

DOCKET NO. 2016-131

IN THE MATTER OF	§	TEXAS BOARD OF
THE LICENSE OF	§	VETERINARY
JAY BENTON, D.V.M.	§	MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 18 day of October, 2016, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Jay Benton, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board's staff met on September 8, 2016, to consider alleged violations of the Veterinary Licensing Act and the Board's rules by Respondent.

Respondent, without admitting the truth of the findings and conclusions set out in this Agreed Order, wishes to waive a conference under Section 801.2056 and thereby dispose of the compliance issues set out below. Respondent agrees to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Order. In waiving the right to a conference, Respondent acknowledges understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of notice.

Upon the recommendation of the Staff Committee and with Respondent's consent, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Agreed Order as set forth below.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent, Jay Benton, D.V.M., of Silsbee, Texas holds Texas veterinary license 5448.

2. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent received notice, which may be required by law and by the rules of the Board. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied under Tex. Occ. Code Ann. Title 4 (Act). By entering into this Agreed Order, Respondent waives any defect in the notice and any further right to notice and hearing under the Act; Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2001.051-.054; and the Rules of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board Rules) (22 Tex. Admin. Code, Chapter 575).

3. On January 13, 2016, Board investigators conducted an on-site inspection of Respondent at Silsbee Animal Clinic in Silsbee, Texas. The inspection revealed that Respondent did not have an accurate balance on hand for beuthanasia or telazol. The controlled substance log showed a recorded balance of 353mls for beuthanasia, but the actual balance on hand was 250mls. This means that the facility was missing 103mls of beuthanasia. The controlled substance log showed a recorded balance of 5mls for telazol, but the actual balance on hand was 10mls. This means that the facility had an extra 5mls of telazol. The controlled substance log did not have an updated balance on hand for ketamine or tramadol. The facility had approximately 76.5mls of ketamine and 66 tablets of tramadol on hand.

4. The inspection also revealed that Respondent's patient records did not include details necessary to substantiate or document the examination, diagnosis, and treatment provided, or surgical procedures performed. Patient records did not include patient histories or any pre-existing conditions.

5. Following the inspection, Respondent was unable to provide proof of the minimum required continuing education hours for calendar year 2013. Respondent completed 13 of the required continuing education hours, leaving a 4 hour deficiency. Respondent failed to request a hardship exemption for any of the years. Respondent, at the time he renewed his license, reported to the Board that he had obtained all 17 hours of continuing education for the year.

Conclusions of Law

1. Respondent is required to comply with the provisions of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Chapter 801, Texas Occupations Code, and with the Board's Rules.

2. Based on the above Findings of Fact, Respondent has violated Rule 573.50, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES RECORDS KEEPING FOR DRUGS ON HAND, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to maintain a correct log balance for controlled substances on hand.

3. Based on the above Findings of Fact, Respondent has violated Rule 573.52, VETERINARIAN PATIENT RECORD KEEPING, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to make complete medical records.

4. Based on the above Findings of Fact, Respondent has violated Rule 573.64, CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, which requires a veterinarian to annually acquire seventeen (17) hours of acceptable continuing education.

5. Based on the above Conclusions of Law, Respondent has violated Section 801.402(6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, and is subject to disciplinary action by the Board:

801.402. GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION. A person is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 if the person:

(6) engages in practices or conduct that violates the board's rules of professional conduct.

6. Based on the above Conclusions of Law, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code:

801.401. DISCIPLINARY POWERS OF BOARD. (a) If an applicant or license holder is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.402, the Board may:

- (1) refuse to examine an applicant or to issue or renew a license;
- (2) revoke or suspend a license;
- (3) place on probation a license holder or person whose license has been suspended;
- (4) reprimand a license holder; or
- (5) impose an administrative penalty.

.... (d) In addition to other disciplinary actions authorized by this subchapter, the board may require a license holder who violates this chapter to participate in a continuing education program.

7. Based on the above Conclusions of Law, Respondent may be disciplined in the manner set out in Section 801.451, IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY, of the Veterinary Licensing Act, which authorizes an administrative penalty for violations of the Act and Board rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Respondent, be FORMALLY REPRIMANDED.

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date the Board approves this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date the Board approves this Order, the Board may apply any payment to the Board to renew a license to pay any outstanding administrative fee owed to the Board.

In addition, the Board ORDERS that Respondent complete FOUR (4) hours of continuing education, in addition to the seventeen required annually for renewal of Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine, within one year of the date the Board approves this Order. Documentation of the completion of the continuing education penalty shall be received within thirty (30) days after one year of the date the Board approves this Order. If Respondent fails to provide documentation of completion within thirty (30) days of one year of the date the Board approves this Order, Respondent's license may be suspended until the continuing education penalty is completed and documentation is received by the Board.

The Board further ORDERS that:

1. Respondent shall abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, and the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.

2. Respondent shall cooperate with the Board's attorneys, investigators, compliance officers and other employees and agents investigating Respondent's compliance with this Order.

3. Failure by Respondent to comply with the terms of this Agreed Order or with any other provisions of the Licensing Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, acknowledges understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth herein, and agrees to satisfactorily comply with the mandates of the Agreed Order in a timely manner or be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Board.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, waives the right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that Respondent had the right to be represented by legal counsel in this matter.

RESPONDENT WAIVES ANY FURTHER HEARINGS OR APPEALS TO THE BOARD OR TO ANY COURT IN REGARD TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREED ORDER. NOTHING IN THIS ORDER SHALL BE DEEMED A WAIVER OF RESPONDENT'S RIGHTS UNDER STATUTE OR UNDER THE UNITED STATES OR TEXAS CONSTITUTIONS TO APPEAL AN ORDER OR ACTION OF THE BOARD SUBSEQUENT TO THIS AGREED ORDER EXCEPT AS RESPONDENT MAY HAVE OTHERWISE AGREED TO HEREIN. RESPONDENT AGREES THAT THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.

The effective date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Board.

Signature page follows.

I, JAY BENTON, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ORDER CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

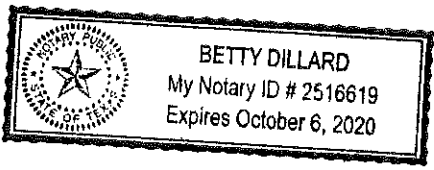
Jay Benton
Jay Benton, D.V.M.

Oct 6, 2016
Date

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF Tarrant §

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Jay Benton, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me that it was executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 6th day of Oct., 2016



Betty Dillard
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 18 day of October, 2016.

R. Lenarduzzi
Roland Lenarduzzi, D.V.M., Board President