CLAIMS

1. A contact lens comprising:

a lens body configured to fit directly on the surface of an eye, wherein the lens body includes a first lens layer, a second lens layer, and a plurality of legible characters positioned between the first lens layer and the second lens layer; and

wherein the plurality of legible characters includes legible writing characters placed circumferentially about the lens and forming at least one word ~~are~~ visible to a third party observer when the contact lens is on the eye.

2. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the lens body includes a polymeric material and the plurality of legible characters are formed by ink enclosed in the polymeric material.

3. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein lens body includes hydrogel material and/or silicone material.

~~4. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters includes legible writing characters forming at least one word or at least two words.~~

4~~5~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters includes legible writing characters forming at least a two word saying.

5~~6~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the legible characters comprise at least one of letters, numbers, glyphs, and geometric shapes.

6~~7~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are positioned over and/or adjacent to a background of markings visible to a third party observer when the contact lens is on the eye.

7~~8~~. The contact lens of claim ~~7~~ 6 wherein the markings have the appearance of and/or enhance the appearance of an iris.

8~~9~~. The contact lens of claim 1 comprising markings visible to a third party observer when the contact lens is on the eye, the markings having the appearance of and/or enhancing the appearance of a limbal ring.

~~10. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are visible to a third party observer at a distance of approximately 7 cm to approximately 120 cm.~~

9~~11~~.The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are visible to a third party observer at a distance of approximately 7 cm, approximately 15 cm, approximately 23 cm, approximately 30 cm, approximately 45 cm, approximately two feet, approximately 60 cm, or approximately 120 cm.

~~12. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are arranged circumferentially.~~

10~~13~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are positioned in a peripheral zone of the lens body.

11~~14~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters are formed by ink.

12~~15~~. The contact lens of claim ~~14~~ 11 wherein the ink comprises thickener.

13~~16~~. The contact lens of claim ~~15~~ 12 wherein the thickener includes polyethylene glycol and/or glycerol.

14~~17~~. The contact lens of claim ~~14~~ 11 wherein the ink has a viscosity of approximately 1.0 Pa·s to approximately 1.8 Pa·s.

15~~18~~. The contact lens of claim 1 wherein the plurality of legible characters include a plurality of colors.

16~~19~~. A contact lens comprising:

a lens body configured to fit directly on the surface of an eye, the lens body including a polymeric material;

wherein the lens body includes a first lens layer and a second lens layer; and

markings visible to a third party observer at a distance of approximately 7 cm to approximately 120 cm when the contact lens is on the eye;

wherein the markings are encapsulated in the lens body between the first lens layer and the second lens layer.

17~~20~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings have the appearance of and/or enhance the appearance of an iris.

18~~21~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings have the appearance of and/or enhance the appearance of a limbal ring.

19~~22~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings are arranged circumferentially on the lens body.

20~~23~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings are positioned in a peripheral zone of the lens body.

21~~24~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the polymeric material includes hydrogel material and/or silicone material.

22~~25~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings are formed by ink.

23~~26~~. The contact lens of claim ~~25~~ 22 wherein the ink comprises thickener.

24~~27~~. The contact lens of claim ~~26~~ 23 wherein the thickener includes polyethylene glycol and/or glycerol.

25~~28~~. The contact lens of claim ~~25~~ 22 wherein the ink has a viscosity of approximately 1.0 Pa·s to approximately 1.8 Pa·s.

26~~29~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the markings include a plurality of colors.

27~~30~~. The contact lens of claim ~~19~~ 16 wherein the ~~legible characters~~ markings comprise at least one of drug delivery and vitamin delivery to an eye.