AGREED ORDER 2009-73

IN THE MATTER § TEXAS STATE BOARD

OF THE LICENSE OF § OF

CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, D.V.M. § VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this, the 26th day of October, 2009, came on to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to §801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on June 24, 2009, 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 §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 his understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice mailed to him.

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 set forth below.

Findings of Fact

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

2. As the result of a notification by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Board determined that Respondent failed to maintain a current DPS controlled substance registration since February 28, 2008. On May 11, 2009, Respondent told staff investigator, Michael Miller, that his failure to renew his license was an oversight, and that he renewed the license as soon as he discovered its expiration. Respondent was issued a new registration on September 15, 2008.

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 Fact 1 and 2, Respondent has violated Rule 573.43, MISUSE OF DEA NARCOTICS REGISTRATION, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct.
that a licensee may not prescribe, dispense, deliver or order delivered, any controlled substance, unless she is currently registered with the DEA and the DPS.

3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, Respondent has violated §801.402(6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, 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 §801.401 if the person:

(6) engages in practices or conduct that violates the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct.

4. Based on Conclusions of Law 1-3, Respondent may be disciplined in the manner set out in §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:

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of one thousand dollars ($500.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date of this Order, an enforcement action against Respondent will be initiated per the Board’s Rules and Act.

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 his understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth, and agrees that they 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 hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Order. Respondent acknowledges that he is entitled to be represented by an attorney of Respondent’s choice at their 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. 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 HEREFIN. 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.
CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, D.V.M.
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I, CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, 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.

CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, D.V.M.  7/14/09  DATE

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared CHRISTOPHER DURHAM, 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 10th day of 2009.

SUSAN D. VOGLER  
Notary Public  
State of Texas  
My Comm. Exp. 06-12-2013

SIGNED AND ENTERED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
on this the 26th day of October, 2009.

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