

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF
OPTOMETRY



Hello Board members,

August 8, 2017

Policy alignment and process definition or enhancements were key themes for not only the quarterly Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Director's meeting with Board Presidents and Executive Officers, but for our own Dispensing Optician Committee (DOC) session as well.

To kick off the new fiscal year, DCA Director Dean R. Grafilo and members of his management team provided an overview of agency actions that will assist our Board and other DCA boards with streamlining processes through shared tools and administrative developments to support boards' mission of consumer protection.

DCA divisions provided an overview of the new Quality Business Interactive Reporting Tool, or QBIRT, licensing dashboard that provides transparency into pending application workload, new digital print services processes, legal affairs staff changes, project concepts for the future leadership development initiative, new board member per diem certification, and business modernization efforts, including an electronic transcript process using cloud technology piloted by the Board of Registered Nursing. Lastly, we heard about the Our Promise campaign, the only statutorily authorized workplace campaign for state of California employees. Details will be shared over the coming months.

Also within the same period, DOC held its [first meeting](#). To level set and launch the committee, representatives from DCA Legal and the Attorney General's offices provided an overview of procedural and regulatory requirements. Following this overview, the Committee framed key issues and priorities to be elevated to the Board. Education requirements, examination and certification procedures, licensing and application processes, and communications outreach to California's opticians are themes that rose to the top of the list. Committee Chair Ruby Garcia presented its outcomes and action plan for full Board consideration at our August meeting. A special thank you to all our DOC members for their insight, recommendations, and time devoted to the launch of this new advisory committee as defined through Assembly Bill 684.

Aside from the DCA and DOC meetings, our Practice and Education Committee met, evaluating applications from potential providers of continuing education credits for optometrists. The Committee uses such criteria as topical outline, contribution to the practice of optometry, and submission of curriculum vitae for professionals presiding over the courses when evaluating prospective providers.

I'll follow up with Board and committee activities again next month. Thank you, members, for your public service and for all that you do to advance consumer protection.

Cyd