

Board of Examiners in Optometry
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Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

January 31, 2013

Jan Murray, Executive Officer

Mission

The Kansas State Board of Examiners in Optometry administers and enforces the provisions of Kansas Optometry Law so that the highest quality of eye care is provided to the citizens of Kansas.

Strategies

- Maintain high standards for new license applicants
- Require quality continuing education for license renewal
- Investigate and resolve complaints from consumers promptly
- Ensure compliance with Kansas statutes regarding the practice of optometry
- Provide open records license verification to health care providers and health insurance entities

Current Issues

- Investigations into violations of KAR 65-10-2 regarding the relationship of optometrists and their rental agreements with large corporations are necessary to eliminate any influence on the professional judgment of the optometrist.
- The sale of colored contact lenses without a prescription continues to require investigations at beauty supply outlets, costume retailers and others.

Interaction with the Legislature and the Governor

- Fee funded agency- budget approved by legislators and governor
- Five member board appointed by the governor. Four optometrists and one public member appointed for 3 years terms.

Organizations Interface with

- Kansas Optometric Association (KOA)