

Received

DEC 05 2016

IN THE MATTER OF

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TEXAS BOARD OF

THE LICENSE OF

§

VETERINARY Medical Examiners

VALERIE BIXLER, D.V.M.

§

MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 8 day of December, 2016, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Valerie Bixler, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board's staff met on October 24, 2016, 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 understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of notice.

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, Valerie Bixler, D.V.M., of McKinney, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 7914.
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 April 28, 2016, the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation notified the Board that Respondent was in arrears on repayment of a student loan. On June 15, 2016, the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation notified the Board that Respondent was no longer in default on repayment of the student loan.

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 the above Findings of Fact, Respondent has violated Rule 573.78, DEFAULT ON STUDENT LOAN/CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, which states that a licensee who has defaulted on a student loan or breached a student loan repayment contract by failing to perform his or her service obligation under the contract, or any other agreement between the licensee and the administering entity, relating to payment of a student loan may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board.

3. Based on the above Conclusions of Law, Respondent has violated Section 801.402(6) 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 the above Conclusions of Law, 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 the above Conclusions of Law, 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.

6. Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and given the nature and severity of the violations, Respondent's violations are Class C violations under Rule 575.25, RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE OF SANCTIONS, and Respondent is subject to discipline under that Rule.

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, be INFORMALLY REPRIMANDED.

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 provisions of the Licensing Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, acknowledges understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth herein, and agrees to 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 the right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that Respondent 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. 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 effective date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Board.

Signature page follows.

I, VALERIE BIXLER, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND 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.

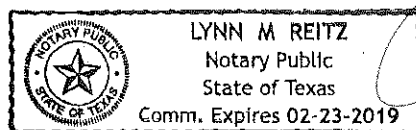
Valerie Bixler DVM
Valerie Bixler, D.V.M.

11-21-2016
Date

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF Collin §

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Valerie Bixler, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me that it was executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 21st day of November, 2016.



Lynn M Reitz
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 8 day of December, 2016.

R. Lenarduzzi
Roland Lenarduzzi, D.V.M., Board President