DOCKET NO. 2015-037
IN THE MATTER OF § TEXAS BOARD OF
THE LICENSE OF § VETERINARY
CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, D.V.M. § MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 21 day of July, 2015, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) the matter of the license of CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, D.V.M. (Respondent). Pursuant to Section 801.408, Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rule 575.29, an informal conference was held on February 20, 2015. Respondent did attend the informal conference. 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 his understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to him.

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, CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, D.V.M. of Fort Worth, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 4082.

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 March 19, 2014, Don Bossingham presented his nine (9) year old female Great Pyrenees canine named Daisy to Westridge Animal Hospital (the “Hospital”) for a teeth cleaning procedure by Respondent. Mr. Bossingham called the Hospital at approximately 2:30 p.m. and
was told to pick Daisy up at 4:00 p.m.

4. Between approximately 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Respondent contacted Mr. Bossingham and informed him that Daisy was in distress and needed to go to an emergency clinic. Mr. Bossingham stated that Respondent told him that he was not currently at the Hospital. Mr. Bossingham drove to the Hospital to pick up Daisy. At that time the office clerk and her boyfriend were the only people at the Hospital. Mr. Bossingham found Daisy unresponsive and on the floor. Mr. Bossingham loaded Daisy into his truck and took her to an emergency clinic.

5. Once he was at the clinic, Daisy had a temperature of 109 degrees. Danielle Snyder, D.V.M. examined Daisy at the emergency clinic and diagnosed her with malignant hyperthermia, which could be a reaction to anesthesia. Dr. Snyder reportedly told Mr. Bossingham that she wished she could have seen Daisy earlier.

6. Respondent provided the Board with his veterinary medical records for Daisy and the records fail to include the address and phone number of the client, age of the patient, temperature of the patient, name/dosage/concentration/and route of administration of each drug prescribed, administered, and dispensed, details necessary to substantiate the examination/diagnosis/and treatment provided, the identity of the veterinarian who practiced veterinary medicine on the animal, and the date and substance of any referral recommendation.

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 violated Rule 573.22, PROFESSIONAL STANDARD OF CARE, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, by 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 the above Findings of Fact, Respondent violated Rule 573.52, VETERINARY PATIENT RECORDKEEPING, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to include the address and phone number of the client, age of the patient, temperature of the patient, name/dosage/concentration/and route of administration of each drug prescribed, administered, and dispensed, details necessary to substantiate the examination/diagnosis/and treatment provided, the identity of the veterinarian who practiced veterinary medicine on the animal, and the date and substance of any referral recommendation.

4. Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, 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 practices or conduct that violates the board’s rules of professional conduct...

5. 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: (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.

.... (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.

6. 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 receive a FORMAL REPRIMAND.

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date the Board approves this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1000.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date the Board approves this Agreed Order, Respondent’s license may be suspended until the penalty is paid.

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In addition, the Board ORDERS that Respondent complete SIX (6) hours of continuing education with three of those hours being in recordkeeping and the other three in surgical anesthesia, 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 adopts this Order. Documentation of the completion of the continuing education penalty shall be received within thirty (30) days after one year of the date of this Order. If Respondent fails to provide documentation of completion within forty-five (45) days of one year of the date of 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 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 his understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and agrees that he 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 his right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that he 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.
I, CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, 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.

CHRISTOPHER BROOKS, D.V.M.  
DATE

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF Tarrant

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

Given under the hand and seal of office this 13 day of MARCH, 2015

Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 21st day of JUNE, 2015

Bud E. Alldredge, Jr., D.V.M., President

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