AGREED ORDER

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

AGREED ORDER

On this, the 11th day of June, 2009, came on to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of EUNICE OHASHIEGBULA, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board's staff met on March 27, 2009 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 an informal conference under §801.408 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 her understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice mailed to her.

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 follows:

Findings of Fact

1. The Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent. Respondent has received all notice that may be required by law and by the Board's rules. All jurisdictional requirements have been satisfied.

2. On January 2, 2009, information was received from Sherry Nassar of Houston, Texas, indicating that Respondent, Chief Veterinarian of the Bureau of Animal Regulation and Care (BARC), Houston, Texas, failed to ensure that a veterinarian practicing under Respondent's supervision maintained a current controlled substances registration, and granted said veterinarian permission to administer controlled substances without the registration required under Rule §573.43(a).

3. Respondent became the immediate supervisor of David Rundell, DVM, on May 14, 2007, and remained so at least through January 29, 2009. Dr. Rundell's controlled substances registration expired on March 1, 2001, and he did not renew same until December 22, 2008. Respondent practiced veterinary medicine, and administered controlled substances under Respondent's direct supervision without a controlled substances license from May 7, 2007 to December 22, 2008. Respondent stated that she authorized Dr. Rundell to
administer controlled substances from her controlled substances inventory during this time.

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 Fact 1-3, Respondent has violated Rule §573.43(b), MISUSE OF DEA NARCOTICS REGISTRATION, of the Board’s Rules of Professional Conduct, which states the requirement for a DEA registration is waived for a DEA unregistered veterinarian if (1) a DEA registered veterinarian supervises or employs the non-registrant (2) the registrant has knowledge that the non-registrant is dispensing and/or administering controlled substances in the usual course of the non-registrant’s duties (3) the registrant has given written permission for the non-registrant to dispense/administer under the registrant’s license and (4) the registrant has actual knowledge that the non-registrant is currently registered with the DPS and holds a current DPS controlled substances certificate.

3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, Respondent has violated §801.402(6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, 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 §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 1-3, Respondent may be disciplined in the manner set out in §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:

The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 days of the date of this Order, an ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY of five-hundred dollars ($500.00). If Respondent fails to pay the administrative penalty within 45 days of the date of this Order, an enforcement action against Respondent will be initiated per the Board’s Rules and Act.

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 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 by the Board. Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, waives her right to a hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Order. Respondent acknowledges that she is entitled to be represented by an attorney of Respondent’s choice at her 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. 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 Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.
I, EUNICE OHASHIEGBULA, 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.

EUNICE OHASHIEGBULA, D.V.M.  

Date 4-6-09

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF Harris

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

Given under the hand and seal of office this 06 day of April, 2009.

Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 11th day of June, 2009.

Bud E. Allredge, Jr., D.V.M.  
President of the Board