



BOARD NOTES

CELEBRATING 101 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF TEXAS
1911—2012

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Board is excited to welcome four new Board members: Joe Mac King, DVM, Chad Upham, Richard Scott Bonner and Manuela "Mamie" Salazar-Harper. Dr. King is a small animal practitioner in Dallas, Texas and owner of King Veterinary Associates. He is a member of the American and Texas Veterinary Medical associations, and a member and past president of the Dallas County Veterinary Medical Association. He is past president of the Emergency Pet Hospital of North Texas, a past member of the Carrollton City Council, and a past board member of the Carrollton/Farmer's Branch Rotary Club. He is also a member of the Texas A&M University (TAMU) Letterman's Association and the TAMU Association of Former Students. Dr. King received a bachelor's degree and a doctor of veterinary medicine from Texas A&M University.

Chad Upham of Boerne is a partner at the Nunley Firm. Mr. Upham will serve as a public member to the board. Mr. Upham is a trial attorney focused on commercial, real estate and oil and gas litigation. Mr. Upham lives and practices in Boerne, Texas. Mr. Upham is a member of the State Bar of Texas, and is admitted to practice law in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas. He is a member, past director and past president of the Kendall County Bar Association. He is a founding member and vice president of the Kendall County Economic Development Corporation, past director and board chair of the Greater Boerne Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and a past board member of the Kendall County United Way. He is also a volunteer for the Kendall County 4-H Club. Mr. Upham

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received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University and a law degree from the University of Houston Law Center.

Richard Scott Bonner, Jr. is the owner of Water Truck Rentals, Inc. He is a member of the American Rental Association, American Petroleum Institute, Coastal Conservation Association and Saltwater-Fisheries Enhancement Association. Mr. Bonner received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University.

Manuela "Mamie" Salazar-Harper is owner and president of M. Rentals. She is a member of the Greater El Paso and Greater El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, National Contract Managers Association, Professional Housing Managers Association, Texas Association of Rental Agencies, and the Association of Progressive Rental Organizations. She is also a founding member of the Paso Del Norte Association, and a past member of the Governor's Commission for Women and Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Advisory Council. Mamie attended the University of Texas at El Paso, Victoria Junior College and University of Phoenix, and completed the Tuck Executive Program at Dartmouth College.

And, Dr. Janie Allen Carpenter has graciously agreed to a reappointment to our Board. Dr. Carpenter is a veterinarian at Richardson Veterinary Clinic, and resides in Garland, Texas. She is president of Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation, a member of the Texas Academy of Veterinary Practice and American Veterinary Medical Association, and a board member of the Metroplex Animal Coalition. She is a member and past district director of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association, and a member and past board member of the Dallas County Veterinary Medical Association. She is also a director of the Women's Southern Golf Association and an associate director of the Women's Trans National Golf Association. Carpenter received a bachelor's degree and a doctor of veterinary medicine from Texas A&M University.



Joe Mac King, D.V.M.



Chad Upham



Richard S. Bonner



"Mamie" Salazar-Harper

Licensing Exam Dates

2012 STATE BOARD EXAMINATION (SBE) SCHEDULE

All State Board Exams, with the exception of the April exam, will be administered at participating ACT testing centers. Please read the deadline dates carefully. An application must be submitted to TBVME for ALL exams to determine eligibility for veterinary licensure in Texas.

Only approved applicants will be able to purchase and schedule the exam.

August 2012

Deadline for application to be received by TBVME: June 22, 2012

Window for purchasing and scheduling exam: July 1st – 20th, 2012

Window for taking the exam: August 6th – 17th, 2012

October 2012

Deadline for application to be received by TBVME: August 24, 2012

Window for purchasing and scheduling exam: September 1st – 17th, 2012

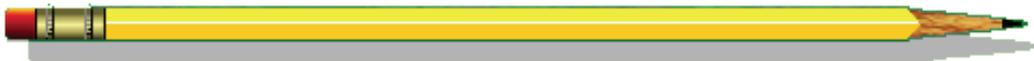
Window for taking the exam: October 8th – 19th, 2012

December 2012

Deadline for application to be received by TBVME: October 19, 2012

Window for purchasing and scheduling exam: November 1st – 19th, 2012

Window for taking the exam: December 3rd – 14th, 2012



CONTINUING EDUCATION OFFERINGS

Information on available CE may be obtained through the following sources. Additional offerings may be available through other sources.

<p><u>RACE</u> <i>(Registry of Approved Continuing Education)</i> Search for Available CE: http://www.aavsb.org/RACE/RaceSearch.asp</p>	<p><u>Texas A&M</u> Phone: (979) 845-9102 Fax: (979) 862-2832 Email: ceoffice@cvm.tamu.edu</p>
<p>RACE requires approved providers to issue signed certificates of completion, maintain attendance records for four years and provide qualification of instructors and CE personnel who develop and implement courses.</p>	<p><u>Texas Veterinary Medical Association</u> www.tvma.org 8104 Exchange Dr. Austin, TX 78754 Phone: (512) 452-4224 Fax: (512) 452-6633</p>

ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

The following veterinarians have had disciplinary action taken against their licenses. If you would like to receive additional information regarding these or other disciplinary actions that have been imposed, please send your written request to the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, ATTN: Open Records, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-810, Austin, TX 78701 or by email to vet.board@tbvme.state.tx.us.

Name	License #	City	Discipline	Date of Action
Lloyd V. Jarmon, DVM	4251	Houston, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	October 18, 2011
Gary W. Brackeen, DVM	3862	Angleton, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	October 18, 2011
Marilyn A. Maltby, DVM	6473	Austin, TX	Probated Suspension, Formal Reprimand with Stipulations	October 18, 2011
Alice A. Dodge, DVM	10093	Houston, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	October 18, 2011
Patricia G. Thompson, DVM	8273	Arlington, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Martin Brillhart, DVM	3235	Slaton, TX	Formal Reprimand	March 27, 2012
Bruce Hardesty, DVM	7183	Austin, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Gene Giggelman, DVM	4945	Dallas, TX	Probated Suspension, Formal Reprimand with Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Stephen Kersack, DVM	7540	Austin, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Matthew Moskkosky, DVM	11398	Alvarado, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Jackie A. Valerius, DVM	2224	Mercedes, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
David J. Snyder, DVM	5560	Terrell, TX	Voluntary Surrender of License	March 27, 2012
Marilyn Maltby, DVM	6473	Austin, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
Janice Wolf, DVM	3331	Amarillo, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012
James Greenwell, DVM	6232	Plano, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 27, 2012

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CEASE & DESIST ORDERS

The following Cease & Desist Orders have been signed and approved by the Board. If you would like to receive additional information regarding these or other disciplinary actions that have been imposed, please send your written request to the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, ATTN: Open Records, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-810, Austin, TX 78701 or by email to vet.board@tbvme.state.tx.us.

Name	City	Date of Action
Dena Corbin	Azel, TX	October 18, 2011
Cyril W. McIlwraith	Loveland, CO	October 18, 2011
Lisa Hall	Granbury, TX	October 18, 2011
Lora Vergott	San Antonio, TX	October 18, 2011
Fidel Benavides	Laredo, TX	October 18, 2011
Jorge Cordiz	Navasota, TX	March 27, 2012
Molly Green	Granbury, TX	March 27, 2012
Brent Proctor	Aledo, TX	March 27, 2012
Jackie French Le Chateau K-9	Willow Park, TX	March 27, 2012
Nathan Dupont Everything Pet	Katy, TX	March 27, 2012
Lorre Mueller	Smithville, TX	March 27, 2012
Tony P. Gist	Cleburne, TX	March 27, 2012

In Memoriam...

"Let us hold our lives up to the light of those who walked before us, remembering the footprints they left behind and preserving the pathways they created."

Jack Fritts, 'Texas A&M Class of '53

<i>Name</i>	<i>City, State</i>	<i>Vet. School/Grad. Year</i>	<i>Date of Death</i>
Rachel Y. Beard, DVM	Lancaster, TX	ISU/2005	08/24/2011
Dennis Cannon, DVM	Dripping Springs, TX	TAMU/1966	12/27/2011
Robert Frederick, DVM	Sugarland, TX	TAMU /1984	04/28/2012
Larry M. Dubuisson, DVM	Hunt, TX	TAMU/1963	11/06/2011
Gale M. Dressler, DVM	Barksdale, TX	ISU/1971	05/30/2011
James Godin, DVM	Houston, TX	TAMU/1970	12/22/2011
Sidney Kay, DVM	Galveston, TX	TAMU/1940	08/03/2011
Douglas Macintire, DVM	Auburn, AL	TAMU/1980	12/27/2011
Jack Moore, DVM	Houston, TX	TAMU/1972	02/23/2011
David Morris, DVM	Ft. Collin, CO	OSU/1974	08/03/2011
Dennis Reed, DVM	Mount Vernon, TX	TAMU/ 1971	09/12/2011
Jeffrey Rose, DVM	San Antonio, TX	TAMU/1988	01/01/2012
Richard, Singleton, DVM	Grapevine, TX	TAMU/1980	09/09/2011

Disciplinary Actions continued...

