DOCKETED COMPLAINT NO. 1991-31

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

vs.

RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M.

TEXAS VETERINARY MEDICAL LICENSE NO. 3950
1991 RENEWAL CERTIFICATE NUMBER 2776

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD

On the 3rd day of October, 1991, the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS, being in regular meeting in the 4th floor Conference Room 1946 South IH-35, Austin, Travis County, Texas, such meeting being called for the purpose of hearing and considering the above numbered and entitled complaint as well as for consideration of other Board business, and the above entitled and numbered complaint having been previously scheduled for hearing and Defendant, the said RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M., having been duly notified and the following members of the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS being present:

Dr. Robert D. Lewis, President of Elgin, TX
Dr. Mary E. Mainster, Vice President of San Antonio, TX
Dr. Guy A. Sheppard, Secretary-Recused of San Angelo, TX
Dr. Larry M. Dubuisson, Member of Weslaco, TX
Dr. Alton F. Hopkins, Jr., Member of Dallas, TX
Mr. Mike Levi, Member of Spicewood TX
Mr. Clark S. Willingham, Member of Dallas, TX

At the appointed hour, the President of the Board, Dr. ROBERT D. LEWIS ordered the case to proceed at which time it was ascertained that Ronald Ludwig, D.V.M. was not present, and was not represented by legal counsel; the Board then proceeded to hear the evidence presented by the State, and on the same day, October 3, 1991, all of the above members of said Board being present and participating with the exception of the Secretary of the Board, makes the following findings:

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M. is a doctor of veterinary medicine, licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Texas under License Number 3950, and 1991 Renewal Certificate Number 2776.

II.

Dr. Ludwig received notice of this hearing on or about August 29, 1991.

III.

On or about August 1, 1991, Respondent was found guilty of Capital Murder, by a jury before the 13th Judicial District Court of Navarro County, and was subsequently sentenced to life in prison. Said conviction is a felony under the laws of the State of Texas.
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

I.

By being convicted of a felony as described in Paragraph III, Respondent has violated Article 8890, Section 14(a)(4) of the Veterinary Licensing Act which states in part:

Article 8890, Sec. 14(a)
"...the Board may revoke or suspend a license, impose a civil penalty, place a person whose license has been suspended on probation, or reprimand a licensee...if it finds that...a licensee:

(4) has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this or any other state of the United States or of the United States

II.

The Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has grounds to take disciplinary action against Dr. Ludwig’s Veterinary License under the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, V.A.T.S., Article 8890, (formerly Article 7465a) Section 14 which states in part:

ARTICLE 8890, SECTION 14(a)
"...the Board may revoke or suspend a license, impose a civil penalty, place a person whose license has been suspended on probation, or reprimand a licensee...if it finds that a licensee:

(4) has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this or any other state of the United States or of the United States

ARTICLE 8890, SECTION 14B
(a) If a person violates this Act in a manner that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the Board, the Board may assess a civil penalty against that person in addition to taking action under Section 14 or 14A of this Act.

III.

In addition, Section 4(e) of Article 6252-13c requires that the Board revoke a veterinarian’s license upon the licensee’s felony conviction, when it results in incarceration. That provision is mandatory and does not allow alternative disciplinary sanctions.

ORDERS

It is therefore ORDERED that License Number 3950 heretofore issued to RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M. by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS be and same is hereby REVOKED.

It is further ORDERED that each Finding of Fact found herein is adopted as a Conclusion of Law, and each Conclusion of Law is adopted as a Finding of Fact.
The foregoing Findings and Orders of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners are ORDERED to be entered as the FINDINGS AND ORDERS of the Board, a quorum and a majority of the members of such Board being present and participating in such hearing, deliberations and decision, and such FINDINGS AND ORDERS are made on the ___ day of October, 1991, in Austin, Travis County, Texas.

The Secretary of the Board is hereby ordered to prepare the Board’s Findings and Orders in appropriate form and submit to the members of the Board for their signatures and to mail a copy of same to the Respondent at his last known address.

Executed this ___ day of October, 1991.

Robert D. Lewis, D.V.M., President

Mary E. Mainster, D.V.M., Vice-President

Guy A. Sheppard, D.V.M., Secretary

Larry M. Dubuisson, D.V.M., Member

Mrs. Olivia R. Eudaly, Member

Alton F. Hopkins, Jr., D.V.M., Member

Mr. Mike Levi, Member

Fred K. Soifer, D.V.M., Member

Mr. Clark S. Willingham, Member

Date

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DOCKETED COMPLAINT NO. 1991-31

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

VERSUS

RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M.

TEXAS VETERINARY MEDICAL LICENSE NO. 3950

1991 RENEWAL CERTIFICATE NUMBER 2776

COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT FORM

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Texas, on this day personally appeared JOSEPH J. RIZZO, who after being duly sworn, did depose and say:

On or about September 27, 1990, Joseph J. Rizzo, being an employee of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, did in the course of such employment, make certain investigations into the professional conduct of one RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M., Katy-TH 10 Animal Clinic, 22411 Katy Freeway, Katy, Harris County, Texas, Veterinary License Number 3950, 1991 Renewal Certificate Number 2776, a practitioner of veterinary medicine in the State of Texas. As an employee of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, I, Joseph J. Rizzo, do hereby present the following complaint against RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M., who is hereinafter called Respondent.

I.

On or about August 1, 1991, Respondent was found guilty of Capital Murder, by a jury before the 13th Judicial District Court of Navarro County, and was subsequently sentenced to life in prison. Said conviction is a felony under the laws of the State of Texas.

II.

By being convicted of a felony as described in Paragraph I, Respondent has violated Article 8890, Section 14(a)(4) of the Veterinary Licensing Act which states in part:

Article 8890, Sec. 14(a)
"... the Board may revoke or suspend a license, impose a civil penalty, place a person whose license has been suspended on probation, or reprimand a license ... if it finds that ... a licensee:

(4) has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this or any other state of the United States or of the United States

IV.

The Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has grounds to take disciplinary action against Dr. Ludwig’s Veterinary License under the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, V.A.T.S., Article 8890, (formerly Article 7465a) Section 14 which states in part:

ARTICLE 8890, SECTION 14(a)
"... the Board may revoke or suspend a license, impose a civil penalty, place a person whose license has been
suspended on probation, or reprimand a licensee . . if it finds that a licensee:

(4) has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this or any other state of the United States or of the United States

ARTICLE 8890, SECTION 14B
(a) If a person violates this Act in a manner that constitutes grounds for disciplinary action by the Board, the Board may assess a civil penalty against that person in addition to taking action under Section 14 or 14A of this Act.

V.

In addition, Section 3(e) of Article 6252-13c requires that the Board revoke a veterinarian’s license upon the licensee’s felony conviction. That provision is mandatory and does not allow alternative disciplinary sanctions.

The foregoing complaint is submitted to the Secretary of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners on this the 26th day of August, 1991.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

JOSEPH J. RIZZO, Affiant

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN TO before me by the said JOSEPH J. RIZZO this the 26th day of August, 1991.

JUDY C. SMITH
Notary Public, State of Texas
Notary Public in and for Texas

The foregoing Complaint is hereby filed and docketed with the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and styled Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners vs. RONALD LUDWIG, D.V.M. under Docketed Number 1991-31, this the 26th day of August, 1991.

GUY A. SHEPPARD, D.V.M., Secretary
Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners