UPDATE: National Association of Optometrists and Opticians v. Harris

In February 2013, the United States Supreme Court denied a petition to review the <u>Ninth Circuit decision</u> in the case of the *National Association of Optometrists and Opticians v. Harris*, upholding the constitutionality of Business and Professions Code <u>Sections 655</u> and <u>2556</u>.

California's Business and Professions Code <u>Section 655</u> prohibits business and financial relationships between optometrists and registered dispensing opticians, as well as between optometrists and optical companies that manufacture, sell, or distribute lenses, frames, or other such appliances. With the conclusion of the litigation in the above-referenced case and the closure of the subsequent "meet and confer" discussions conducted by the Attorney General's Office with national optical chain store retailers, the moratorium on enforcement has been lifted. Any legislation related to Section 655 may be found at www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

For more information, licensees are encouraged to consult the "California Laws and Regulations Related to the Practice of Optometry" 2015 Edition available at: http://www.optometry.ca.gov/lawsregs/laws.pdf .