LEGIS ALERT...ACTION NEEDED...
FTC COMMENT PERIOD ENDS OCT 26, 2015

Report CL Abuses to FTC, AOA and OOPA!

Take action NOW to be heard in Washington DC!

The FTC is seeking public comments in its scheduled 10 year review of regulations that implement the Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act (FCLCA). But the deadline for comment is October 26!

AOA will submit comprehensive formal comments on the rule before October 26. The process allows doctors to report violations of the FCLCA and affect federal regulatory policy that has a direct impact on patient safety.

We must loudly fight back against unscrupulous CL sellers’ tactics that put patients at increased risk and violate the letter and spirit of the law.

We need your stories!

This includes instances of patients being harmed, the receipt of duplicative or improper prescription requests, experiences related to incorrect or unauthorized contact lenses being sold, etc.

This comment period is uniquely timely as we fight against wreckless tactics by CL companies to interfere with the doctor - patient relationship, and organize against optometry for new state legislative battles.

It's time to tell your stories of unfair and dangerous tactics by CL companies....such as these we've heard from ODs across the country:

"We had two patients last week that came in after we contacted them concerning repeated requests from 1800 for orders with expired CL prescriptions. When they arrived they reported receiving their orders anyway. We have documents verifying our response within the appropriate time to deny the order."

What are your stories that will tell the FTC that CL companies are violating the law?

ACTION NEEDED BEFORE OCTOBER 26!

1. Send a report to the AOA at StopIllegalCLs@aoa.org.
2. Copy OOPA at janet@oregonoptometry.org and AOA Associate Director for Coding and

HEADS UP....THIS JUST IN...

CL company tactics in states like Oregon where they are already campaigning on UPP issues include publicly naming doctors who don't adhere strictly to the release of prescriptions as required by law. It is always important to respond appropriately to faxes from CL companies and to patient requests for prescriptions.
Regulatory Policy: Kara Webb at kcwebb@aoa.org.

3. Report the violations directly to the FTC via their online complaint system at https://ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#cmt.

OOPA is fighting for YOU - fight with us!

No advocacy alert is complete without reminding you how critical it is to have resources to educate legislators and their staffs on the importance to their constituents of pending legislation - Oregon patients, small optical businesses and Oregon’s optometric physicians.

Please go to www.oregonoptometry.org/support-optometry now and make a small monthly commitment to guard the practice against threats and outside interests.

OOPAC needs to be able to budget for upcoming legislative cycles - and recurring monthly commitments give us a clear picture of what we can commit to for the annual legislative cycle.

Is $50 a month too much to ask? $100? Please consider a commitment today.

Visit www.oregonoptometry.org/support-optometry now.

It is also critical to report CL violations to AOA, FTC and OOPA.

PROOF THAT OPTOMETRY'S VOICE MATTERS!

When 1800 Contacts tried collecting patient prescriptions via an obscure, pre-checked box that granted the retailer patient agency, doctors all over the country raised red flags.

The AOA contacted the FTC and as of September 22, 2015, 1800 Contacts changed its methods. Now an unwary patient can’t unintentionally grant authorization.

BE A PART OF DEFENDING PATIENTS AND OPTOMETRY. REPORT VIOLATIONS BEFORE OCTOBER 26.