

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

**GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL**

**F(22)31**

**AND**

**BHARAT AGGARWAL (01-9535)**

---

**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:

**Blended hearing**

This means part of the hearing will be held physically in person and part of the hearing will be held remotely via video conference facilities.

The substantive hearing will take place on:

Physically – **Tuesday 18 to Friday 21 April 2023 at the GOC Offices: 10 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7NG** from **09:30am**.

Remotely – **Tuesday 25 April 2023** via MS Teams at **9:30am**.

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

---

Vineeta Desai  
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

**06 December 2022**

## ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Bharat Aggarwal (01-9535), a registered optometrist whilst working at Boots Opticians:

- 1) On one or more occasions between 23 November and 28 December 2019, caused or allowed the ordering of trial contact lenses at the [redacted] branch for your personal use.
- 2) On or around 13 December 2019, caused or allowed the ordering trial contact lenses at the [redacted] branch for our personal use: and/or
- 3) Your actions in 1 and 2 above were inappropriate in that you:
  - a) knowingly ordered contact lenses without a patient record or prescription for your personal use: and/or
  - b) took lenses from the trial bank without consent for your personal use.
- 4) Your actions in 1 and 2 above were dishonest in that you:
  - a) knowingly ordered contact lenses without a patient record or prescription for your personal use: and/or
  - b) took lenses from the trial bank without consent for your personal use.

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

---

**Committee Members:** Sara Fenoughty (Chair)  
Victoria Smith (Lay)  
Diane Roskilly (Lay)  
Ann Barrett (Optometrist)  
Kalpana Theophilus (Optometrist)

**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).