DOCKET NO. 2014-101

IN THE MATTER OF $  TEXAS BOARD OF
THE LICENSE OF $  VETERINARY
JEANNE T. CHUCLE, D.V.M. $  MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 8th day of June, 2014, came on to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of JEANNE T. CHUCLE, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.408, Texas Occupations Code and Board Rule 575.27, an informal conference was held on February 19, 2014. The Respondent was notified of the conference and waived her right to appear.

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


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 June 7, 2013, at approximately 8:00 a.m., Laurie Christensen of Houston, Texas, presented her female cat, "Kali" for grooming to Respondent at the 610 Pet Lodge Clinic in
Houston, Texas ("Clinic"). Prior to visiting the Clinic, Ms. Christensen was informed by Reginald Oliver, the groomer at the Clinic, that Kali would be administered a light sedative by Respondent to reduce her stress during grooming.

4. Ms. Christensen's partner, Karen Rogers, and grandson stated that they received a call from Mr. Oliver at 10:30 a.m. stating that Kali was experiencing difficulty recovering from anesthesia. Ms. Rogers went to the clinic approximately 10 to 15 minutes after the phone call and was told that Kali had passed away. Mr. Oliver further informed Ms. Rogers that Respondent had left the Clinic while Kali was under anesthesia.

5. Mr. Oliver stated that he administered Isoflurane anesthesia at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Oliver stated that he was not aware that Respondent had departed the clinic and had failed to inform Respondent that Kali needed to be sedated.

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 Finding of Facts 1 through 5, Respondent has violated Rule 573.10, SUPERVISION OF NON-LICENSED EMPLOYEES, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, which requires veterinarians to be directly responsible for all actions of non-licensed employees acting under the licensee's directions or authorization.

3. Based on Findings of Fact 1 through 5, Respondent has violated Rule 573.11, RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNLICENSED AND LICENSED EMPLOYEES, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, which provides that a veterinarian is subject to discipline if she or he improperly delegates care and/or treatment duties to a non-veterinarian, or fails to properly supervise the non-veterinarian performing delegated duties.

4. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, 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.

5. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 through 4, 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.

6. Based on Conclusions of Law 2 through 4, 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 JEANNE T. CHUCLE, D.V.M., be FORMALY REPRIMANDED.

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1500.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date of this Order, Respondent’s license may be suspended until the penalty is paid.

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 her understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein 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. 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.

I, JEANNE T. CHUCLE, 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.

[Signature]
JEANNE T. CHUCLE, D.V.M.

[Date]

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [Name]

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared JEANNE T. CHUCLE, 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 25th day of March, 2014.

TERESA ANN BURTON
Notary Public
STATE OF TEXAS
My Comm. Exp. 07-22-15
SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 3 day of June, 2014.

Bud E. Alldredge, Jr., D.V.M.
President of the Board