



JIM GIBBONS  
*Governor*


STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
ATHLETIC COMMISSION

KEITH KIZER  
*Executive Director*

**Chairman:** John R. Bailey  
**Members:** Raymond "Skip" Avansino Jr., Bill D. Brady, T. J. Day, Pat Lundvall

## MEMORANDUM

*To:* ALL NEVADA LICENSEES

*From:* John R. Bailey, Chairman 

*Date:* October 22, 2008

*Subject:* Elective Eye Surgery

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The Commission, along with its Medical Advisory Board, wishes to advise its licensees that fighters who are considering elective surgery on their eyes during their competitive career should engage in a thorough discussion of the risks, benefits, and alternatives with their personal physician and an ophthalmologist, as any eye surgery has the potential to adversely affect a fighter's ability to be licensed and compete. This is especially important with respect to eye surgery involving the LASIK procedure where a flap is made on the eye.

Once a fighter has had any eye surgery (including but not limited to LASIK, LASEK, or PRK), the fighter needs to discuss with his/her treating physician the amount of time the fighter needs to refrain from training (especially sparring) and competition in order to sufficiently recover from the surgery. Likewise, such fighters are required to list the surgery on the Commission's Pre-Fight Questionnaire and on the ophthalmologic examination form submitted to the Commission.

The Commission and its staff appreciate your efforts to ensure that no fighter's health is ever compromised. If you have any questions or comments on this matter, please contact the Commission's Executive Director, Keith Kizer at (702) 486-2575. As always, please feel free to contact any Commissioner with any concerns you may have.

Thank you.

cc: Nevada Athletic Commissioners  
Medical Advisory Board Members  
Keith Kizer, Executive Director