In addition to the formal reprimands listed previously there were an additional 72 actions taken against veterinarians. If you would like to receive additional information regarding these or other disciplinary actions that have been imposed, please send your written request to the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, ATTN: Open Records, 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-810, Austin, TX 78701 or by email to vet.board@tbvme.state.tx.us.

Number of Licensees Disciplined	Violation Type	Sanction
20	Continuing Education	Administrative penalties and additional continuing education
21	Misuse of DEA/DPS registration	Administrative penalty
1	Professional Standard of Humane Treatment	Informal reprimand and administrative penalty
1	Default on Student Loan	Informal reprimand and administrative penalty
1	Default on Child Support Payments	Administrative penalty
1	Record Keeping	Administrative penalty, informal reprimand, and additional continuing education
1	Record Keeping	Informal reprimand and additional continuing education
1	Failure to Report Criminal Activity	Informal reprimand and administrative penalty
3	Failure to Report Criminal Activity	Administrative penalty
1	Honesty, Integrity, and Fair Dealing	Informal reprimand
1	Responsibility for Licensed and Unlicensed Employees	Informal reprimand and administrative penalty
1	Responsibility for Licensed and Unlicensed Employees	Informal reprimand
1	Misuse of DEA Narcotics Registration & Failure to Cooperate with the Board	Administrative penalty
1	Performed unauthorized or unnecessary treatment	Informal reprimand
1	Notification of Licensee Address	Administrative penalty



Our Mission:

The mission of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is to establish and enforce policies to ensure the best possible quality of veterinary services for the people of Texas.

Our Goals:

The Board and its staff will ensure that Texans are effectively and efficiently served by quality veterinary professionals by setting clear standards for professional conduct, by assuring compliance with the rules of professional conduct and the community standard of care, and

Board Meeting Dates*

July 24, 2012

*This date is not official until posted with the Secretary of State.

TBVME IS ON FACEBOOK

You can now follow the TBVME through it's Facebook page. This publication along with examination dates, board meeting dates and other information will be posted there. We see this as an added avenue for individuals to ask general questions of the agency staff. We will be doing our best to monitor the page and respond to comments in a timely manner.

DID YOU KNOW???

- Unless you owe for more than the current year, all licensees can renew their license online through our website.

PEER ASSISTANCE

If you or someone you know has a substance abuse problem, it is far better to voluntarily participate in the Peer Assistance Program than to run the risk of disciplinary action, up to and including license revocation. The toll free hotline number is 1-800-727-5152.

The TBVME does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in employment or in the provision of services, programs or activities. Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations should contact the agency's ADA Coordinator at 333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-810, Austin, TX 78701-3998, or call (512) 305-7555 or 1-800-877-8973 (TDD). This document may be requested in alternative formats by contacting the Board offices.

ADA ACCOMODATIONS

Individuals seeking ADA accommodations should contact the Board's ADA Coordinator, Loris Jones, at 512/305-7555 or by email at loris.jones@tbvme.state.tx.us.

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As for new news at the Board, our Enforcement division has been active, with their second undercover operation involving the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine. This case was worked in conjunction with the Hidalgo County Constable's Office. The Constable's office arrested Hugo Alberto Flores for the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine following information found in the McAllen Craigslist. We appreciate all of the help the local constable's office provided in resolving this matter. Enforcement also hired a new investigator, Jackie Tennison. He is from Clyde, Texas and has a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Education and a Master's in Education from Tarleton State University. He retired from the education field as the Superintendent of Schools for the Cross Plains Independent School District in 2009.

WORKING IN A NON-PROFIT OR MUNICIPAL SETTING

Reminder to veterinarians: when you are working in a non-profit or municipal setting, the Veterinary Licensing Act and the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct still apply to the same extent they do in all other practice settings.

Recent complaints have revealed a common misconception among veterinarians that the Board's Rules—covering everything from supervision to rabies vaccinations and certifications to the standard of care—do not apply when a veterinarian is working for a non-profit or a municipality rather than for a veterinarian-owned clinic. This is false.

A veterinarian who works in a non-profit or municipal setting, even if only temporarily, is just as responsible for supervising non-licensed employees and volunteers that are practicing veterinary medicine as he or she would be in his or her own clinic. Board Rule §573.71 provides that veterinarians working for non-profit or municipal corporations are liable for any violations of the Veterinary Licensing Act or the Board's rules that occur there as a result of the practice of veterinary medicine, including violations that occur due to the acts or omissions of non-licensed employees or volunteers of the non-profit or municipal corporation.

Rule §573.51, regarding rabies vaccination and certification by non-licensees, still apply in non-profit and municipal practice settings. Non-licensees may only administer rabies vaccines under the direct supervision of a veterinarian. Only the vaccinating veterinarian can issue a rabies certificate, with the exception that a non-licensee may use the veterinarian's signature stamp and license number on a rabies certificate if they are under the direct supervision of the vaccinating veterinarian. If the non-profit or municipality staff is issuing the certificates, the licensed veterinarian still has the obligation to directly supervise the staff, and to ensure that the certificates have all of the information required by law.

Moreover, offering veterinary services at a discount, or even for free, does not excuse a veterinarian from meeting the standard of care. Veterinarians working for non-profits and municipalities, or in temporarily clinics offering discounted rates, still must provide treatment that meets the standard of care for their community under Board Rule §573.22.

The Board appreciates the work and service that veterinarians provide to non-profit organizations and municipalities; without such work, many more animals would suffer and go without needed services. But regardless of the altruistic motive of the veterinarian, the Board's rules still apply in all practice settings.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The Board has seen an increasing number of licensees who were unaware that they were required to obtain a Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Controlled Substances Registration prior to utilizing controlled substances. Many had confused the requirements with those for a DEA Controlled Substances Registration. These are actually two different registrations and a licensee may be required to have one or both.

Below is a chart that outlines when a licensee must obtain each registration. This chart is based on Board Rule §573.43, Misuse of DEA Narcotics Registration, which in turn is based on Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 13, Subchapter B, rule §13.21, Who Must Register; and Title 21 of the United States Code, Controlled Substances Act, Section 822, Persons Required to Register. Please contact our office should you have any questions.

<i>DPS Controlled Substances Registration</i>	<i>DEA Controlled Substances Registration</i>
<p>You must obtain a DPS Controlled Substances Registration if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distribute Controlled Substances; ● Deliver Controlled Substances; ● Prescribe Controlled Substances; ● Possess Controlled Substances; ● Dispense Controlled Substances; or ● Conduct research with Controlled Substances. <p><u>Waiver</u> There are no waivers or exceptions provided for this registration. If you utilized controlled substances in any way, you must have a DPS controlled substances registration.</p>	<p>You must obtain a DEA Controlled Substances Registration if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prescribe Controlled Substances; ● Dispense Controlled Substances; ● Deliver Controlled Substances; or ● Order Controlled Substances. <p><u>Waiver</u> You are not required to have a DEA Controlled Substances Registration if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Are supervised or employed by a DEA registered veterinarian; <u>and</u> ● The registrant has knowledge that you are dispensing and/or administering controlled substances in the usual course of your duties; <u>and</u> ● You have written permission from the registrant to dispense/administer under their registration; <u>and</u> ● The Registrant has actual knowledge that you hold a <u>CURRENT</u> DPS Controlled Substances Registration Certificate. <p>If you have met all of these requirements, you may dispense and administer controlled substances. <i>However, you may not procure, purchase, or issue a prescription for a controlled substance.</i></p>

For more information on controlled substance registration, please visit:

www.txdps.state.tx.us

www.dea.gov

BOARD ADOPTS CHANGES TO RULES

At the March 27, 2012 Board meeting, the Board voted to adopt the following rules. The adoption will be published in the *Texas Register*. The full text of the rules can be found on the agency website.

22 TAC §571.1

The amendment to §571.1 adds to and changes the definitions of defined words used in Chapter 571 as necessary to include equine dental providers as licensees. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers, and required that the Board administered a jurisprudence examination to candidates for equine dental provider licensure under Texas Occupations Code §801.261 and §801.264.

