DOCKET NO. 1999-02

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF § TEXAS STATE BOARD OF
§ CONNIE NORRIS, D.V.M. § VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 11th day of January, 1999, came on to be considered by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board"), the matter of the license of Connie Norris, D.V.M., ("Respondent" or "Dr. Norris"), pursuant to the Veterinary Licensing Act ("Act") § 18F and Board Rule 575.27. On December 17, 1998, Respondent chose not to appear at an Informal Conference in response to a letter of invitation from the Board. The Board was represented at the Informal Conference by the 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 Agreed Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to her.

Upon 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. Connie Norris, D.V.M., is a veterinarian licensed by the Board to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Texas under license number 4751, 1998 renewal certificate number 5005+P. Respondent has been subject to prior disciplinary action by the Board.
2. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent has received all notice which may be required by law and by the Board Rules. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied.
3. On or before April 20, 1998, Dr. Norris submitted her application to renew her license to practice veterinary medicine for the 1998 calendar year.
4. On or about July 24, 1998, the Board requested evidence of compliance with the continuing education requirement for license year 1998, the required hours to have been acquired in calendar year 1997.

5. Dr. Norris failed to submit evidence of compliance for license year 1998, by failing to provide evidence of acquiring 15 hours during 1997.

Conclusions of Law

1. Respondent is required to comply with the provision of the Act and Board Rules.

2. Section 14 (a) of the Act authorizes the Board to revoke or suspend a license, impose a civil penalty, place a licensee on probation, or reprimand a licensee based upon findings of non-compliance with the Act or Board Rules.

3. Based on Findings of Fact 3 through 5, Dr. Norris has violated 573.64 - Continuing Education Requirements of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

4. Based on Conclusion of Law 3, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action by the Board under the Act §14(a) (5) and 13(g).

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Dr. Norris receive an OFFICIAL REPRIMAND under the following terms and conditions:

1. Respondent shall pay an administrative penalty in the amount of $500.00, payable within forty-five (45) days of the Board’s approval of the Agreed Order. Two Hundred fifty dollars of said penalty is assessed pursuant to Respondent’s previous violation of Rule 573.64, found in Docket Case Number 1996-20.

2. 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.

3. Respondent shall cooperate with the Board’s attorneys, investigators, compliance officers and other employees and agents investigating Respondent’s compliance with this order.
4. Failure by Respondent to comply with the terms of this Agreed Order or with any other provisions of the Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

Respondent, Connie Norris, D.V.M., by signing this Agreed Order, agrees to its terms, acknowledges her understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth, 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 of the Board.

Respondent, Connie Norris, D.V.M., by signing this Agreed Order, waives her right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order.

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

I, CONNIE NORRIS, 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 THIS ORDER CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

[Signature]
Connie Norris, D.V.M.
Respondent

[Date] 1999
STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF ____________________

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared CONNIE NORRIS, D.V.M., known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Agreed Order, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes stated therein. Given under the hand and seal of office this _______ day of ________________, 1999.

Notary Seal

Notary Public

This agreed order has been entered between Dr. Connie Norris and Ron Allen, the Executive Director of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, in concurrence with the Board Secretary. It is presented to the Board as a recommendation only.

RON ALLEN
Executive Director, TSBVME

________________________________

DATE: _______ 1999

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the __________ day of __________, 1999.

ROBERT I. HUGHES, JR., D.V.M.
President
DOCKETED COMPLAINT NO. 1999-02

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY § TEXAS VETERINARY MEDICAL
MEDICAL EXAMINERS § LICENSE NO. 4751

vs. § 1998 RENEWAL CERTIFICATE

CONNIE NORRIS, D.V.M. § NUMBER 5005+P

COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Texas, on this day personally appeared Charles Adkins, who after being duly sworn, did deposite and say:

On or about June 1, 1998, Charles Adkins, being an employee of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, did in the course of such employment, make certain investigations into the professional conduct of one Connie Norris, D.V.M., 1109 Curtis Lane, Terrell, Texas, 75160-7612, Veterinary License Number 4751, 1998 Renewal Certificate Number 5005+P, a practitioner of veterinary medicine in the State of Texas. As an employee of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, I, Charles Adkins, do hereby present the following complaint against Connie Norris, D.V.M.

I.


II.

On or about July 24, 1998, the Board requested evidence of compliance with the continuing education requirement for license year 1998, the required hours to have been acquired in calendar year 1997.

III.

Dr. Norris failed to submit evidence of compliance for license year 1998, by failing to provide evidence of acquiring 15 hours during 1997.

IV.

Based on paragraphs I through III, Dr. Norris violated Rule 573.64 - Continuing Education Requirements of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

V.

Based on the above in paragraph IV, Dr. Norris also violated Section 14 (a) (5) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, article 8890.
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:

(5) has engaged in practices or conduct in connection with the practice of veterinary medicine which are violative of the standards of professional conduct as duly promulgated by the Board in accordance with the law;

The foregoing complaint is submitted to the Secretary of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners on this the 12th day of May, 1999.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Charles AdkinsAffiant

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN TO before me by the said Charles Adkins this the 12th day of May, 1999

Mike Carroll, 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. Connie Norris, D.V.M. under Docketed Number 1999-02, this the 12th day of May, 1999.

J. Lynn Lawton, D.V.M., Board Secretary
Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners