DOCKET NO. 2012-85

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

AGREED ORDER

On this the 24th of July, 2012, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of James Gibbs, D.V.M. Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on April 25, 2012 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 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


2. The Board has jurisdiction over both the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent received all notice and due process required by law and by the rules of the Board. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied under TEX. OCC. CODE ANN. Title 4 (the “Act”). By executing this Order, Respondent waives any judicial review, defect in notice, hearing and/or due process and/or any further right to judicial review, notice, hearing and/or due process under the Act, TEX. GOV’T CODE ANN. §§ 2001.051 through .054, and the Rules of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (22 TEX. ADMIN. CODE Chapter 575).

3. On July 26, 2011, an anonymous source reported to the Board’s peer-assistance provider, the Professional Recovery Network ("PRN"), that Respondent was consistently drinking alcohol
and abusing Oxycontin. On August 2, 2011, Emily Abel, Case Manage for PRN, sent a letter to Respondent regarding his potential substance abuse impairment. Ms. Abel spoke with Respondent on August 5, 2011, regarding his substance abuse impairment and requested that Respondent schedule an intake with PRN or she would report him to the Board. Respondent completed an intake with PRN and was referred to Dr. Greg Johnson for a mental health and chemical dependency evaluation.

4. On September 12, 2011, Ms. Abel received an evaluation of Respondent from Dr. Greg Johnson. The evaluation diagnosed Respondent as suffering from substance abuse, depression/situational disturbance, and personality disorder NOS. The evaluation recommended a 90-day inpatient treatment with pain management therapy, a five year PRN contract, 90 meetings in 90 days, and random drug testing. The evaluation noted that Respondent was not safe to practice and that he was impaired.

5. Ms. Abel stated on September 27, 2011, that she spoke to Respondent, who informed her that he had sold all of his equipment and planned on retiring. Ms. Abel requested that Respondent sign a contract with PRN but Respondent declined.

6. On January 25, 2012, Respondent provided Board Investigator Dennis Barker with a signed statement acknowledging that he was surrendering his license and did not plan to renew or re-instate it.

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 through 4, Respondent is in violation of Veterinary Licensing Act 801.402(3), because he has been evaluated by medical professionals and was determined to be “chronically or habitually intoxicated, chemically dependent, or addicted to drugs.”

3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, 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;

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(4) reprimand a license holder; or
(5) impose an administrative penalty.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, in lieu of any administrative penalties or reprimands associated with a finding of a violation of the Board’s rules and the Veterinary Licensing Act, Respondent agrees to voluntarily surrender his veterinary license and not seek reinstatement by the Board for five years from the date of this Order.

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 his understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein 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. 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, JAMES GIBBS, 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.

James Gibbs, D.V.M.

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Travis

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared James Gibbs, 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 23 day of July, 2012.

EMILIO V. MORALES
Notary Public
STATE OF TEXAS
Commission Exp. 11-23-2015

Notary without Bond

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the___ day of ______________, 2012.

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