

BEFORE THE IOWA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY

IN THE MATTER OF	CASE NO.: 2025-0358
JARED KELLAR,	COMBINED STATEMENT OF
RESPONDENT	CHARGES, SETTLEMENT
	AGREEMENT, AND FINAL ORDER

COME NOW the Iowa Board of Optometry (“Board”) and Jared Kellar (“Respondent”), and enter into this combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement and Final Order (“Order”) pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.10(2), 272C.3(4), and 272C.10 and 481 Iowa Administrative Code rule 506.35.

A. BACKGROUND

1. **Iowa License.** Respondent was issued Iowa Optometry license no. 002393 on June 25, 2007. Respondent’s license is active and expires on June 30, 2026.
2. **Practice Setting.** Respondent was practicing as an optometrist in Mason City, Iowa, at all times relevant to this Order.
3. **Jurisdiction.** The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Iowa Code Chapters 17A, 147, 154, and 272C.
4. **Allegations.** The Board received complaints alleging that Respondent downloaded photos of a previous patient from her social media account, including one photo taken when she was underage, and used those photos to create videos using artificial intelligence without her consent. The Board also received information alleging that Respondent asked another patient out on a date during an appointment, and went on to date that patient for one to two weeks. Respondent admitted to having a sexual relationship with that patient.

B. STATEMENT OF CHARGES

COUNT I

5. Respondent is charged with unethical conduct in violation of Iowa Code section 147.55(3) and Iowa Administrative Code rule 481—504.2(27).

C. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

6. Respondent acknowledges that the allegations in the Statement of Charges, if proven in a contested case hearing, would constitute grounds for the discipline agreed to in this Order.

7. To resolve this matter without proceeding to hearing, Respondent consents to be cited for the counts listed in section B, and agrees to the conditions as specified in Section D.

8. In entering this Order, Respondent acknowledges the following:

- a. This Order is subject to the approval of the Board and will have no force or effect if it is not accepted by the Board.
- b. Counsel for the State will present this Order to the Board *ex parte*.
- c. I have the right to be represented by counsel in this matter.
- d. I understand I have an opportunity to be heard and to contest the allegations against me in a formal hearing before the Board and that, by waiving the formal hearing, I waive my right to challenge the allegations against me and all attendant rights, including the right to seek judicial review of the Board's actions.
- e. I waive my ability to review the investigative file in this case.
- f. I understand this Order will be part of my permanent licensure file and may be considered by the Board in determining the nature and severity of any disciplinary action to be imposed in the event of any future violations.

- g. I am voluntarily entering into this Order.
 - h. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Order shall be grounds for further disciplinary action pursuant to Iowa Code § 272C.3(2)(a).
 - i. I understand the Board is required by federal law to report this Order to the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). The report to the database will reflect the language included in this Order.
 - j. I understand I am responsible for all expenses incurred to comply with the conditions and requirements of this Order.
9. Respondent shall submit a copy of this Order to all licensing boards where Respondent holds a license, whether active or not, within **THIRTY days** of the date of the Board approval of this Order.
10. This Order constitutes discipline against Respondent and is the final agency action in a contested case pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.10.
11. This Order shall not preclude the Board from taking additional action against Respondent should Respondent violate laws, rules, or standards of practice administered by the Board in the future.
12. This Order becomes a public record available for inspection and copying upon execution in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code Chapters 17A, 22, and 272C.
13. The Board's approval of this Order shall constitute a **Final Order** of the Board.

D. FINAL ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

14. **PROBATION:** Respondent is hereby placed on **PROBATION** for a period of **ONE (1) YEAR**, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- a. **Monitoring:** Within ten (10) days of this Order, Respondent shall contact Marvin Firch, Monitoring Coordinator/Case Manager, 6200 Park Avenue Suite 1, Des Moines, Iowa 50321, who may be reached by phone at 515-281-5525 or email at marvin.firch@dia.iowa.gov
- b. **Quarterly Reports:** Respondent shall file sworn quarterly reports attesting to his compliance with all the terms and conditions of this Order. The quarterly reports shall include a description of Respondent's compliance with the Mental Health Counseling requirement described below. The reports shall be filed not later than January 20th, April 20th, July 20th, and October 20th of each year of Respondent's probation.
- c. **Board Appearances:** Respondent shall make an appearance before the Board upon request. Respondent shall be given written notice of the date, time and location for the appearances. Such appearances shall be subject to the waiver provisions of Iowa Administrative Code rule 481—503.7.
- f. **Board Approval of Termination:** Termination of probation is subject to approval of the Board upon the Board's finding that Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order to the Board's satisfaction.

15. **MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING:** Respondent is required to engage in regular mental health counseling. Respondent has sixty (60) days from the date of this Order to initiate counseling and shall provide the evaluation report dated April 9, 2026 to the mental health

counselor. Respondent shall continue counseling as long as recommended by the mental health counselor and shall complete any additional treatment recommended by the mental health counselor. Respondent shall sign any necessary releases for the Board to communicate with the mental health counselor to ensure compliance with this requirement.

16. **EDUCATION REQUIRED:** Respondent shall complete six (6) hours of continuing education on the subject of professional ethics within sixty (60) days of this Order. Respondent shall receive pre-approval of the courses from the Board and shall provide proof of completion to the Board. These continuing education hours may not be used towards Respondent's requirement for licensure.

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by Jared Kellar on this 11th day of May, 2026.

By: Jared Kellar, Respondent

FOR THE BOARD:

Voluntarily agreed to and accepted by the **IOWA BOARD OF OPTOMETRY** on this 2nd day of July, 2026.

Chair
Iowa Board of Optometry