



# AMERICAN BOARD OF OPTICIANRY NATIONAL CONTACT LENS EXAMINERS



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ABO-NCLE Establishes New Management and Financial Procedures Following Termination of Two Employees

Springfield Virginia, December 15, 2010 – The American Board of Opticianry and the National Contact Lens Examiners (ABO/NCLE) have established new management and financial procedures and controls following the embezzlement of \$1.5 million from the organizations.

Amidst concerns of inappropriate management practices, the ABO and NCLE boards launched an investigation of their office administration and management in early 2010. The investigation found suspected financial impropriety involving ABO/NCLE Executive Director Michael Robey. Robey was immediately suspended and terminated from his position in March 2010. He pleaded guilty to four counts of embezzlement in November 2010 and is awaiting sentencing.

The investigation later found alleged financial impropriety involving ABO/NCLE Chief Financial Officer Carletta Carter-Stewart, who was terminated in August 2010. Carter-Stewart was arrested on December 9, 2010 and charged with seven counts of embezzlement.

Based on results of a complete management and financial audit, ABO/NCLE has upgraded its management procedures, implemented additional internal controls, established a lockbox for receivables, and hired a new accounting firm.

“Despite this incident, ABO and NCLE remain financially strong organizations capable of serving the certification needs of the optical community,” said ABO/NCLE Executive Director Jim Gandorf. “We are implementing every measure possible to assure that no further problems of this type will be repeated.”

For more information about ABO/NCLE, visit [www.abo-ncle.org](http://www.abo-ncle.org).

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*The American Board of Opticianry (ABO) and the National Contact Lens Examiners (NCLE) are national not-for-profit organizations whose missions are to identify qualified ophthalmic dispensers for the public and for the ophthalmic community by certifying those who pass professionally developed examinations. ABO certifies opticians, those who dispense and work with spectacles while NCLE certifies those ophthalmic dispensers who fit and work with contact lenses.*