

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

179 Summers Street, Suite 231

Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: 304-558-5901 Fax: 304-558-5908

E-mail: wvbdopt@frontier.com

August 5, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It has come to my attention that someone has put out instructions to caseworkers or claims processors that is misleading. This has led licensed optometrists to contact this office asking for documents that **do not exist** in the forms that are being requested. Please circulate this information so that the appropriate information may be used by caseworkers and others who certify practitioners and claims. I have been relaying this information since the beginning of this year. Please circulate this letter to the appropriate authority to stop a lot of unnecessary paperwork and correspondence.

There is no "registration paper." The proof of registration is the license number. It is located on his or her blue license renewal card. All other documentation you need is contained there as well.

There is **no** 8.5" x 11" "certificate" or "drug certificate" or "prescriptive authority certificate" provided to licensees in the form requested. All of the information regarding licensure and prescriptive authority **is included on the blue license card** they receive upon license renewal each year.

The blue card that an optometrist receives for annual renewal is the optometrist's license certificate that is to be displayed in his or her office. You may see that the card says, "**This certifies...**"

The optometrist's license number has his or her level of prescriptive authority embedded in the initials following the license number, for example 1024-OD. There are four levels of prescriptive authority.

- No initial** = no prescriptive authority. (There are only 3 optometrists left in the state with this level of authority.)
- D** = Diagnostic (DPA) and Therapeutic (TPA) prescriptive authority for topical pharmaceuticals.
- OD** = DPA and TPA topical, and some oral pharmaceuticals
- IOD** = DPA and TPA topical, some oral pharmaceuticals and injection administration authority

These levels are outlined in W. Va. Code, §30-8-9 and W. Va. Code of State Rules, §14-2 and §14-11. These are posted on our web site at www.wvbo.org under "Laws and Regulations Governing Optometry." I hope you find this to be helpful.

Sincerely,



Pamela Carper
Executive Director