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DOCKET NO. 2008-84

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

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

AGREED ORDER

On this the 16 th day of October, 2008, came to be considered by the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of Justin Goebel, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.408, Texas Occupations Code and Board Rule 575.27, an informal conference was held on August 18, 2008. The Respondent appeared and represented himself. The Board was represented at the conference by the Board's 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 Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges their understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to them.

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. On February 29, 2008, Lori Rollins Hawthorne of Snyder, Texas, presented "Skitz", a six-year-old female Domestic Shorthair cat to Justin Goebel, D.V.M., Colorado City, Texas, of Mitchell County Veterinary Clinic (MCVC) for boarding and vaccinations.
2. On March 5, 2008, a staff member from MCVC called Ms. Hawthorne and informed her that Dr. Goebel had accidentally performed a four-paw de-claw procedure on "Skitz." The cat had been misidentified for another cat who was scheduled for a de-claw procedure and hysterectomy. "Skitz" was identified as the wrong cat when Dr. Goebel attempted to perform the hysterectomy and noticed the cat had already had a hysterectomy. Dr. Goebel has stated that Ms. Hawthorne has a valid complaint. Dr. Goebel has stated that corrective measures have been put into place to ensure this mistake is not repeated.
3. Dr. Goebel's misidentification and performance of a four-paw de-claw procedure and

attempted hysterectomy on the wrong animal, "Skitz" was the performance of an unauthorized treatment.

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 through 3, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (12) 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:

(12) performs or prescribes unnecessary or unauthorized treatment;

3. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 and 2, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that Justin Goebel, D.V.M., 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.

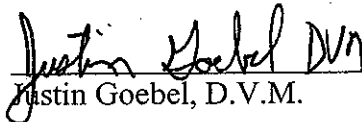
Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, acknowledges their understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein set forth herein, and agrees that they will satisfactorily comply with the mandates of the Agreed Order in a timely manner or be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Board.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, waives their right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that they 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.

I, **JUSTIN GOEBEL, 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.

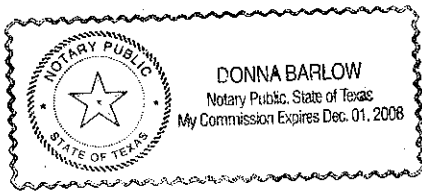

Justin Goebel, D.V.M.

9/4/08
Date

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF Mitchell §

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

Given under the hand and seal of office this 4th day of Sept, 2008.



Donna Barlow
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 16 DAY of OCT, 2008.

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