DOCKET NO. 2011-93

IN THE MATTER § TEXAS STATE BOARD OF

OF THE LICENSE OF § VETERINARY

ALICE A. DODGE, D.V.M. § MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this, the 18th day of Oct., 2011, came on to be considered by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Alice A. Dodge, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on July 26, 2011 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 an informal proceeding under Section 801.408 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 her understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice mailed to her.

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, Alice A. Dodge, D.V.M. of Houston, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 10093.

2. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent has received all notice that may be required by law and by the Board’s rules. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied.

3. From December 2008 to February 1, 2011, Respondent practiced veterinary medicine at Sunset Boulevard Animal Clinic in Houston, Texas.

4. On March 1, 2009, Respondent’s veterinary license expired when she failed to renew it. On March 1, 2010, Respondent’s veterinary license was cancelled for non-renewal.

5. On February 1, 2011, Respondent contacted the Board and determined that her veterinary license had been cancelled. Respondent immediately ceased practicing veterinary medicine at Sunset Boulevard Animal Clinic.
Respondent practiced veterinary medicine without an active license from March 1, 2009 to February 1, 2011.

On March 29, 2011, the Board voted to reinstate Respondent’s cancelled license, provided she meet the requirements for licensure under the Rules Pertaining to the Practice of Veterinary Medicine.

On April 18, 2011, the Board reinstated Respondent’s veterinary license.

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 Findings of Facts 1 through 8, Respondent has violated Section 801.251 of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, which prohibits the practice of veterinary medicine without a license.

3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (4) of the, 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:
   (4) engages in dishonest or illegal practices in, or connected with, the practice of veterinary medicine.

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:

   (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.
5. Based on Conclusions of Law 2 and 3, 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 is FORMALLY REPRIMANDED.

Additionally, the Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of 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 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 provision of the 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, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth, 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 hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Order. Respondent acknowledges that she is entitled to be represented by an attorney of Respondent’s choice at her expense in any hearing before the Board.

**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 date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

I, ALICE A. DODGE, 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.

Alice Anne Dodge, D.V.M.  Aug 12, 2011
Alice A. Dodge, D.V.M.

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Nacis

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Alice A. Dodge, D.V.M., known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Agreed Order, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 18 day of August, 2011.

Victoria T. Singley
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 18 day of Oct., 2011.

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