

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
INFORMAL CONFERENCE
JANUARY 26, 2010
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
HENRICO, VIRGINIA**

- TIME & PLACE:** The informal conference hearing was called to order at 12:40 p.m., at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Training Room 2, Henrico, Virginia.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** David H. Hettler, O.D.
Gregory Jellenek, O.D.
- STAFF PRESENT:** Leslie L. Knachel, Executive Director
Peter Oppen, Adjudication Analyst, APD
Carol Stamey, Operations Manager
- MATTER SCHEDULED:** **Omar A. Manna, O.D., 0618000543**
Compliance Case No.: 119805
Case No.: 124434
- PRELIMINARY MATTERS:** The Chair noted that the time was 12:40 p.m. and Dr. Manna had been noticed to appear before the Special Conference Committee (SCC) at 12:30 p.m. Ms. Stamey advised the SCC that the Notice and an Amendment notification had been mailed to Dr. Manna's address of record with the Board of Optometry. Additionally, she informed the SCC that both the certified Notice and Amendment notification had been returned as "unclaimed"; however, the regular mail had not been returned.
- RULING:** The Chair determined that Dr. Manna had been properly noticed; therefore, the informal conference would proceed in his absence.
- DISCUSSION:** Dr. Manna did not appear before the SCC in accordance with a Notice of Informal Conference dated December 4, 2008. Dr. Manna was not represented by counsel. The SCC considered the information contained in the informal conference package.
- CLOSED SESSION:** On properly seconded motion by Dr. Jellenek, the SCC recessed Open Session and convened in

Closed Session pursuant to §2.2-3711(A)(28) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter regarding **Omar A. Manna, O.D.** Additionally, it was moved that Peter Opper, Administrative Proceedings Division and Ms. Knachel, Executive Director, attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the SCC in its deliberations.

OPEN SESSION:

Having certified that the matters discussed in the preceding closed session met the requirements of §2.2-3712 of the Code, the SCC reconvened in open session and announced its decision.

DECISION:

Upon a motion by Dr. Jellenek, and duly seconded by Dr. Hettler, the SCC voted to remand the matter to the full board for a formal hearing.

ADJOURNMENT:

The conference adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

David H. Hettler, O.D.
Chair

Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H.
Executive Director