

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

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**F(23)06**

**AND**

**MARTYN STEWART (D-17306)**

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**NOTICE OF INQUIRY  
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

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Take notice that an inquiry will be conducted in the above matter by the Fitness to Practise Committee of the General Optical Council.

A substantive hearing will be proceeding:

**Remotely**

The substantive hearing will take commence at 9:30am on **Monday 19 June 2023 – Friday 23 June 2023** by way of video conference or telephone conference facilities.

The Inquiry will be based upon the allegation submitted by the Council (see below) and will determine whether the fitness to practise of **Martyn Stewart** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

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Vineeta Desai  
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

**12 May 2023**

## ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Martyn Stewart D-17306, a registered dispensing optician:

1. On one or more occasions between 19 March 2019 and 27 October 2020 you knowingly processed false refund transactions to the value of approximately £3,915.00; and/or
2. On or around 19 October 2020 you:
  - a. knowingly processed a false refund transaction to the value of approximately £67.50; and/or
  - b. removed £70 from the till; and/or
3. On or around 21 October 2020 you:
  - a. knowingly processed a false refund transaction to the value of approximately £39.10; and/or
  - b. removed £40 from the till; and/or
4. On or around 26 October 2020 you:
  - a. knowingly processed a refund transaction to the value of £39.10; and/or
  - b. removed £40 from the till; and/or
5. On or around 27 October 2020 you:
  - a. knowingly processed a refund transaction to the value of £39; and/or
  - b. placed £1 into the till to cover the variant when you removed £39 from the till;
6. Your conduct as set out above at 1, 2, 3, 4 and/or 5 was inappropriate and/or dishonest in that you knew:
  - a. the refund(s) did not arise from legitimate transactions; and/or
  - b. you were not entitled to the refund money.

And by virtue of the facts set out above, your fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct.

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**Committee Members:** Julia Wortley (Lay)  
Asmita Naik (Lay)  
Victoria Smith (Lay)  
Claire Cowen (Dispensing Optician)  
Jessica Shrimplin (Dispensing Optician)

**Legal Adviser:** Aaminah Khan

**Hearings Officer:** TBC

**Transcribers:** Marten Walsh Cherer Limited

If you require further information relating to this hearing, please contact the Council's Hearings Manager at [hearings@optical.org](mailto:hearings@optical.org).