22 TAC §571.5

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.5 to clarify that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees, and not to equine dental provider licensees. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers, necessitating the inclusion of the word “veterinary” when referring to a license to distinguish between veterinary licenses and equine dental provider licenses. The Board has adopted a parallel rule in new §571.6, regarding Qualifications for Equine Dental Provider License, because the requirements for an equine dental provider license differ significantly from those for a veterinary license.

22 TAC §571.6

The Board adopts new §571.6 to set requirements for the Board’s licensure of equine dental providers. With respect to structure and the passing score for the jurisprudence examination, the proposed new rule parallels §571.5, which sets the requirements for veterinary licensure. The other requirements in adopted §571.6 for licensure of equine dental providers were created by the Texas Legislature in House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, and codified in Texas Occupations Code §801.261, which requires that applicants for an equine dental provider license provide the Board with proof of a passing jurisprudence exam score, certification by the International Association of Equine Dentists or other Board approved entity, and compliance with the Veterinary Licensing Act and Board rules.

22 TAC §571.7

The adopted amendment to §571.7 clarifies that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees, and not to equine dental provider licensees, by including the word “veterinary” when referring to a license to distinguish between veterinary licenses and equine dental provider licenses. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers. The changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. Other minor changes have been made to conform references in §571.7 to renumbered definitions in §571.1.

22 TAC §571.9

The adopted amendment to §571.9 clarifies that the rule applies only to veterinary licenses, and not to equine dental provider licenses. The adopted amendment to §571.9 will add the word “veterinary” to modify the word “license,” so as to distinguish between veterinary licenses and equine dental provider licenses. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The Legislature did not extend special licenses to equine dental providers; under Texas Occupations Code §801.256, regarding Special License to Practice Veterinary Medicine, only veterinarians can obtain special licenses.

22 TAC §571.11

The adopted amendment to §571.11 clarifies that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees, and not to equine dental provider licensees. The adopted amendments are necessary to disambiguate the meaning of §571.11 in light of House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers as well as veterinarians. However, the Legislature did not extend provisional licensing to equine dental providers; under Texas Occupations Code §801.257, regarding Provisional License to Practice Veterinary Medicine, only veterinarians can obtain provisional licenses.

The adopted amendment to §571.11 also includes a new subsection allowing veterinarians to attain a provisional license if they are the spouses of active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces, and have been licensed in Texas within the preceding five years but have had their license cancelled for failure to renew while living in another state for at least six months. The adopted amendment is intended to fulfill the mandate of Senate Bill (SB) 1733, 82nd Legislative Session, which requires that state agencies adopt rules for the issuance of licenses to licensees who have been licensed in Texas within the past five years but have allowed the license to expire while living in another state for six months and are spouses of active-duty members of the armed forces, with “alternative demonstrations of competency” to meet the requirements for obtaining the license. The Board has determined that allowing a military spouse meeting the requirements described above to return to licensure through a provisional license without having to go before the Board to petition for licensure is an appropriate “alternative demonstration of competency” in accordance with SB 1733. The adopted amendment removes the list of specific information an applicant is required to provide for the provisional license from subsection (d) because the military spouses applying for a provisional veterinary license under proposed amended §571.11 will already have been licensed and therefore will have already provided the Board with much of the information necessary for a provisional license. The adopted amendment is intended to remove any confusion or redundancy in documentation requirements, and does not represent a change in Board policy.

22 TAC §571.13

The adopted amendment uses the word “veterinary” when referring to a license to clarify that §571.13 applies only to veterinary licenses, and not to equine dental provider licenses. The adopted amendment is necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers as well as veterinarians. The Texas Legislature did not, however, extend temporary licensure to equine dental providers; only a veterinarian can obtain a temporary license under Texas Occupations Code §801.258, regarding Temporary License to Practice Veterinary Medicine.

22 TAC §571.15

The adopted amendment clarifies that §571.15 applies only to veterinary licenses, and not to equine dental provider licenses. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The Legislature did not extend temporary licenses to equine dental providers; under Texas Occupations Code §801.258, regarding Temporary License to Practice Veterinary Medicine, only veterinarians can obtain temporary licenses.

The adopted amendment will allow veterinarians to receive a temporary license if the veterinarian is licensed and in good standing in a foreign country, and will remove the requirement that a veterinarian seeking a temporary license first pass the Board's jurisprudence examination. These changes are necessitated by Senate Bill (SB) 811, which amended Texas Occupations Code §801.258 to allow foreign-licensed veterinarians to obtain temporary licenses, and removed the prerequisite of the jurisprudence examination for temporary licensure.

22 TAC §571.21

The adopted amendment requires that both equine dental providers and veterinarians take an examination administered by the Board as a prerequisite for licensure. The adopted amendment is necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers and required that the Board administer a jurisprudence examination to candidates for equine dental provider licensure.

22 TAC §571.23

The adopted amendment to §571.23 clarifies that the rule applies only to veterinary licenses, and not to equine dental provider licenses. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The rule does not apply to equine dental providers because there is no national examination for equine dental providers that is equivalent to the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination.

22 TAC §571.25

The amendment to §571.25 clarifies that the provision applies to both veterinary licenses and equine dental provider licenses. The adopted amendment to §571.25 includes the abbreviation "EDPE" when referring to applications for examination, to make it clear that the provisions of the rule apply equally to both the EDPE and the SBE. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers, and required that the Board administer a jurisprudence examination for equine dental providers.

22 TAC §571.54

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.54 to clarify that the rule applies only to veterinary licenses, and not to equine dental provider licenses. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The Legislature did not extend the retired status fee exemption to equine dental providers; under Texas Occupations Code §801.304, regarding Fee Exemption, only veterinarians can go on retired status.

22 TAC §571.55

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.55 to clarify that the rule applies equally to veterinary and equine dental provider licensees. Rule §571.55 is amended to replace the word “veterinarian” with “licensee” to include equine dental provider licensees. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers.

22 TAC §571.56

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.56 to clarify that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees, and not to equine dental provider licensees. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. These amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The Legislature did not extend the military service fee waiver to equine dental providers; under Texas Occupations Code §801.304, regarding Fee Exemption, only veterinarians can obtain a fee waiver for military service.

22 TAC §571.59

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.59 to clarify that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees and not to equine dental provider licensees. These changes do not alter the substance or meaning of the rule. The adopted amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license equine dental providers. The Board has adopted an equivalent provision for equine dental provider licensees as a new rule, §571.60, which is also included in this issue of the *Texas Register*.

The adopted amendment to §571.59 also includes a new subsection allowing veterinarians who are the spouses of active-duty members of the United States armed forces and who have been licensed in Texas within the preceding five years but whose license has been cancelled for failure to renew while the licensee lived in another state for at least six months to attain a provisional license under amended §571.11. This proposed amendment is intended to fulfill the mandate of Senate Bill (SB) 1733, 82nd Legislative Session, which requires that state agencies adopt rules for the issuance of licenses to licensees who have been licensed in Texas within the past five years but have allowed the license to expire while living in another state for six months and are spouses of active-duty members of the armed forces, with “alternative demonstrations of competency” to meet the requirements for obtaining the license. The Board has determined that allowing a military spouse meeting the requirements described above to return to licensure through a provisional license without having to go before the Board to petition for licensure is an appropriate “alternative demonstration of competency” in accordance with SB 1733.

22 TAC §571.60

The Board adopts new §571.60 to set out how an equine dental provider licensee can go into, and come out of, expired status. The Texas Legislature in House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, gave the Board authority to license and regulate equine dental providers, and did not exempt equine dental providers from the restriction under Texas Occupations Code §801.303 regarding expired licenses. The adopted new rule parallels §571.59, which sets the requirements for expired veterinary licenses, except that it does not include the easy path to reinstatement that exists for veterinary licensees that are licensed and practicing in another state, because the Texas Legislature did not create an exemption for equine dental providers similar to that it has created for veterinarians under Texas Occupations Code §801.305, regarding Renewal of Expired License for Out of State Practitioner.

The Board adopts new §571.60 with a subsection allowing equine dental providers who are the spouses of active-duty members of the United States armed forces and who have been licensed in Texas within the preceding five years but whose license has been cancelled for failure to renew while the licensee lived in another state for at least six months to reinstate a retired license without going before the Board. This provision is intended to fulfill the mandate of Senate Bill (SB) 1733, 82nd Legislative Session, which requires that state agencies adopt rules for the issuance of licenses to licensees who have been licensed in Texas within the past five years but have allowed the license to expire while living in another state for six months and are spouses of active-duty members of the armed forces, with “alternative demonstrations of competency” to meet the requirements for obtaining the license. The Board has determined that allowing a military spouse meeting the requirements described above to return to licensure through a provisional license without having to go before the Board to petition for licensure is an appropriate “alternative demonstration of competency” in accordance with SB 1733.

