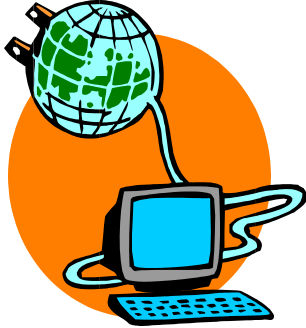


# West Virginia Board of Optometry Visionary



## Special points of interest:

- License Renewal
- ARBO Board Victory
- Prescription Pads
- CE Requirements to Legislature
- Eye Glasses Prescriptions
- Licensure By Endorsement
- Guest Protocol
- Barb's Award at WVOA Congress
- Illegal Practice of Optometry

## 2004 License Renewal On the Internet

The Board of Optometry Web Site will be used for the 2004-06 License Renewal. Our Web Site address is [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org).

You may learn to use our web site by updating your personal information in our database. You will also find "Latest News" announcements and the laws that govern optometry. You may even contact the Board Office by using our "Contact Us" window or our Survey section.

The License Renewal page on our web site will be activated in Spring, 2004. Begin to use the site now by taking the steps to update the information contained in your file.

Follow these simple steps to access your information:

- Log onto your Internet browser (often using [Internet Explorer](#)).
- Go to [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org).
- Select "Licensees."
- Select "On Line Address Change." A screen will appear asking for your "user name" and "password."
- Use the mouse to place the cursor in the field, "New Users Click Here," and click the left mouse button.
- The screen will ask you to enter a "User ID" that you will choose for yourself.
- The screen will also ask you to make up a "Password."
- The site will ask you to se-



lect a question. Select a question, and type in the answer.

- Type in your e-mail address.
- The site will ask you to enter other personal information to verify your identity.
- Place the mouse over "Go."
- You may update your file as appropriate.

*We would like to welcome our new optometrists:*

*Martin Carpenter, O.D., Nutter Fort; Robert Christen, II, O.D., Sistersville; Molly Dula, O.D., Frederick, MD; Stacy Humberson, O.D., Bruceton Mills; Christopher Stansbury, O.D., Charleston; Kelly Taylor, O.D., Huntington.*



## Board President Elected to ARBO Board of Directors

West Virginia now has optometric representation at a national level.

At its recent annual meeting in San Diego, California, the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) elected Dr. Jack E. Terry of Huntington, West

Virginia to its Board of Directors.

ARBO is the international association of boards which regulate the practice of optometry for the public welfare.

He is the Chief of Optometry Service at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in

Huntington since 1992, and Coordinator of Research and Development for the VAMC since 1996. He is also an Associate Professor at The Marshall University School of Medicine.

Dr. Terry is presently serving as President of our Board of Optometry.



The WV Board of Pharmacy has recommended safety features for controlled substance prescription pads.

## WV Board of Pharmacy's Recommendations For Prescription Pads

The West Virginia Board of Pharmacy has added new recommendations for prescription pads for controlled substances. The recommendations took effect on June 23, 2003.

The purpose of section 15-8-5 is to decrease the potential for forgery or alteration of a prescription for a controlled substance. After June 23, 2003, a written prescription for a controlled substance should be on a security prescription blank.

The recommendations include;

1. An Rx blank must be 4 1/4 inches high and 5 1/2

inches wide.

2. The Rx form should have the following security features:

⇒ A latent, repetitive "void" pattern screened at five percent in pantone green printed across the entire front of the Rx blank.

⇒ A watermark printed on the backside of the Rx blank so that it is only seen at a 45 degree angle.

⇒ An opaque "Rx" symbol or an "Rx" symbol printed in disappearing ink if the prescription copy is light-

ened;

⇒ Six quantity check-off boxes and say, "Prescription is void if more than one (1) controlled substance is written per blank,"

⇒ The blank shall contain the preprinted practitioner's name and address, phone and DEA number; list the patient's name and address.

The BOP will seek to make these recommendations mandatory in the next Legislative Session.

## Continuing Education Requirements

The Board of Optometry has submitted a breakdown of the 40 hours of required continuing education for legislative approval in the 2004 Legislative Session. The proposal outlines minimum standards for continuing education.

The requirements are:

- a. A **minimum** of twelve hours of studying pharmacology or therapeutic courses;
- b. A **maximum** of six hours of study in practice manage-

ment;

- c. A **maximum** of ten hours of optometric study may be taken by correspondence or via the Internet;
- d. All continuing education study must be sponsored by one of the organizations listed in subsection 8.4 of this section or pre-approved by the Board as outlined in subsection 14-1-8.6.

As you can see, these minimum standards leave 12 hours of con-

tinuing education not outlined in a, b, c. Remember that all CE must be COPE approved or be an educational meeting of one of the approved organizations [WVOA...] listed in 14-1-8.4. All other programs must be approved in advance by the Board.

The 40 required hours are to be completed in the two year period from August 1, 2002–July 31, 2004.

The Board has developed a CE Tally Sheet available on our web site, [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org).

*A CE Tally Sheet has been developed by the Board to help optometrists record their CE hours.*

*Go to our web site at [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org) or call 1-800-450-2150.*



## Federal Requirement To Release Eye Glasses Prescriptions

The Code of Federal Regulation **16 CFR 456.2** for the Federal Trade Commission states, "it is an unfair act or practice for the ophthalmologist or optometrist to: (a) Fail to provide to the patient one copy of the patient's prescription immediately after the eye examination is completed..."

