

JUL 31 2013

IN THE MATTER	§	TEXAS STATE BOARD OF
	§	
OF THE LICENSE OF	§	VETERINARY
	§	
MELISSA CORDERO-VALENTIN, D.V.M. §		MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this, the 22 day of October, 2013, came on to be considered by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Melissa Cordero-Valentin, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.2056, Texas Occupations Code, a committee of the Board's staff met on June 25, 2013 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 proceeding under Section 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 set forth below.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent, Melissa Cordero-Valentin, D.V.M. of Fort Worth, Texas, holds Texas veterinary license 12589.
2. 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.
3. On February 2, 2013, Lauren Terrell presented her three-year old Maltese dog named Lola to Respondent at the Banfield Pet Hospital ("Banfield") in Grand Prairie, Texas for an initial consultation in preparation for a dental cleaning. Respondent scheduled the dental cleaning for February 9, 2013 and told Ms. Terrell that Respondent herself would perform the dental cleaning.
4. On February 9, 2013, Ms. Terrell dropped Lola off at Banfield for the dental cleaning. Dr. Cordero-Valentin was out on medical leave, so Charles Overstreet, D.V.M. performed the dental cleaning on Lola. Neither Respondent nor any member of Banfield staff informed Ms. Terrell that Respondent was not performing the dental cleaning.

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 4, Respondent has violated Rule 573.20, RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MEDICAL CARE, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, by failing to inform the client, who specifically requested that Respondent treat the client's animal, that Respondent reasonably believed there was a possibility that another veterinarian would perform some or all of the treatment of the patient.
3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, 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.

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 an INFORMAL REPRIMAND.

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.

Melissa Cordero-Valentin, D.V.M.

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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. 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, MELISSA CORDERO-VALENTIN, 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.

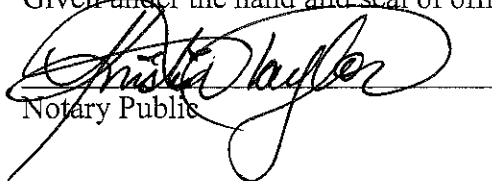

Melissa Cordero-Valentin, D.V.M.

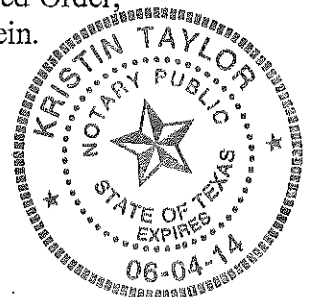
7/19/13
Date

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF Tarrant

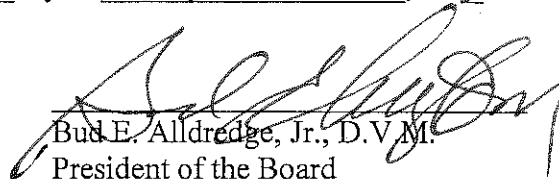
BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared Melissa Cordero-Valentin, D.V.M., known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Agreed Order, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 19th day of July, 2013.


Notary Public



SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 22 day of October, 2013.


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