22 TAC §571.61

The Board adopts the amendment to §571.61 to clarify that the rule applies only to veterinary licensees, and not to equine dental provider licensees. The amendment is necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers. The Board has adopted an equivalent provision for equine dental provider licensees as a new rule, §571.62.

The adopted amendments to §571.61 also clarify when a licensee’s inactive license will be cancelled if the licensee fails to renew—at the end of the ninth consecutive year—because the previous wording “after ten years” had caused confusion among licensees about whether the inactive years had to be consecutive, and whether the license expired at the beginning of the tenth year or after the expiration of the tenth year. This amendment reflects the Board’s long-standing interpretation of this rule, and is not intended to change the meaning of the rule.

22 TAC §571.62

The Board adopts new §571.62 to set out how an equine dental provider licensee can go into, and come out of, inactive status. The proposed new rule parallels §571.61, which sets the requirements for inactive veterinary licenses. The Texas Legislature in House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, gave the Board authority to license and regulate equine dental providers, and did not exempt equine dental providers from being able to go on inactive status under Texas Occupations Code §801.306, regarding Inactive Licenses.

22 TAC §571.63

Adopted new §571.63, which addresses the disciplinary consequences to licensees for default on student loans, is renumbered from repealed §571.62. Aside from minor capitalization corrections, the language of the adopted rule is otherwise unchanged from the language that previously appeared as repealed §571.62.

22 TAC §571.65

Adopted new §571.65 is renumbered from repealed §571.63. Aside from minor capitalization corrections, the language of the adopted rule is otherwise unchanged from the language that previously appeared as repealed §571.63. The Board did not receive any comments on the proposed amendments during the comment period.

The Board adopts the following changes to 22 TAC Chapter 573, to clarify the Board's rules of professional conduct, and to implement changes necessitated by recent legislation, including House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers.

22 TAC §573.2

The Board adopts new §573.2, regarding Avoidance of Encroachment on Another's Practice, which prohibits licensees from attempting to influence the sound professional judgment of any other licensee, particularly when a licensee has made a complaint to the Board regarding another licensee or when a licensee is providing a professional opinion for the Board as part of the Board's investigation of another licensee. New §573.2 will apply to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike.

The new adopted §573.2 differs from the repealed version of §573.2 in that the Board has replaced the term "unfaithful" with "substandard" to clarify that licensees have the right to complain about another licensee's work that does not meet the standards for practice set by the Board's rules, including but not limited to the standard of care. The adopted new rule also differs from the repealed version of §573.2 in that it contains new language emphasizing that licensees have the right to file complaints with the Board or act as witnesses for the Board without any sort of reprisal or intimidation by another licensee.

22 TAC §573.3

The Board adopts new §573.3, regarding Exposure of Corrupt or Dishonest Conduct, which requires that licensees expose corrupt or dishonest conduct by other licensees to the Board or other proper tribunal. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because all licensees, regardless of profession, have the duty to root out corrupt or dishonest conduct by other licensees, to ensure that there is no tolerance among licensees for abuse of public trust.

22 TAC §573.4

The Board adopts new §573.4, regarding Adherence to the Law, which prohibits licensees from violating state or federal law in connection with the licensee's professional practice. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because all licensees, regardless of profession, should face Board discipline if they violate laws related to their professional practice, or violate other state and federal laws while in their practice or under the guise of their practice. The adopted rule includes language referencing the list of crimes that the Board considers to be related to the practices of veterinary medicine and equine dentistry, located in §575.50, to clarify which violations of law by a licensee are also a violation of the Board's rules. The adopted language reflects the Board's long-standing interpretation of this rule.

22 TAC §573.5

The Board adopts new §573.5, regarding Avoidance of Corruption of Others, which prohibits licensees from trying to corrupt or deceive others, and from betraying the public's trust. The adopted rule applies to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because all licensees should be subject to discipline if they even attempt corruption, deception or betrayal of the public.

22 TAC §573.6

The Board adopts new §573.6, regarding Restriction of Partnerships to Members of Veterinary Profession, which states that veterinarians may only partner with other veterinarians to practice veterinary medicine. The adopted rule applies only to veterinarians, because the Veterinary Licensing Act only precludes veterinarians from partnering with non-veterinarians and has no similar preclusion for equine dental providers.

22 TAC §573.7

The Board adopts new §573.7, regarding No Abuse of Position or Trust, which states that a licensee may not use his or her position for personal advantage, to coerce, or to deceive the public, and may not influence, or attempt to influence, the statement of any individual to the Board if the individual is making the statement in response to a Board request. The adopted rule applies to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because no licensee should use their status as either a veterinarian or equine dental provider to coerce or mislead anyone for personal advantage, or deceive the public, or seek to influence another licensee or a member of the public when the licensee is under investigation by the Board. The adopted rule also includes new language intended to stop licensees under investigation from attempting to intimidate or influence witnesses that are assisting the Board with investigations or testifying on the Board's behalf in contested case proceedings.

22 TAC §573.8

The Board adopts new §573.8, regarding Loss of Accreditation, which makes licensees subject to Board discipline if their license or accreditation is revoked or suspended by a governmental authority, and requires that licensees report any such revocation or suspension to the Board within 30 business days. The adopted rule applies to all licensees, both veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, to ensure that all licensees are required to self-report any revocation or suspension of accreditation, including equine dental providers licensed or certified by other states, veterinarians licensed in other states or countries, and veterinarians with DEA and DPS certifications and USDA accreditation. This provision will allow the Board to receive this information as efficiently as possible, both with regard to time and to agency resources, to allow the Board to determine whether the facts that caused the revocation or suspension of a license or accreditation in another arena should impact a licensee's ability to practice veterinary medicine or equine dentistry in Texas.

22 TAC §573.9

The Board adopts new §573.9, regarding Non-Resident Consultants, which states that a veterinarian licensed in another state may enter Texas for purposes of consultation in person, by mail, or by electronic means, but may not establish a routine visit schedule of consultations in Texas without obtaining a Texas license. The Board intends this change to modernize the rule so that it applies in all consultations by veterinarians not licensed in Texas, including but not limited to internet sites and web conferencing. The definition of consultation, which previously appeared in §573.9, has been moved to adopted new §573.80 with other definitions that apply throughout Chapter 573 for clarity and ease of reference.

22 TAC §573.10

The Board adopts new §573.10, regarding Supervision of Non-Licensed Persons, which sets out the limitations on non-veterinarians practicing veterinary medicine or equine dentistry under a veterinarian's supervision. The adopted rule clarifies that a veterinarian is subject to discipline if he either improperly delegates duties to any non-licensee, whether an employee or an independent contractor, or if he fails to properly supervise any non-licensee, whether an employee or an independent contractor, to whom he has delegated treatment responsibilities.

Adopted §573.10 also limits the types of independent contractors a veterinarian can supervise to chiropractors and licensed equine dental providers; all other individuals working under veterinary supervision must be direct employees of the veterinarian. This carve-out for licensed equine dental providers and chiropractors is intended to create a very limited exception to the adopted new §573.11, which requires the veterinarian take direct responsibility for the actions of all employees working under his supervision. Both licensed equine dental providers and licensed chiropractors are independently regulated by the state of Texas, and therefore are separately accountable for their actions while working under veterinary supervision. By allowing licensed equine dental providers and chiropractors to work under veterinary supervision as independent contractors rather than employees, the veterinarian will only be responsible only for improper delegation of care to, or improper supervision of, these separately regulated independent contractors.

The Board adopts new §573.10 to consolidate provisions regarding what a non-veterinarian can do under veterinarian supervision that had previously appeared in other rules in Chapter 573. Specifically, the provisions on supervision for non-veterinarians administering rabies vaccine and using a veterinarian's signature stamp on official health documents such as rabies certificates have been split out from their prior location in §573.51. It also incorporates the limitations set by the Texas Legislature in HB 414 and Texas Occupations Code §801.262 on the services that licensed equine dental providers can perform under general veterinary supervision, and that non-licensed employees of a veterinarian can perform under direct supervision.

