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GOVERNOR

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BOARD OF LICENSURE IN MEDICINE 137  
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SHERIDAN R. OLDHAM, M.D.  
CHAIRMAN

RANDAL C. MANNING  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am writing in response to your complaint about Dr. Holt and subsequent complaints about the Board and its processes. The Board recently reviewed the new information you provided regarding Dr. Holt and your complaint with the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The Board was able to review this information as a result of your perseverance in pursuing what you felt was an injustice. The Board recognizes and thanks you for your efforts.

Following its review of the new information, including an opinion by an expert in the field, it concluded that its original decision regarding informed consent was not correct. Therefore, the Board voted to reconsider its disposition of the original complaint. Following its reconsideration, the Board voted to dismiss the complaint and issue Dr. Holt a letter of guidance that includes his personally taking the time and effort to discuss risks, benefits and alternatives of refractive surgery that is tailored to each patient's clinical exam and not delegate this ethical responsibility. This recommendation is critical in refractive surgery because of the emotional/psychological importance patient's place on their eyesight and the elevated expectations of results by media advertising that are promised but may not be fulfilled.

A letter of guidance is not discipline, but is a public document that will remain in Dr. Holt's file for ten years. You will receive a copy of the letter for your file as well as a copy of the minutes following the next Board meeting.

The Board would like to thank you again for your perseverance in this matter and allowing the Board to examine its processes. Although it has taken you a great deal of time, your efforts have allowed the Board to improve the way in which it investigates and reviews complaints. The Board strives for excellence and improvement. It is committed to increasing its use of outside consultant expertise in reviewing cases.

If you have any questions or additional comments, please contact me at (207) 287-3608 or toll free in Maine at (888)365-9964.

Timothy Terranova.  
Consumer Assistant

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CR06-326

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