in sections C and D of this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges. Pleadings shall be filed with the Board at the following address: Board of Optometry, 5th Floor, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.

Presiding Officer. The Board shall serve as presiding officer, but the Board may request an Administrative Law Judge make initial rulings on pre-hearing matters, and be present to assist

and advise the board at hearing.

Hearing Procedures. The procedural rules governing the conduct of the hearing are found at 641 IAC 11. At hearing, you may appear personally or be represented by legal counsel at your own expense. You will be allowed the opportunity to respond to the charges against you, to produce evidence on your behalf on issues of material fact, cross-examine witnesses present at the hearing, and examine and respond to any documents introduced at hearing. If you need to request an alternative time or date for hearing, you must comply with the requirements of 645 IAC 11.18. The hearing may be open to the public or closed to the public at your discretion.

Pre-hearing Conference. Any party may request a pre-hearing conference to discuss evidentiary issues related to the hearing. The Board's rules regarding pre-hearing conferences are contained at 645 IAC 11.17.

Prosecution. The Office of the Attorney General is responsible for representing the public interest (the State) in this proceeding. Copies of pleadings should be provided to counsel for the State at the following address: Heather Palmer, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office, 2nd Floor, Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Communications. You may not contact board members in any manner, including by telephone, letter, or e-mail, about this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges. Board members may only receive information about the case when all parties have notice and an opportunity to participate, such as at the hearing or in pleadings you file with the Board office and serve upon all parties in the case.

B. LEGAL AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code chapters

147, 154, and 272C.

Legal Authority. If any of the allegations against you are founded, the Board has authority to take disciplinary action against you under Iowa Code chapters 17A, 147, 154, and 272C and 645 IAC chapter 183.

Default. If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Board may enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in your absence, in accordance with Iowa Code section 17A.12(3) and 645 IAC 11.21.

C. SECTIONS OF STATUTES AND RULES INVOLVED

Count I

Respondent is charged with professional incompetency, in violation of Iowa Code sections 147.55(3), 272C.10(2), and 645 IAC 183.2(2)“b”, “c”, and “d”, by:

- A. Substantially deviating from the standards of learning or skill ordinarily possessed and applied by other practitioners in the state of Iowa acting in the same or similar circumstances;
- B. Failing to exercise the degree of care which is ordinarily exercised by the average practitioner acting in the same or similar circumstances; and
- C. Failing to conform to the minimal standard of acceptable and prevailing practice of optometry in this state.

D. FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- 1. Respondent is not a diagnostically certified optometrist or a therapeutically certified optometrist in the state of Iowa.
- 2. Respondent failed to refer a patient complaining of visual changes to a qualified optometrist or ophthalmologist for dilation to determine whether the patient had a detached retina.

E. SETTLEMENT

This matter may be resolved by settlement agreement. The procedural rules governing the Board's settlement process are found at 645 IAC 12. If you are interested in pursuing settlement of this matter, please contact Heather Palmer, Assistant Attorney General, at (515) 281-6858.

F. PROBABLE CAUSE FINDING

On this 5th day of April, 2007, the Iowa Board of Optometry found probable cause to file this Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges.

This notice of hearing and statement of charges is approved by the board on July 12, 2007.