

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

GENERAL OPTICAL COUNCIL

F(23)18

AND

TAJINDER GHATTAORA (01-26738)

**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:

Physical hearing

The substantive hearing will take place on **Monday 02 October 2023 – Friday 13 October 2023, at 10 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7NG, commencing at 09.30am.**

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

Vineeta Desai
Hearings Manager, General Optical Council

18 July 2023

ALLEGATION

The Council alleges that you, Tajinder Ghattaora 01-26738 , a registered optometrist:

1. On an unknown date during 2021 you;
 - a. Created a false receipt using a receipt belonging to another patient who paid £340.00 for glasses by sticking together the top part of your receipt and the bottom half patient's receipt and;
 - b. Created a false receipt using a receipt belonging to another patient who paid the value of £437.50 by sticking together the top part of your [redacted] receipt and the bottom half of the patient's receipt.
2. On or around 24 May 2021 you knowingly submitted a false claim form for spectacles dated 30 April 2021 for yourself to Simply Health a third-party insurance provider for the value of £340; and/or
3. On or around 22 July 2021 you knowingly submitted a false claim form for spectacles [redacted] dated 17 July 2021 to Simply Health a third- party insurance provider for the value of £437.50; and/or
4. Your actions as described in (1) (2) and 3 above were dishonest in that you knew:
 - a. the receipt confirming the amount paid for did not belong to you and was created by you with the intention to show you had purchased the spectacles and/or,
 - b. the information you provided to Simply Health was incorrect; and/or
 - c. that the claim forms submitted were false as you had not purchased any spectacles; and/or
 - d. you submitted the claim forms in an attempt to gain money from the insurance provider for your own personal gain.
5. You have the [redacted] set out in Schedule A.

Schedule A

[redacted]

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

Committee Members: Ms Pamela Ormerod (Lay)
Ms Alice Robertson- Rickard (Lay)
Ms Asmita Naik (Lay)
Mr David Cartwright (Optometrist)
Ms Sarvat Fida (Optometrist)

Legal Adviser: TBC
Clinical Adviser: Dr Desmond Dunleavy
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.