

**BEFORE THE FITNESS TO PRACTISE COMMITTEE  
OF THE GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**IO(08)09**

**AND**

**JAMES PAUL HANDS (01-18422)**

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**DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR AN INTERIM ORDER**

**- 15 DECEMBER 2008 –**

**PRIVATE HEARING**

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The Fitness to Practise Committee considered an application for an Interim Order made by the Council.

The Committee has accepted the legal advice and the principles of guidance set out in the case of *Shiekh v GDC*. The Committee is satisfied that it is necessary for the protection of the members of the public and is otherwise in the public interest that the registrant's registration be made subject to conditions as set out in the attached schedule.

The Committee ordered that the registrant's registration be made subject to conditions for a period of 18 months from today. The order will be reviewed within 6 months from today unless all matters are resolved within that time, or earlier should new evidence be made available, or if the registrant, at any time after three months from today's date, requests an early review.

**Chairman of the Committee: Mercy Jeyasingham**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date 15 December 2008

## SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

1. Due to you being a locum practitioner across multiple practices, you must furnish the Registrar with the full contact details of a professional colleague who would be prepared to monitor your conditions and provide reports to the Registrar every six months providing details of any progression or regression in the specified areas.
2. The GOC will enter these conditions against your name in the register save any conditions which relate to your health. You must allow the Registrar to share any information, including confidential information, with any employer, supervisor, professional colleague or any organisation for which you provide ophthalmic services for the duration of your conditional registration.
  - (a) You must also allow the Registrar to share this information with other regulatory bodies and the Department of Health.
3. You must notify the Registrar within 14 days of commencement of any professional appointment you accept whilst you are subject to these conditions (this includes any teaching posts) and provide contact details of your employer and if providing ophthalmic services under a NHS contract, the PCT on whose ophthalmic practitioners list you will be included (this includes any equivalent employer in the EC).
4. You must inform the Registrar within 14 days of any criminal convictions, police cautions or formal disciplinary proceedings taken against you from the date of this determination.
5. You must inform the Registrar:
  - a. If you cease working;
  - b. If your work takes you out of the UK for a significant period of time; or
  - c. Of any employment you apply for outside of the UK (and in which countries)

as conditions of registration only apply to practice undertaken in the UK (you must consider whether your time out of work or out of the UK will allow you to fulfil the conditions during the period of conditional registration). The Registrar may inform the relevant competent authorities in that country of your current conditions of UK registration.
6. You must continue to fulfil the CET requirements under the GOC CET scheme to secure appropriate points for continued inclusion on the GOC register.
7. You must inform the following parties that your registration is subject to conditional registration:
  - a. Any organisation or person employing or contracting with you to undertake ophthalmic services (to include any locum agency);
  - b. Any prospective employer (whether within the UK or EC);
  - c. The PCT in whose ophthalmic practitioners list you are included or seeking inclusion.

8. You must ensure that your GOC registration is renewed by 15 March annually while you are subject to the GOC FTP conditional registration procedures. Should you fail to renew your registration, a review hearing will be arranged immediately.
9. You must restrict yourself to locum work at no more than 7 practices (physical locations rather than companies). You must within 7 days of today's date inform the Registrar of the details of these practices and a contact name and number at each. The GOC will, within 7 days of receipt of that information, write to the contact at each practice informing them of the conditions attached to your registration. If you wish to work at a practise other than one of the seven initially named, you must write to the Registrar informing her of the details of the practice and a contact name. The GOC will within 7 days of receipt of that letter write to the contact informing them of the conditions attached to your registration. All the above letters from the registrant must be sent by recorded deliver post.