DOCKET NO. 2008-94

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

AGREED ORDER

On this, the 12th day of FEB, 2008, came on to be considered by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (“Board”) the matter of the license of PENNY KELSO, D.V.M. (“Respondent”). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on August 20, 2008 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 Section 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 their understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice mailed to them.

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. On April 4, 2008, Dr. Penny Kelso, Lubbock, Texas, through her attorney, Jon Porter on another matter provided via facsimile proof of continuing education for calendar year 2006 to show proof of continuing education for calendar year 2007. The information received indicated Dr. Kelso had received a total of twenty-four (24) hours of continuing education during calendar year 2006, so that Dr. Kelso had seven hours that would roll-over to count for calendar year 2007. Ms. Cindy Alexander, TBVME, contacted Mr. Porter and advised him that his client, Dr. Kelso was short ten (10) hours of continuing education for calendar year 2007.

2. The next day, Dr. Kelso provided via facsimile the same document provided the previous day by Dr. Kelso, but the document had been altered to indicate an additional sixteen (16) hours. Dr. Kelso, by written response, on May 21, 2008, verified that she only attended three (3) days of the conference in question not five (5) and did not receive the additional sixteen (16) hours.
3. The production of an altered document to a government agency is a violation of Texas Penal Code, Chapter 32.21.

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 Finding of Facts 1 through 3, Respondent has violated Rule 573.4, ADHERENCE TO THE LAW, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, which states no veterinarians shall commit any act that is in violation of the laws of the State of Texas, other states, or of the United States, if the act is connected with the veterinarian’s practice of medicine. Dr. Kelso submitted an altered document to the Board regarding her continuing education hours in violation of Texas Penal Code, Chapter 32.21.

3. Based on Finding of Facts 1 through 3 and Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, 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 practices or conduct that violates the board’s rules of professional conduct.

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.

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

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Penny

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Penny Kelso, D.V.M.
Kelso, D.V.M., be FORMALLY REPRIMANDED.

The Board further ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 30 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($1,000.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 30 days of the date of this Order, enforcement action will be taken.

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 her understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth herein, 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 formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that she 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, PENNY KELSO, 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.

Penny Kelso, D.V.M.

Date

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Penny Kelso, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 17 day of September, 2008.

Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 12 day of Feb., 2009

Bud E. Alldredge, Jr.
Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, President

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