

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(22)34

AND

DANIEL HOLDEN - (D-17064)

**NOTICE OF INQUIRY
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

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 **Tuesday 04 April – Thursday 06 April 2023** and **Tuesday 11 April – Thursday 13 April 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 **Daniel Holden** is impaired by virtue of the provisions contained in section 13D(2) of the Opticians Act 1989.

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

01 February 2023

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Daniel Holden (D-17064), a registered Dispensing Optician:

In the course of your employment at Specsavers [redacted] you are alleged to have carried out the following:

1. Between the 01 September 2020 and the 20 March 2021, you failed to declare accurate till takings relating to 13 separate dates;
2. Between 01 October 2020 and the 26 January 2021, you fraudulently kept monies from the till takings belonging to [redacted] to the value of £1,737.08 on the following dates:
 - a. £297.91 on 13 October 2020;
 - b. £139.30 on 29 October 2020;
 - c. £404.75 on 2 November 2020;
 - d. £58.75 on 8 November 2020;
 - e. £219.00 on 14 November 2020;
 - f. £192.10 on 30 November 2020;
 - g. £142.75 on 6 December 2020;
 - h. £134.10 on 14 December 2020;
 - i. £45.77 on 26 January 2021;
 - j. £102.65 on 26 January 2021
3. On or around 17 April 2021 you conducted the cash reconciliation of the 16 April 2020's till takings and you:
 - a. Stole £10 belonging to [redacted];
 - b. Whilst completing cash reconciliation, you deliberately recorded false information, namely recording £9.91 short in takings for the 16th April 2021;
 - c. Declared the takings for 17 April 2020 was short of £20.01;
4. On or around 19 April 2021 you:
 - a. Stole £20 belonging to [redacted];
 - b. Whilst completing the cash reconciliation, you deliberately recorded false information, namely recording £20.01 short in takings for the 17th April 2021.

5. On or around 19 April 2021 you
 - a. stole £40 belonging to [redacted];
 - b. deliberately declared false information, namely recording £39.92 short in takings for the 18 April 2021;
6. On 28 April 2021 you:
 - a. Stole £30 belonging to [redacted];
 - b. Declared false information, namely recording £9.98 short in takings for the 27th April 2021;
 - c. When conducting the cash reconciliation, deliberately recorded false information namely, recording £60 cash notes rather than £50.00;
7. Your conduct noted in 1, 2, 3) a – c, 4) a – b, 5) a – b, 6) a – c and 7 above was inappropriate and/or dishonest in that you;
 - a. knew you were not entitled to the money; and/or
 - b. knew you were falsely declaring the shortfall in the takings to conceal your conduct.
8. You have the [redacted] set out in Schedule A;

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

Schedule A
[redacted]

Committee Members:

Ms Pamela Ormerod (Lay)

Ms Alice Robertson- Rickard (Lay)

Ms Asmita Naik (Lay)

Ms Catherine Kimpton (Dispensing Optician)

Mr Phil Cross (Dispensing Optician)

Legal Adviser:

Mr Paul Housego

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.