

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE OPTOMETRY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY	:	
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST	:	FINAL DECISION
	:	AND ORDER
JOSEPH T. ABBOUD, O.D.,	:	
RESPONDENT.	:	
	:	

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The parties to this proceedings for the purpose of Wis. Stats. sec. 227.16 are:

Joseph T. Abboud, O.D.  
1101 Sundance Drive  
Mosinee, Wisconsin 54455

State of Wisconsin Optometry Examining Board  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
P. O. Box 8936  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Department of Regulation & Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

A party aggrieved by this decision may petition the Board for rehearing within twenty (20) days after service of this decision, pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.12. This petition would be captioned with Joseph T. Abboud as the respondent.

A party aggrieved by this decision may also petition for judicial review by filing the petition in the office of the clerk of the circuit court for the county where the judicial review proceedings will be held and serving the Board and other parties with a copy of the petition for judicial review within thirty (30) days after service of this decision pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.16. The party to be named as respondent in this petition would be the State of Wisconsin, Optometry Examining Board.

The parties to this matter have agreed to the terms of the attached stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Board. The Board has reviewed the stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board makes the following:

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Joseph T. Abboud (Dr. Abboud) is and was at all times relevant hereto duly licensed as an optometrist in the State of Wisconsin.

2. On or about August 11, 1980, Allan Zelinski visited R. A. Kosterman, O.D. for an eye examination.

3. On or about September 4, 1980 Dr. Abboud examined the eyes of Zelinski at the ShopKo Optical Center in Rothschild, Wisconsin where respondent was working as an optometrist. Zelinski came to respondent for the purchase of soft contact lenses.

4. At this September 4, 1980 appointment, Zelinski informed Dr. Abboud that Zelinski had been examined two weeks previously by Dr. Kosterman.

5. Ophthalmoscopic examination by Dr. Abboud on September 4, 1980 revealed an area on the back of Zelinski's right eye which respondent diagnosed as evidence of old, inactive choroiditis. Dr. Abboud was unable to obtain, with correction, 20/20 vision in Zelinski's right eye.

6. Dr. Abboud then informed Zelinski that Zelinski had an old, inactive inflammation in his right eye, which made vision in that eye not as good as vision in the left eye.

7. Dr. Abboud did not contact Dr. Kosterman to determine the results of Kosterman's last eye examination of Zelinski.

8. Dr. Abboud did not refer Zelinski to any other health care specialist for a further examination of Zelinski's right eye.

9. On September 4, 1980, Zelinski was suffering from Coat's disease in his right eye. Coat's disease is a condition in which abnormal blood vessels develop in the eye.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

10. Dr. Abboud, by his above-described failure to refer Zelinski to a medical specialist for further evaluation, is subject to disciplinary action by the Optometry Examining Board pursuant to Wis. Stats. secs. 449.07(1)(fm) and 449.19.

11. Therefore it is ORDERED that:

The license of Joseph T. Abboud be suspended for thirty (30) days.  
Said suspension shall commence on the first day of July, 1982.

Dated this 7th day of July, 1982

OPTOMETRY EXAMINING BOARD

BY: Arleta E. Hill, C.O.  
A Member of the Board