DOCKET NO. 2010-49

IN THE MATTER OF § TEXAS BOARD OF
THE LICENSE OF § VETERINARY
KELLY B. SANDELL, D.V.M. § MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this date March 22, 2010, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) the matter of the license of Kelly B. Sandell, D.V.M. (Respondent). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board’s staff met on January 26, 2010 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 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 Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges her understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to her.

Upon the 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. Respondent, Kelly B. Sandell, D.V.M. holds Texas veterinary license 7236.

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. The United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), provided a report to the Board pertaining to prescriptions for Hydrocodone and Hycodan.

4. In a letter provided by Dr. Sandell’s attorney, Dr. Sandell admitted to improprieties reagarding her DEA registration. In addition, in a response directly from Dr. Sandell, she admitted to issuing prescriptions for her own personal use under the name of her personal dog. Dr. Sandell enrolled in the Peer Assistance Program on November 11, 2009 for five years following the investigation by the Board.
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 4, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (3) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION, which states a licensee is subject to disciplinary action for being chronically or habitually intoxicated, chemically dependent, or addicted to drugs.

3. Based on Finding of Facts 1 through 4, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (4) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION, which states a licensee is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in dishonest or illegal practices in, or connected with, the practice of veterinary medicine, by diverting controlled substances for self medication.

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 1 through 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 complete her Peer Assistance Contract under the Board’s Peer Assistance Program, as stated in Finding of Fact 4. In addition, if Respondent has more than one missed call in a six month period, one missed drug screening in a six month period, or tests positive without a legitimate prescription for any drug Respondent tests positive for, under the Respondent’s Peer Assistance Contract, further and immediate disciplinary action may be taken by the Board and is considered a violation of this Board Order.

Agreed Order 2010-49
Kelly B. Sandell, D.V.M.
The Board ORDERS that Respondent pay, within 45 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 45 days of the date of this Order, further disciplinary action will be taken.

The Board further ORDERS that:

1. Respondent shall abide by the Board’s 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 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. 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, KELLY B. SANDELL, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING THIS ORDER, 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.

\[Signature\]
Kelly B. Sandell, D.V.M.

2-11-10
Date

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Travis

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Kelly B. Sandell, 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 11th day of February, 2012

\[Signature\]
Pinkie D. Henderson
Notary Public

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Kelly B. Sandell, D.V.M.
SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 22 day of March, 2010.

Bud E. Allredge, Jr., D.V.M., President