DOCKET NO. 2014-191

IN THE MATTER §
OF THE LICENSE OF §
THOMAS A. MARTIN, D.V.M. §

TExAS STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 21st day of October, 2014, came on to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of THOMAS A. MARTIN, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on April 17, 2014, 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 his understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice mailed to him.

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. Respondent, THOMAS A. MARTIN, D.V.M. of Austin, Texas, holds Texas veterinary License 6663.

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 October 30, 2012, Respondent and the Board entered into an Agreed Order (Docket 2012-127). The Agreed Order required Respondent to complete and provide acceptable proof of nine hours of continuing education to the Board by November 29, 2013. Respondent failed to provide the Board with acceptable proof of nine hours of continuing education to the Board by November 29, 2013.

4. On October 22, 2013, Respondent and the Board entered into an Agreed Order (Docket 2013-169). The Agreed Order required Respondent to pay $1,000.00 within
45 days of the date of the Agreed Order. Therefore, the payment was due by December 6, 2013.

5. The Board received payment from Respondent on February 27, 2014, 83 days late.

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 Facts 1 through 5, Respondent has violated Rule 573.62, VIOLATION OF BOARD ORDER/NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, which requires all persons that are the subject of a Board Order shall abide by the terms of the order.

3. Based on Findings of Fact 1 through 5 and Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (b) 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.

5. Based on Conclusions of Law 2 and 3, Respondent may be disciplined in the manner set out in Section 801.451, IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY, of the Veterinary Licensing Act, which authorizes an administrative penalty for violations of the Act and Board rules.
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.

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($2500.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date of this Order, the Board may apply any payment to the Board to renew a license to pay any outstanding administrative fee owed to the Board.

In addition, the Board ORDERS that Respondent complete an additional NINE (9) hours of continuing education within one year of the date of this Order. Documentation of the completion of the continuing education penalty shall be received within thirty (30) days after one year of the date of this order. If Respondent fails to provide documentation of completion within forty-five (45) days of one year of the date of this order, Respondent’s license may be suspended—until the continuing education penalty is completed and documentation is received by the Board.

Respondent must take and pass the Texas jurisprudence examination within 90 days from the date of this Agreed 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 provision of the 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, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth, 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 hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Order. Respondent acknowledges that he is entitled to be represented by an attorney of Respondent’s choice at his expense in any hearing before the Board.
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. RESPONDENT AGREES THAT THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.

The date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

I, THOMAS A. MARTIN, 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]
THOMAS A. MARTIN, D.V.M., Date 6/19/14

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [Blank]

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared THOMAS A. MARTIN, D.V.M., known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Agreed Order, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 5th day of June, 2014.

[Signature]
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 21st day of October, 2014.

[Signature]
Bud E. Aldredge, Jr., D.V.M.
President of the Board