

Goal 4: Enforcement

The Board protects the health and safety of consumers of optometric services through the active enforcement of the laws and regulations governing the safe practice of Optometry in California.

Objective 4.1: Review enforcement timing between initial offense and when it is conveyed to the Board to act upon in order to protect the consumer and maintain patient access to care.	Status: NOT STARTED SCD ¹ : Jan. 2019
Objective 4.2: Explore the feasibility of participating in the FBI rap back program to expedite and enhance enforcement efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed participation requirements with the FBI and DOJ • Requested assistance from the DCA • Discussed during January 2018 Director's Meeting • DOJ starting stakeholders meeting to determine project plan and resources needed. 	Status: IN PROGRESS SCD: Mar. 2018
Objective 4.3: Research the possibility of changing the statute to require licensees to self-report to the Board within thirty days of conviction or other disciplinary action as a means of expediting and enhancing enforcement efforts.	Status: NOT STARTED SCD: Jun. 2018
Objective 4.4: Research the possibility of requiring licensees to enroll in the national practitioner's databank to expedite and enhance enforcement efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Included in Board's Sunset Bill (AB 1708) effective January 1, 2018. • As of July 1, 2018, all applicants and licensees will be enrolled in NPDB and be charged \$2 for initial applications and \$4 during renewal to support NPDB. 	Status: COMPLETED Jan. 2018
Objective 4.5: Develop proactive methods to enforce the unlicensed sale and distribution of cosmetic contact lenses.	Status: NOT STARTED SCD: Jun. 2018
Objective 4.6: Establish a partnership with DCA Boards and county and state organizations to identify and address unlicensed activity (e.g. contact lens sales and expired prescriptions) in an effort to protect consumers.	Status: NOT STARTED SCD: Sept. 2018
Objective 4.7: Review the corrective action for compliance (and revise if necessary) in order to deter unlicensed activity	Status: NOT STARTED SCD: Dec. 2018
Objective 4.8: Analyze the 2012 disciplinary guidelines for optometrists and revise where necessary, to promote consistency and fairness with enforcement decisions and enhance consumer protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer Protection Committee's workgroup developed recommendations for CPC consideration during March 23, 2018 meeting • Recommendations to be considered by full Board during April 20 Board meeting 	Status: IN PROGRESS SCD: Dec. 2018
Objective 4.9: Adopt disciplinary guidelines for opticians to promote consistency and fairness with enforcement decisions and enhance consumer protection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed multiple times during DOC meetings; held various workgroup meetings • DOC workgroup proposing recommendations during April 19 DOC meeting 	Status: IN PROGRESS SCD: July. 2018
Objective 4.10: Improve working relationships with the Attorney General's Office, Division of Investigation, District Attorneys and other Government Agencies to identify and fix enforcement bottlenecks and streamline enforcement processes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with DAG Liaison to streamline processes, update transmittal memos, and improve communication throughout all AG Offices • Met with Northern Area Commander at DOI to discuss concerns and improve investigation quality; requesting additional meetings with Southern Area Commander and the Division Chief 	Status: IN PROGRESS SCD: July. 2018
Objective 4.11: Develop and implement a new inspection program using best practices from other existing programs within DCA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researched existing inspection programs and presented information during Dec. 2017 CPC meeting • Inspection "tools" being discussed/developed during March 23, 2018 meeting 	Status: IN PROGRESS SCD: July. 2018