DOCKET NO. 2016-192

IN THE MATTER OF § TEXAS BOARD OF

THE LICENSE OF § VETERINARY

REBECCA HUDSON, D.V.M. § MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 8th day of December, 2016, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.408 of the Texas Occupations Code, and Board Rule 575.29, an informal conference was held on October 17, 2016. Respondent attended 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 understanding the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided.

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, Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M. of Houston, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 7007.

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 May 12, 2015, Alejandro Marquez of Houston, Texas, presented his brother’s dog, a one and one-half year-old female English bulldog named Mia, for a scheduled surgical artificial insemination procedure to Respondent at Pet Check Up in Houston, Texas.

4. When Mr. Marquez arrived, Mia was panting heavily and had foaming saliva coming from her mouth with a dark tongue. Respondent advised Mr. Marquez that Mia appeared to be
going into heatstroke. Respondent’s staff took Mia’s temperature, which was 107 degrees Fahrenheit. Respondent placed a mask with isoflurane on Mia and intubated her. Mia then stopped breathing and her abdomen distended. Mia had no heartbeat upon chest auscultation. Respondent attempted live-saving measures, but was unable to resuscitate Mia.

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 has violated Rule 573.22, PROFESSIONAL STANDARD OF CARE, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, by masking and attempting to anesthetize an animal with a high temperature in respiratory distress, and, thus, 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 and Conclusions of Law, 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 practice or conduct that violates the board’s rules of professional conduct.

4. 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:

(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 the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and given the nature and severity of the violations, Respondent's violations are Class B violations under Rule 575.25, RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE OF SANCTIONS, and Respondent is subject to discipline under that Rule.

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.

In addition, the Board ORDERS that Respondent complete THREE (3) hours of continuing education in emergency care, 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 approves this Order. Documentation of the completion of the continuing education penalty shall be received within forty-five (45) days after one year of the date the Board approves this Order. If Respondent fails to provide documentation of completion within forty-five (45) days of one year of the date the Board approves 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, the laws of the State of Texas, and the laws of 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 understanding the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and agrees to 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 the right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges having understood 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

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Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M.
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.

Signature page follows.
I, REBECCA HUDSON, 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.

[Signature]
Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M.

[Signature]
November 8, 2016

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [HARRIS]

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me executing the same for the purposes stated therein.

[Signature]
Notary Public

Given under the hand and seal of office this 8th day of November, 2016

[Signature]
Roland Lenarduzzi, D.V.M., Board President

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Rebecca Hudson, D.V.M.