

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

**AGREED ORDER**

On this day the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (“Board”) considered the matter of the license of Atalla Ishak, D.V.M. (“Respondent”).

Respondent, without admitting the truth of the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set out in this Order, waived notice and hearing and agreed to the entry of this Order. Accordingly, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Order as set forth below.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Respondent, Atalla Ishak, D.V.M., of Irving, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 13273.
2. On August 25, 2016, Sierra Granger presented her 10-month-old American Bull Terrier, Luna, to Respondent at Guadalupe Animal Hospital in Irving, Texas, for a spay procedure. Respondent performed the procedure and stated that it was routine.
3. On August 30, 2016, Ms. Granger noted that Luna’s nipples and vaginal area were swollen, and her incision site appeared irritated. Ms. Granger presented Luna to Respondent, who assured her the surgery had been successful and prescribed antibiotics. Respondent’s medical records from this visit do not include details necessary to substantiate or document the examination, diagnosis, and treatment provided.
4. On March 17, 2017, Ms. Granger observed that Luna appeared to be in heat again, based on vaginal area swelling, blood, and an odor. Ms. Granger again presented Luna to Respondent. Respondent informed Ms. Granger that Luna likely had another infection, but Ms. Granger requested blood work. Respondent performed blood work, which indicated the presence of ovarian tissue. Two to three days later, Respondent reported to Ms. Granger that the results were negative but additional blood work would be required. Respondent’s medical records from this visit do not include details necessary to substantiate or document the examination, diagnosis, and treatment provided.

5. On March 23, 2017, Ms. Granger presented Luna to Respondent for additional blood work. Respondent's medical records from this visit do not include details necessary to substantiate or document the examination, diagnosis, and treatment provided.
6. On March 29, 2017, the laboratory reported the blood work results to Respondent. The blood work indicated active ovarian tissue. Ms. Granger tried multiple times to contact Respondent to discuss the results, but Respondent did not respond to her calls.
7. On April 19, 2017, Jennifer Garretson, D.V.M., who was serving as a relief veterinarian for Respondent, contacted Ms. Granger by telephone to report the results of the bloodwork.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 801, the Board has jurisdiction over this matter. Respondent is required to comply with the provisions of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Chapter 801, Texas Occupations Code, and with the Board's Rules. Respondent received notice as required by law.
2. Respondent has violated Board Rule 573.22, Professional Standard of Care, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct.
3. Respondent has violated Board Rule 573.52, Veterinarian Patient Record Keeping, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct.
4. Respondent has violated Section 801.402(6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code.
5. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Texas Occupations Code, Sections 801.401(a), and 801.451.
6. Pursuant to Board Rule 575.25, Respondent's violations are Class B violations, and Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under that Rule.

### **TERMS OF ORDER**

Now, therefore, the Board and Respondent agree to the following terms:

1. REPRIMAND
  - a. Respondent is hereby formally reprimanded by the Board. This formal reprimand may be published in the Board's newsletter and routinely reported to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) for inclusion in the national reporting database.
2. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY

- a. Respondent shall pay an administrative penalty of one thousand and five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) within 30 days of the date the Board approves this Order. Payment shall be made directly to the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at 333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-810, Austin, Texas 78701. Partial payments will not be accepted.
- b. If Respondent does not timely pay the administrative penalty, the Board may deny a request to renew Respondent's license until the outstanding administrative penalty is received, pursuant to Board Rule 573.62(b). Any monetary funds paid to the Board to renew a license shall first be applied to any outstanding unpaid administrative penalties, pursuant to Board Rule 571.57. Additionally, the matter may be referred to the Attorney General for collection, pursuant to Texas Occupations Code, Section 801.458.

### 3. CONTINUING EDUCATION

- a. In addition to the annual continuing education required for license renewal, Respondent shall complete three (3) hours of continuing education in the area of patient record keeping and three (3) hours of continuing education in the area of spaying and neutering within six months of the date the Board approves this Order. Respondent shall submit documentation of the completed continuing education penalty and the required annual continuing education to the Board within six months of the date the Board approves this Order. Documentation shall be submitted directly to the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at 333 Guadalupe Street, Suite 3-810, Austin, Texas 78701.

### 4. ADHERENCE TO THE LAW AND BOARD RULES

- a. Respondent shall abide by the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, and the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.
- b. Respondent shall cooperate with the Board's attorneys, investigators, compliance officers and other employees and agents investigating Respondent's compliance with this Order.
- c. Failure by Respondent to comply with the terms of this Order, or with any other provisions of the Veterinary Licensing Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

The effective date of the terms of this Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Board, unless stated otherwise.

*Certification and signature page follows.*

Received

DEC 04 2018

Texas State Board of  
Veterinary Medical Examiners

RESPONDENT'S CERTIFICATION

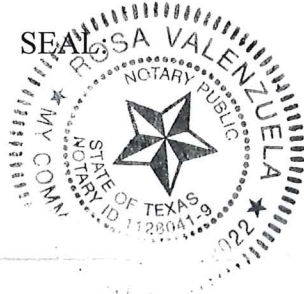
I understand that I have the right to legal counsel prior to signing this Order. I waive representation by counsel. I have reviewed this Order and understand the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of law set forth herein. I neither admit nor deny the violation(s) herein. I understand that this Order contains the entire agreement, and there is no other agreement of any kind. I waive the right to any further proceedings, including a formal hearing, and the right to seek judicial review of this Order.

I understand that this Order is subject to approval by the Board. I understand that the terms and conditions of this Order become effective upon approval by the Board. A copy of the approved Order will be mailed to me. By signing this Order, I agree to satisfactorily comply with the terms and conditions of the Order in a timely manner. I understand that if I fail to comply with all terms and conditions of this Order, I will be subject to investigation and appropriate disciplinary action as a result of my noncompliance.

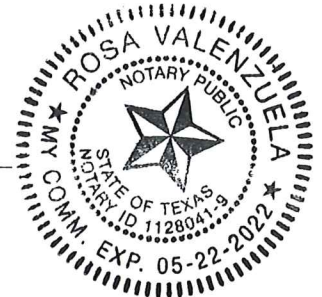
Signed this 20 day of November, 2018.

Atalla Ishak  
Atalla Ishak, D.V.M.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 20 day of November, 2018.



Rosa Valenzuela  
Notary Public



THEREFORE, the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners does hereby adopt this Order. This Order is effective and final on this 29th day of January, 2019.

Jessica Quillivan  
Jessica Quillivan, D.V.M., Presiding Board Member