"Prescription" is defined as

"...written specifications for lenses for eyeglasses..." The rule further states that he or she shall not condition the availability of an eye examination to... "purchase of any ophthalmic goods."

There have been complaints from consumers that optometrists are under the impression that Federal regulations forbid the re-

lease of contact lenses prescriptions to patients. This is not the case.

The CL Rx release is a matter of professional judgment. However, it is the Board's opinion and recommendation that it is good, ethical conduct to release a contact lenses prescription upon the request of the patient that the OD has fit with contact lenses.

## New Procedures: Licensure By Endorsement and Guest Protocol

The Legislature approved the Board's legislative rule on licensure by endorsement, Title 14 Series 8. This rule can be downloaded from our web site under "Laws and Regulations Governing Optometry."

A candidate must have been in active practice for 5 of the last 7 years at time of application. He must also have proof of his/her license(s) sent directly to the Board from each state.

Each proof of license must state that the candidate has a license in good standing, and that he/she has not committed any act requiring disciplinary action.

A current copy of his or her record from the National Practitioner Database and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank must be submitted directly to the Board as well.

The candidate will pass a West Virginia optometry law exam and may need to pass an oral exam if deemed necessary. The fee for licensure by endorsement is \$300.

The Board has also adopted a procedural rule, Title 14 Series 7, Subsection 3.5 to establish a Guest Protocol. The purpose of this rule is to encourage attendance and presentations by guests while maintaining order

and efficient conduct of Board meetings.

The rule requires all guests to sign the sign in sheet and leave any handouts or materials for the board by the sign in sheet.

Guests will be recognized at the time designated for speakers to address the Board. Guests will be called upon one at a time in order of the sign in sheet.

Each guest may make a five minute presentation. The guest may continue his/her presentation upon passage of a motion by the Board for up to ten additional minutes. The rule also establishes disciplinary action for dis-



orderly conduct by guests.

**Visit [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org)**

Update personal data. Download forms. Read rules and regulations. See the latest news.

## Award For Barbara At WVOA Social and Visit New Board Office

Barbara Palmer, the first full-time administrative secretary for the WVBO, announced her retirement effective March 31, 2003.

The Board will **recognize** Barbara and Dale Palmer at the **WVOA Social on Thursday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel.**

We hope you can join us to celebrate the Palmers' contribution to optometry in the state.

The Board of Optometry Office has been moved from Clarksburg to Charleston. The office is located in the historic Union Building on Kanawha Boulevard. The building is across from the Holiday Inn and beside Haddad Park on the levee.

The Board moved its offices to Charleston to facilitate its interaction with state government. The Capitol is just 1 1/2 miles away from the office.

The new address is 723 Kanawha Boulevard, Suite 804, Charleston, WV 25301-2733. The new phone number is 304-558-5901 or 1-800-250-4150. The new fax number is 304-558-5908. The new email address is [wvbdopt@verizon.net](mailto:wvbdopt@verizon.net), and the web site address is [www.wvbo.org](http://www.wvbo.org).

Please come and see your office at your convenience. You are always welcome.



## New Rule to Investigate the Illegal Practice of Optometry

The Board adopted a new procedural rule amending Title 14 Series 4.

The Disciplinary and Complaint Procedure now includes the power to investigate complaints against unlicensed individuals or entities engaged in the practice of optometry. Formerly, the Board only had the power to investigate those who are licensed by the Board, i.e., (optometrists).

The purpose of the new rule is to protect the public by investigating complaints against those who are practicing optometry without a license.

The definition of the practice of optometry is outlined in [The West Virginia Code](#), 30-8-2. Optometry includes "(a) the examination of the human eye with or without the use of drugs...to the anterior segment of the human eye and, by

any method other than surgery, to diagnose, treat or refer for consultation or treatment any abnormal condition of the human eye or it's appendages....."

Those exempt from optometric licensure are listed in the code 30-8-4 and include those licensed to practice medicine and those who sell eye glasses or spectacles based on the prescription of a licensed optometrist.





**WV BOARD OF OPTOMETRY MEMBERS:**  
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 DR. DOUGLAS L. CONRATH, SECRETARY-TREASURER  
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 DR. JACK E. TERRY, PRESIDENT  
 MS. PAM CARPER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**WVBO has a toll free number in WV!**  
 800/250-4150

West Virginia Board of Optometry  
 723 Kanawha Blvd., Suite 804  
 Charleston, WV 25301  
 Phone: 304/558-5901  
 Fax: 304/558-5908  
 Email: wvbdopt@verizon.net



## Change of Address/Name Form

Mail form to: West Virginia Board of Optometry  
 723 Kanawha Blvd., Suite 804  
 Charleston, WV 25301

You **MUST** keep this office informed of any address or name changes. Faxed or e-mailed copies are not accepted since we must have your original signature authenticating the change you are wanting us to make to your official records.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS and/or CHANGE OF NAME FORM

NAME OF LICENSEE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF CHANGE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 WV LICENSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME CHANGED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check only one preferred mailing address:

(The preferred mailing address is your address of record and is public information. Telephone numbers are not public information.)

( ) Principal Office Address

( ) Home Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ (Original Signature of Licensee is Required)

Fee for Address Change: \$10.00

Fee for Name Change: \$10.00