Additionally, the Board adopts new §573.10 to clarify and simplify the rules regarding veterinarians' supervision of registered veterinary technicians (RVT). The qualifications for registered veterinary technicians (RVT) are simplified so that the adopted rule considers an individual registered as an RVT by the Texas Veterinary Medical Association to be a RVT

under the rule. The adopted rule also clarifies that under direct veterinary supervision, a RVT can perform suturing to close both surgical skin incisions and skin lacerations. The adopted rule further clarifies that the emergency care and hospitalized animals provisions are both exceptions to the general supervision rules.

22 TAC §573.11

The Board adopts new §573.11, regarding Responsibility for Unlicensed Employees, which makes veterinarians subject to discipline for the actions of their employees that violate the Board's rules when the employee is acting within the scope of his or her employment. In recent years, the Board's rule on supervision had been interpreted by some administrative law judges to mean that a veterinarian could only be liable for the actions of an employee if the veterinarian had explicitly told the employee to take some action that violated the Board's rules. This interpretation made it extremely easy for veterinarians to evade responsibility for actions taken by their employees, even if the employee was acting completely within the scope of his or her employment by the veterinarian. The Board adopts new §573.11 with the language of the long-standing respondeat superior doctrine from civil common law, which holds an employer responsible for the actions of employees taken within the scope of their employment. By using the language of the respondeat superior doctrine, the Board intends §573.11 to be easy for courts and the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) to interpret consistently and in keeping with the Board's belief that a veterinarian should be directly responsible for the actions of his employees. The main defense a veterinarian under investigation for a violation of this rule would have is that the employee was acting outside the scope of their employment—the employee was performing a task he had not been assigned or was doing something that was not part of his job.

22 TAC §573.12

The Board adopts new §573.12, regarding Responsibility for Licensure of Licensed Persons, which requires that a veterinarian ensure that all other veterinarians and equine dental providers that the veterinarian employs or supervises hold active licenses with the Board, because no veterinarian should allow another veterinarian or an equine dental provider to practice under their supervision without a license. This rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.11 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.13

The Board adopts new §573.13, regarding Delegation and Supervision Relating to Official Health documents, which addresses the supervision requirements for veterinarians who have unlicensed employees assist them with official health documents. The provisions the Board adopts in §573.13 have been split out the previous version of §573.10, to clarify and simplify the supervision rules that particularly relate to official health documents. The term "official health documents" that the Board uses in new §573.13 has been given a standard definition under adopted new §573.80 to allow uniformity and clarity.

22 TAC §573.14

The Board adopts new §573.14, regarding Alternative Therapies--Chiropractic and Other Forms of Musculoskeletal Manipulation, which sets out the conditions under which a licensed veterinarian or an individual under a licensed veterinarian's supervision can perform chiropractic treatments or musculoskeletal manipulation on animals. The Board adopts new §573.14 to apply only to supervision by veterinarians, because equine dental providers are not authorized to supervise others in the practice of veterinary medicine under the Veterinary Licensing Act. The adopted rule does not include the word "non-standard" as a description of chiropractic treatment because some found it to have disparaging implications. The adopted new rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.12 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.15

The Board adopts new §573.15, regarding Use of Ultrasound in Diagnosis or Therapy, which sets out the conditions under which ultrasound equipment can be used on animals. The adopted rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.13 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged from the text that previously appeared as §573.13.

22 TAC §573.16

The Board adopts new §573.16, regarding Alternative Therapies--Acupuncture, which sets out the conditions under which a licensed veterinarian can perform acupuncture on animals, and forbids individuals who are not veterinarians from performing acupuncture on animals. The adopted rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.14 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged from the text that previously appeared as §573.14.

22 TAC §573.17

The Board adopts new §573.17, regarding Alternative Therapies--Holistic Medicine, which sets out the conditions under which a licensed veterinarian can perform holistic medicine on animals, and forbids individuals who are not veterinarians from performing holistic medicine on animals. The adopted rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.15 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573. The adopted rule adds the words "holistic medicine" to subsection (b) to correct an omission, and replaces the word "treating" with "treatment" in subsection (d), but the text is otherwise unchanged from the way it appeared previously as §573.15.

22 TAC §573.18

The Board adopts new §573.18, regarding Alternative Therapies--Homeopathy, which sets out the conditions under which a licensed veterinarian can use homeopathy, and forbids individuals who are not veterinarians using homeopathy in the treatment of an animals. The adopted rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.16 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged.

22 TAC §573.20

The Board adopts new §573.20, regarding Responsibility for Acceptance of Medical Care, which sets out requirements regarding a veterinarian's responsibilities, after accepting an animal as a patient, to treat the patient; inform the client of the treatment, diagnosis, and any possibility that another veterinarian will perform treatment on the animal; and the circumstances under which a veterinarian can discontinue treatment. The adopted text does not include a controversial proposed provision that would have forbidden veterinarians from refusing to return a client's small animal even if the client owed money.

22 TAC §573.21

The Board adopts new §573.21, regarding Direct Responsibility to Client, which forbids a licensee from allowing a non-licensed person or entity to interfere with the licensee's practice. The adopted rule applies to all licensees of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because all licensees should be free from influence by non-licensed persons or entities in their practice.

22 TAC §573.22

The Board adopts new §573.22, regarding Professional Standard of Care, which requires that licensees uphold the same standard of care as other licensees in their community or similar communities. The adopted rule applies to all licensees of the Board, in keeping with the requirements of HB 414 and Texas Occupations Code §801.263, which state that an equine dental provider shall be held to the same standard of care as a veterinarian providing equine dental services. The rule is adopted with phrase "standard of care" in the title to reflect what the standard is commonly called.

22 TAC §573.23

The Board adopts new §573.23, regarding Board Certified Specialists, which addresses the higher standard of care to which the Board holds specialists, and how that higher standard of care impacts the Board's investigation process. The language regarding a veterinarian's duty to refer that previously appeared in §573.23 has been split out in the interests of clarity and ease of reference and now appears in adopted new §573.24. The term "specialist" is now defined under new §573.80 to increase uniformity and clarity in the Board's rules, and is employed in this new adopted rule.

22 TAC §573.24

The Board adopts new §573.24, regarding the Responsibility of a Veterinarian to Refer a Case, covers the duty of a veterinarian to refer a case to a more qualified veterinarian if the care and treatment of the animal is beyond his or her capabilities. The provisions in the adopted rule were split out from the previous version of §573.23 in the interests of clarity and ease of reference. The term "specialist" is now defined under new §573.80 to increase uniformity and clarity in the Board's rules, and is employed in this new rule.

22 TAC §573.25

The Board adopts new §573.25, regarding Issuance of Official Health Documents Through Direct Knowledge Only, which sets out the requirement that veterinarians only issue official health documents based on personal knowledge gleaned by examining the animal. The adopted rule applies only to veterinarians because equine dental providers are not authorized by law to issue official health documents. Adopted §573.25 employs the term "official health documents," which is now defined under new §573.80 to increase uniformity and clarity in the Board's rules. The adopted rule has been renumbered from repealed §573.24 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.26

The Board adopts new §573.26, regarding Avoidance of Guaranteeing Cures, which forbids all licensees from guaranteeing cures. The adopted rule applies to both equine dental providers and veterinarians alike, because no licensee should make bold, misleading assertions to their clients about the possibility of a cure, regardless of practice area. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.25 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.27

The Board adopts new §573.27, regarding Honesty, Integrity and Fair Dealing, which requires that all licensees conduct their practice with honesty, integrity and fairness. The adopted rule applies to all licensees of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because the Board believes that all licensees, regardless of practice area, should conduct their practices with honesty, integrity and fair dealing to their clients. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.26 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

The proposed text of §573.27 as published explicitly required that licensees obtain informed consent from clients prior to beginning treatment on a patient. In response to comments, the Board adopts only the first sentence of the published proposed text of §573.27, and does not adopt the requirement that a licensee obtain informed consent. The Board recognizes that Texas Occupations Code §801.402 (12) forbids licensees from performing unauthorized treatment, and the Board has long interpreted that provision as requiring that a licensee obtain informed consent from the client. The adoption of §573.27 without the proposed amendment regarding informed consent does not change the Board's long-standing interpretation of Texas Occupations Code §801.402 (12).

22 TAC §573.28

The Board adopts new §573.28, regarding the Observance of Confidentiality, which allows veterinarians to waive confidentiality as necessary to collect on a debt owed by a client for veterinary services, in keeping with the Texas Legislature's amendment of the Veterinary Licensing Act, codified in Texas Occupations Code §801.353(d-1). The adopted rule is also renumbered from repealed §573.27 to accommodate other new subsections added to §573.

published proposed text of §573.28 included the replacement of the word "rabies" with "communicable disease" to ensure that veterinarians are free to disclose information regarding communicable disease vaccines to governmental entities for purposes of protection of public health and safety. In response to comments, the Board removed the proposed words "communicable disease" and reverted to "rabies" in the adopted version of §573.28.

