

Ian Radford

Ian Radford joined the military in 1989 straight out of high school in Panama City, FL, and served in the US Air Force during Desert Storm. After military separation in 1994, he worked for a little over a year as an optical lab tech in Ocean, NJ before relocating to North Carolina. In 1996 he began work at Carteret Vision Center, where he was promoted to lab manager and began the Board's apprenticeship program; he completed his training under the Beasleys at the Optical Center of Havelock, and was licensed in 2004.

He began work with Wal-Mart Vision in Morehead City that same year, promoting quickly into Vision Center management in Rockingham. Wishing to go back into private practice and be closer to his children in Jacksonville, he was hired to open an optical dispensary in a surgery practice in Wilmington. Then an opportunity in optometry presented when he was hired by OD Jim Fanelli as his practice grew to become Cape Fear Eye Institute; as a staffer at CFEI, Radford became a Certified ParaOptometric and clinical manager, performing tasks including refractions, special testing and contact lens fittings.

In 2015 Radford returned to corporate-practice with Luxottica – initially with Sears and currently with Lenscrafters.

First appointed to fulfill an unexpired Board term in March 2016, Governor Cooper appointed Radford, after the 2017 election, to a full 3-year term with a 2020 expiration.