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MAY 19 2016

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DOCKET NO. 2016-084

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

AGREED ORDER

On this the 19 day of July, 2016 came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Karen Bookout, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.408 of the Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rule 575.29, an informal conference was held on March 28, 2016. Respondent attended the informal conference and was represented by counsel. The Board was represented at the conference by the Board's Enforcement Committee.

Respondent, without admitting the truth of the findings and conclusions set out in this Agreed Order, wishes to waive a formal adjudicative hearing and thereby informally dispose of the issues without a formal adjudication. Respondent agrees to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges her understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to her.

Upon the recommendation of the Enforcement 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, Karen Bookout, D.V.M. of Houston, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 5450.
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 May 8, 2015, Tanya Wisler presented her six-year-old Chihuahua, JJ, to Dr. Karen Bookout for a cesarean section and a spay procedure. JJ had gone into labor the night before. Ms.

Wisler made arrangements to pick JJ up from Dr. Bookout's home later that evening. The cesarean section was performed by Dr. Meredith Feng, and a large dead fetus was removed from JJ's uterus. A few hours later, Dr. Bookout called Ms. Wisler to tell her that JJ was not doing well and that the spay procedure would not be performed.

4. That evening, Dr. Bookout brought JJ to Ms. Wisler's home and told her that JJ was probably going to die. She instructed Ms. Wisler to give JJ fluids, food, and to keep her warm. Ms. Wisler gave JJ fluids, but she was unresponsive and would not open her eyes. A few hours later, JJ passed away.

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 573.22, PROFESSIONAL STANDARD OF CARE, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to communicate to the client the severity of the patient's condition, failing to refer the patient to an emergency clinic, and failing to offering euthanasia, and, thus, failing to exercise the same degree of humane care, skill, and diligence in treating patients as are ordinarily used in the same or similar circumstances by average members of the veterinary medical profession in good standing in the locality or community in which they practice, or in similar communities.

3. Based on Findings of Fact 1 through 4 and Conclusions of Law 1 through 2, Respondent has violated Sections 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 practice or conduct that violates the board's rules of professional conduct.

4. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 through 3, 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: (a)

(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.

5. Based on the above Conclusions of Law, Respondent may be required to provide restitution to the client as set out in Section 801.408(e), INFORMAL PROCEEDINGS.

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 receive an INFORMAL REPRIMAND.

The Board further ORDERS that Respondent pay restitution to Tanya Wisler in the amount of \$1,528.83. Proof of restitution SHALL be provided to the Board no later than forty-five (45) days from the effective date of this Order.

The Board further ORDERS that:

1. Respondent shall abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, the laws of the State of Texas, and the laws of 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 Agreed 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 her understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and agrees that she will 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 her right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that she 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. 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.

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Texas State Board of
Veterinary Medical Examiners

I, KAREN BOOKOUT, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND THAT 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.

Karen Bookout

Karen Bookout, D.V.M.

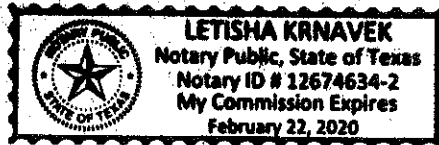
5/9/16

DATE

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF Fayette §

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

Given under the hand and seal of office this 9th day of May, 2016.



Letisha Kravek

Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 19 July, 2016

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