22 TAC §573.29

The Board adopts new §573.29, regarding Complaint Information and Notice to Clients, which requires that all licensees, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, provide their clients with information about how to complain to the Board regarding alleged violations of Board rules or the Veterinary Licensing Act.

22 TAC §573.30

The Board adopts new §573.30, regarding Advertising, which sets out the limitations on advertising by licensees. The adopted rule applies the same advertising standards to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because no licensee can be allowed to mislead the public by issuing false, deceptive or misleading advertising. The adopted rule includes a clarification of the limitation on the language a licensee can use in advertising, to eliminate any advertising that implies the licensee's services or facilities are superior to those of other licensees, and that is not subject to verification by the public. This clarification is in keeping with the Board's long-standing interpretation that an implication is a form of a statement in advertising, and is improper unless it has a basis verifiable by the general public.

22 TAC §573.32

The Board adopts new §573.32, regarding Specialty Listings, which sets out the conditions under which a veterinarian can claim to be a specialist. The Board intends this adopted new rule to prevent any misleading or confusing advertising by specialized veterinarians, and to allow the public to determine more easily which veterinarians are board-certified in a particular area of expertise. The new adopted rule includes a requirement that a veterinarian indicate his or her specialty when the veterinarian indicates that he or she is a specialist. Equine dental providers are not included in the rule because there is currently no recognized specialization process for equine dental providers.

22 TAC §573.33

The Board adopts new §573.33, regarding Display of Degree, Certificate or Title From Approved Institutions, which requires that licensees display certificates only from board-approved institutions. The new rule applies to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because no licensee can be allowed to represent themselves as being qualified by a school, institution or organization that is not approved by the Board.

TAC §573.34

The Board adopts new §573.34, regarding Authorized Degrees, Certificates or Titles, which forbids licensees from using degrees or titles to which they are not entitled. The new adopted rule applies to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, so that no licensee can hold themselves out as holding a degree that they do not actually possess.

22 TAC §573.35

The Board adopts new §573.35, regarding Display of License, which requires that all licensees display their license and most recent renewal certificate at their practice location. The adopted new rule applies to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, so that the public will be able to tell immediately from the presence or absence of a displayed license whether their veterinarian or equine dental provider is licensed.

22 TAC §573.36

The Board adopts new §573.36, regarding Corporate and Assumed Names, which forbids licensees from using false, deceptive, or misleading corporate or assumed names. The adopted new rule applies to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, so that no licensee can deceive the public through the use of a misleading corporate name.

22 TAC §573.37

The Board adopts new §573.37, regarding Ban on the Use of Solicitors, which forbids licensees from paying a third party who refers clients to the licensee. The adopted new rule applies to all licenses of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because no licensee should give kickbacks for referrals. The adopted rule lacks an introductory sentence that had previously appeared in §573.37, because the sentence contained no legally operative language.

22 TAC §573.41

The Board adopts new §573.41, regarding Use of Prescription Drugs, which prohibits veterinarians from prescribing, administering, dispensing, delivering or ordering delivered any prescription drug without first having established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship and a determination that the drugs are necessary for the medical care of the animal. The adopted new rule includes administration of drugs in the list of conduct that is unprofessional for a veterinarian to undertake unless the veterinarian has first established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. Under §802 of the federal Controlled Substances Act, the term "dispense" is defined to include administering a drug, so the Board intends the new adopted rule to conform the language of the rule with federal law. The addition of administration in the adopted rule does not change the Board's interpretation of §573.41. The new adopted rule applies only to veterinarians, because equine dental providers are not authorized to use or possess any scheduled drug, except to administer drugs to their patients at the instruction of the supervising veterinarian who has an active veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal in question and has made a diagnosis of a medically sound need for the drug.

22 TAC §573.42

The Board adopts new §573.42, regarding Use of Scheduled Drugs in Training and/or Racing, which prohibits veterinarians from giving drugs to an animal for training or racing purposes without a medically sound reason. The new adopted rule applies only to veterinarians, because equine dental providers are not authorized to use or possess any scheduled drug, except to administer drugs to their patients at the instruction of the supervising veterinarian who has an active veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal in question and has made a diagnosis of a medically sound need for the drug.

22 TAC §573.43

The Board adopts new §573.43, regarding Controlled Substances Registration, which sets out the requirements regarding controlled substance registrations for veterinarians. The new adopted rule applies only to veterinarians, because equine dental providers are not able to obtain controlled substance registrations under state and federal law. The adopted new rule clarifies that a veterinarian who has a DPS controlled substances registration can dispense and administer controlled substances even if he or she does not have his or her own DEA controlled substance registration so long as the veterinarian is supervised by another veterinarian who does have a DEA controlled substances registration, but may not procure, purchase or issue a prescription for a controlled substance. The Board does not intend to alter the meaning of the rule at all, but simply to clarify what many had found to be confusing language. Under Federal Controlled Substances Act §802, the term "dispense" is defined including administering a drug, so the Board intends the addition of the word "administer" as a clarification to conform the language of the rule with federal law. The title adopted new rule does not include the term "DEA" because the rule covers both DEA and DPS controlled substance certifications.

22 TAC §573.44

The Board adopts new §573.44, regarding Compounding Drugs, which sets out the limited circumstances in which a veterinarian can compound a drug. The adopted new rule parallels current state and federal regulations on the compounding of drugs by veterinarians while emphasizing issues that are of particular significance for veterinarians, such as the importance of the veterinary-client-patient relationship and the limitations on drugs compounded for food-producing animals. The adopted rule is structured by subject-area, to clarify the limitations that apply to all compounded products, the limitations on compounding for food producing animals, and the limitations on promotion and sale of compounded drugs. The new adopted rule strengthens the requirement that a veterinarian must establish and maintain a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with any animal for which the veterinarian compounds drugs. The Board intends the adopted rule to limit drug compounding by veterinarians only to treat a specific occurrence of a disease or condition that the veterinarian has diagnosed in a specific patient, and to prohibit veterinarians from compounding on any other basis or in quantities greater than those needed for the treatment of the particular disease occurrence in the specific diagnosed patient. The Board's concern is that some veterinarians compound significant quantities of drugs in advance of diagnosis for business profit reasons without first diagnosing the condition or disease

the compounded drug is designed to treat in a particular patient with whom the veterinarian has established and maintained a veterinarian-client-patient relationship. Compounding drugs for office use is allowed under the rule, but only in amounts that do not exceed the established historical need for specific compounded drugs for patients with which the veterinarian has established and maintained a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship. The adopted rule includes more detailed provisions requiring that a veterinarian only compound products made with FDA-approved drugs as active ingredients, and not promote or distribute compounds that are essentially the same as other FDA-approved drugs. The subsection of the adopted rule regarding compounding for food-producing animals parallels existing federal and state law on the subject by requiring that the veterinarian set withdrawal times that are based on scientific information and note the method used to determine the withdrawal period in the patient records, and ensure that procedures are in place to maintain the identity of any food-producing animal that receives a compounded drug. With regard to labeling requirements for compounded drugs, the new adopted rule eliminates redundancies in the labeling information required for all drugs under §573.44, and requires that the label for compounded drugs include both name and strength of medically active ingredients.

22 TAC §573.45

The Board adopts new §573.45, regarding Extra-Label or Off-Label Use of Drugs, which sets out the conditions under which a veterinarian may prescribe a drug for an off-label use. The adopted new rule includes compounded drugs explicitly among the list of extra-label or off-label uses for drugs. Although compounding is commonly considered an off-label use, some licensees have expressed confusion over whether the limitations on extra-label use applied to compounded drugs as well as approved drugs. The adopted rule includes limitations on extra-label drug use in food-producing animals, based on federal regulations and is intended to parallel the requirements for compounded drugs set out in adopted new §573.44.

22 TAC §573.52

The Board adopts new §573.52, regarding Veterinarian Patient Record Keeping, sets out the required information that veterinarians must note and maintain in their patient records. The new adopted rule adds to the information that veterinarians must include in patient records information regarding referrals to other veterinarians and the client's response to the referral, information regarding consultations with other veterinarians regarding a patient, and copies of any official health documents issued for the animal. This new required information covers the aspects of veterinary practice from which many complaints to the Board arise. Requiring veterinarians to record the information in patient records will expedite the Board's investigations by creating a contemporaneous account of what the veterinarian did during the treatment of the animal. The adopted rule applies only to veterinarians because the Board has adopted a separate rule for equine dental provider patient record keeping under §573.53. Adopted new §573.52 also contains a provision that requires veterinarians to include any information necessary to either substantiate or document the examination of the patient, broadening the "catch-all" provision to ensure that veterinarians include as much pertinent information as possible in their patient records. The adopted rule also standardizes the records retention requirement so that veterinarians keep both rabies certifications and patient health records for five years.

22 TAC §573.53

The Board adopts new §573.53, regarding Equine Dental Provider Patient Record Keeping, sets out the information that equine dental providers are required to record for each patient, as well as the requirements that equine dental providers maintain records for five years and provide copies to the client at the time of treatment and to the supervising veterinarian within 15 days of request. The adopted new rule parallels adopted §573.52 regarding veterinarian patient record keeping, but is simplified to require that equine dental providers record and maintain only information pertinent to their practice. The requirements that equine dental providers give a copy of their records to the client at the time of treatment and make the records available if the supervising veterinarian requests them were both set by the Texas Legislature in HB 414 and codified in Texas Occupations Code §801.262(d).

22 TAC §573.54

The Board adopts new §573.54, regarding Patient Records Release and Charges, which sets out the conditions under which a veterinarian must deliver copies of patient records to a client. The adopted new rule applies only to veterinarians, and not to all licensees of the Board, because equine dental providers are required to deliver their patient records to the client at the time of service under Texas Occupations Code §801.262(d). The adopted rule is also renumbered from repealed §573.53 to accommodate new added subsections of §573.

22 TAC §573.55

The Board adopts new §573.55, regarding Transfer and Disposal of Patient Records, which sets out a veterinarian's obligations with regard to patient records when discontinuing a veterinary practice. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.54 to accommodate new added subsections of §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged from what previously appeared as repealed §573.54. The adopted rule does not apply to licensed equine dental providers, because equine dental providers are required to deliver their patient records to the client at the time of service under Texas Occupations Code §801.262(d).

22 TAC §573.60

The Board adopts new §573.60, regarding Prohibition Against Treatment of Humans, which forbids veterinarians from providing treatment to humans. The adopted new rule applies only to veterinarians, and not to all licensees of the Board, because much of the practice of equine dentistry is inapplicable to humans, whose teeth do not continue to grow throughout their lives. Moreover, any equine dental provider who attempted to practice on humans would be in violation of the laws prohibiting the practice of dentistry on humans by anyone who is not licensed by the State Board of Dental Examiners.

22 TAC §573.61

The Board adopts new §573.61, regarding Minimum Security for Controlled Substances, which sets out security procedures for veterinarians to follow in storing controlled substances. The adopted new rule applies only to veterinarians, and not to all licensees of the Board, because equine dental providers are not authorized to prescribe or dispense controlled substances. The adopted new rule does not reference Texas Department of Public Safety laws as the repealed

version of the rule previously had, because many of the requirements in the adopted rule originate from U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration laws and policies rather than from the Texas Department of Public Safety. Adopted new §573.61 requires that a veterinarian maintain a written list of persons who have access to the controlled substance storage areas, which is a requirement based on DEA guidelines.

22 TAC §573.63

The Board adopts new §573.63, regarding Inspection of Facilities and Records, which sets out the obligations of licensees during an inspection of their facilities by board investigators. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees of the Board, veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because all licensees must be subject to compliance inspection by board investigators for the Board to enforce its rules adequately.

22 TAC §573.64

The Board adopts new §573.64, regarding Continuing Education Requirements, which sets out the required number of continuing education hours for veterinarians and equine dental providers respectively. The six-hour requirement for equine dental provider licensees is set by the Texas Legislature in HB 414 and codified in Texas Occupations Code §801.307. Adopted §573.64 also clarifies and standardizes the language regarding continuing education requirements, the carrying over of continuing education hours from year to year, extensions, and makeup hours, so that the new adopted rule applies to all licensees of the Board. Adopted §573.64 allows exemptions from continuing education requirements only for veterinarians, because the fee exemptions set by the Texas Legislature under Texas Occupations Code §801.304 apply only to veterinarians. Other subsections that were previously included in repealed §573.64 have been split out into new rules that are adopted in this issue.

22 TAC §573.65

The Board adopts new §573.65, regarding Proof of Acceptable Continuing Education, which sets out the types of continuing education that are acceptable to the Board. The adopted new rule has been split out from repealed §573.64 for clarity and ease of reference, and covers types of continuing education, the distribution of hours in each of the various types of continuing education that a licensee can earn each year, and the documents required for proof of each type of continuing education. The adopted rule contains requirements for both equine dental providers and veterinarians.

For equine dental providers, adopted new §573.65 allows credit only for continuing education that relates to clinical practice. The Board believes that since equine dental providers are required by statute to attain only six hours of continuing education per year, it is vital that those credits be directly related to clinical practice. Veterinarians, who are required to attain 17 hours per year of continuing education, can receive credit for continuing education hours related to either clinical practice or practice management under the new adopted rule, although veterinarians can only claim five hours per year related to practice management. The adopted rule allows equine dental providers to attain continuing education credit by attending any meeting sponsored by the International Association of Equine Dentistry, to parallel the credit veterinarians receive for attending meetings sponsored by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

The Board believes that there are intangible benefits in taking courses from a live person and meeting peers face-to-face that online courses cannot offer, in that in-person meetings for continuing education hold an attendee's attention more completely and offer enhanced networking and community-building opportunities that benefit the profession. Therefore, under adopted new §573.65, the Board has set the continuing education requirements to encourage licensees to attend live classes or other forms of continuing education courses that require extensive interaction. Adopted new §573.65 requires that veterinarians receive at least seven hours per year of live continuing education instruction, and that equine dental providers receive at least four hours per year. Under adopted new §573.65, all licensees can get continuing education credit for self-study such as reading journal articles relevant to their profession, but these hours are limited to one hour for equine dental providers and three hours for veterinarians, to ensure that licensees participate in interactive continuing education. All licensees are allowed to get continuing education credit for verifiable, monitored online classes that meet new rigorous requirements under the adopted rule, including extensive real-time interaction between students and instructor, and extensive documentation of the students' participation through verbal interaction, software documentation, and real-time surveys. Veterinarians are limited to ten hours per year of verifiable, monitored online courses meeting these requirements, and equine dental providers are limited to two hours per year. Under adopted new §573.65, only veterinary licensees are allowed credit for continuing education classes taken by correspondence, which includes most online classes, and veterinarians are limited to only five hours per year of continuing education by correspondence. The intention of the Board in adopting these limitations on online courses is to ensure that licensees take only the best of the vast array of courses offered online, and that licensees continue to attend live classes for continuing education.

With regard to keeping records of continuing education, the adopted new §573.65 clarifies that all licensees must keep records of continuing education for the last four calendar years. The language previously used in repealed §573.64, which required that licensees keep records for the last three renewal cycles, caused confusion among many licensees. The new adopted language is not intended as a significant change in how long licensees must keep records.

Adopted new §573.65 also includes specific requirements regarding the documentation that a licensee must obtain and keep from a multi-day continuing education course. Under the adopted rule, a licensee must indicate which specific sessions of the multi-day program the licensee attended by marking them on a printed agenda for the program. This language is consistent with current Board policy, and is intended to keep licensees from claiming credit for a whole multi-day program despite only attending part of it. During the Board's last sunset review, the Texas Sunset Commission recommended this change in the way licensees document their attendance at multi-day courses.

22 TAC §573.66

The Board adopts new §573.66, regarding Disciplinary Action for Non-Compliance with Continuing Education Requirements, which sets out the grounds for disciplinary action by the Board for transgressions related to continuing education. The adopted new rule is split out from repealed §573.64 to simplify and clarify disciplinary orders for licensees that fail to obtain continuing education or maintain continuing education records.

22 TAC §573.67

The Board adopts new §573.67, regarding Continuing Education as Disciplinary Action, which sets out the Board's ability to order licensees to complete additional continuing education as discipline for violations of the Veterinary Licensing Act or the Board's Rules. The adopted new rule is split out from repealed §573.64 to make it easier for the Board to reference the particular rule violated when creating disciplinary orders when the Board orders continuing education as discipline for a licensee.

22 TAC §573.68

The Board adopts new §573.68, regarding Monitoring Licensee Compliance, which sets out the Board's procedures for compliance inspections on licensees' practices. The adopted new rule is renumbered from repealed §573.66 to accommodate new sections added to §573. Adopted §573.68 applies to all of the Board's licensees, veterinarians and equine dental providers alike, because all licensees are subject to inspection by the Board to ensure that the Board's rules and the Act are followed. Because inspections of veterinarians and equine dental providers will necessarily involve inspection of different documents and items depending on the profession of the licensee, and because the repealed version of the rule stated that the items enumerated in the rule were not an exclusive list of items and documents the Board could inspect, the adopted rule does not include these non-exclusive lists of items for inspection in the interests of simplicity and clarity. Adopted §573.68 will not change the current practice of the Board.

22 TAC §573.69

The Board adopts new §573.69, regarding Conditions Relative to License Suspension, which describes the requirements for licensees under a disciplinary license suspension. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees of the Board, both equine dental providers and veterinarians alike, because all licensees are potentially subject to disciplinary license suspension by the Board. Adopted §573.69 is renumbered from repealed §573.68 to accommodate other sections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.70

The Board adopts new §573.70, regarding Reporting of Criminal Activity, which requires that licensees report all criminal indictments or convictions to the Board. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees of the Board, both equine dental providers and veterinarians alike, because it is important that the Board know of criminal activity by its licensees related to the practice of veterinary medicine or equine dentistry, so that the Board can prevent criminals undeserving of the public's trust from practicing equine dentistry or veterinary medicine in Texas. Adopted §573.70 is renumbered from repealed §573.69 to accommodate other sections added to §573. In adopted §573.70, the Board requires that licensees report indictments to the Board; the adopted rule does not require that licensees report arrests, as was previously the requirement under repealed §573.69. The Board has noted scientific studies that have shown minorities are more likely to be arrested than non-minorities, and has therefore made the proposal in the interests of preventing any inadvertent discriminatory impact of the rule.

22 TAC §573.71

The Board adopts new §573.71, regarding Operation of Temporary Limited-Service Veterinary Services, which sets out the requirements for veterinarians who operate temporary clinics. The adopted new rule applies only to veterinarians, rather than to all licensees, because the practice of equine dentistry is predominantly a mobile practice, and therefore is not subject to varying requirements for different types of clinic settings. Adopted new §573.71 requires veterinarians operating temporary limited service clinics to keep both rabies vaccination records and treatment records for five years, in keeping with the length of time that veterinarians operating traditional, full-service clinics are required to keep such records. Adopted §573.71 is renumbered from repealed §573.70 to accommodate other new sections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.72

The Board adopts new §573.72, regarding Employment by Nonprofit or Municipal Corporations, which allows veterinarians to work for non-profits even when the non-profit is not owned by a licensed veterinarian. The adopted new rule applies only to veterinarians, rather than to all licensees. There is no statutory limitation on the ownership of an equine dental provider's practice as there is for veterinary practices, which may only be owned by licensed veterinarians, so there is no need for an exception for equine dental providers employed by a nonprofit organization. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.71 to accommodate other new sections of §573.

22 TAC §573.73

The Board adopts new §573.73, regarding Animal Reproduction, which sets out the specific activities pertaining to animal reproduction that the Board considers to be the practice of veterinary medicine that only a licensed veterinarian can perform. The adopted new rule is renumbered from repealed §573.72 to accommodate other new sections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged.

22 TAC §573.74

The Board adopts new §573.74, regarding Management Services Organizations in Veterinary Practice, which addresses the ways in which a veterinarian can work with a management services organization without giving up ownership or control of the veterinary practice. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.73 to accommodate other new sections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged.

22 TAC §573.75

The Board adopts new §573.75, regarding Duty to Cooperate with Board, which sets out a licensee's duty to cooperate with board investigations and to respond within 21 days to all requests by the Board for information. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees, equine dental providers and veterinarians alike, because all licensees must cooperate with Board investigations for the Board to be able to efficiently investigate and determine alleged violations of the rules. Adopted §573.75 is renumbered from repealed §573.74 to accommodate other new sections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.76

The Board adopts new §573.76, regarding Notification of Licensee Addresses, which requires licensees to report their contact information to the Board. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees, equine dental providers and veterinarians alike, because Board needs to be able to efficiently contact all of its licensees. The adopted rule is renumbered from repealed §573.75 to accommodate other new sections added to §573. Adopted new §573.76 requires that licensees inform the Board of their business telephone number and residence or cellular telephone number, to allow Board representatives to contact licensees more readily.

22 TAC §573.77

The Board adopts new §573.77, regarding Sterilization of Animals from Releasing Agencies, which sets out requirements for sterilization and identification of animals released from shelters. The adopted new rule is renumbered from repealed §573.76 to accommodate other new sections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged.

22 TAC §573.78

The Board adopts new §573.78, regarding Default on Student Loan/Child Support Payments, which makes licensees that are in default on student loans or child support payments subject to discipline. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees, because Texas Education Code §57.491 and Chapter 232 of the Texas Family Code, the state laws that forbid license renewal for licensees that fail to pay child support or student loans, are not limited by profession. The adopted new rule is renumbered from repealed §573.77 to accommodate other new sections added to §573, but the text is otherwise unchanged.

22 TAC §573.79

The Board adopts new §573.79, regarding the Maintenance of Sanitary Premises, which requires that all licensee maintain their premises in a clean and sanitary condition. The adopted new rule applies to all licensees of the Board, veterinarian and equine dental provider alike, because sanitary practice facilities are equally important to the health and safety of animals receiving veterinary care as to horses receiving treatment from an equine dentist. The adopted rule is also renumbered from repealed §573.28 to accommodate other new sections added to §573.

22 TAC §573.80

The Board adopts new §573.80, regarding Definitions, which defines words used throughout Chapter 573.

BOARD PROPOSES CHANGES TO RULES

At the March 27, 2012 Board meeting, the Board directed staff to post the following proposed changes in the *Texas Register* for comment, the full text of the changes can be found on the agency website.

Proposed Rules:

575.25

The proposed amendments to §575.25 are intended to make the schedule of disciplinary sanctions apply to all licensees, veterinarians and equine dental providers alike. These proposed amendments are necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers.

575.28

The proposed amendment to §575.28 clarifies what materials the Board sends to respondent licensees during the course of an investigation in light of confusion among licensees and members of the public regarding the scope and meaning of the word “complaint.” The Board proposes this amendment to clarify the Board’s procedure for investigating complaints.

The proposed amendment provides that the Board will send a summary of the allegations in the complaint to the respondent licensee initially with a request for a response. Under the proposed amendment, the respondent licensee has the right to request to review the entire complaint—meaning all documents or materials provided to the Board by a complainant and upon which the Board initiates a request for a response from the licensee—unless board staff determines that allowing the respondent licensee to review the complaint in its entirety would jeopardize an active investigation. Accordingly, under the proposed amendment when the complainant responds to the respondent licensee’s response, board staff will have the discretion to withhold from the respondent any materials submitted by the complainant that could jeopardize the investigation. These changes are intended to preserve the Board’s ability to learn the respondent licensee’s version of events without suggestion or influence from outside sources; this ability is a vital tool for board investigators seeking the truth. These proposed changes are in keeping with the procedures at other health professions licensing boards, including the Texas Medical Board, as codified in Texas Occupations Code §154.053, and the Texas Board of Nursing, as codified in Texas Occupations Code §301.457. The Board is concerned that a broader interpretation of “complaint” under the current phrasing of §575.28(6) would require the Board to give the respondent licensee supporting evidentiary materials outside of the written narrative complaint—such as investigative files from other state and federal agencies, second opinions from other licensees or specialists, and copies of patient records—at the earliest stage of the investigation, before the respondent licensee has responded to the complaint, produced his patient records to the Board, and told the Board his side of the story.

The proposed amendment to §575.28 also allows any member of Board staff to investigate a complaint, where previously only board investigators could investigate. The Board intends the amendment to give the Director of Enforcement more latitude in assigning investigation duties by allowing her to assign complaint investigations to administrative staff, as well as to investigators on staff, depending on the complexity of the case.

The proposed amendment to §575.28 also seeks to close an inefficient redundancy in the investigation process, which required the executive director to review all complaints that do not involve medical judgment twice — once in an initial solitary review, and again as part of the staff committee. The proposed amendment allows the director of enforcement to refer a report of investigation for a probable violation that does not involve medical judgment directly to the staff committee. As a member of the staff committee—which is composed of the executive director, the director of enforcement, the investigating staff member and the general counsel—the executive director will still review the case and take part in deciding whether the case should go forward.

577.16

The proposed amendment to §577.16 includes equine dentistry along with veterinary medicine as professions that the Board and board staff are responsible for the regulating under the Veterinary Licensing Act. The proposed amendment is necessitated by House Bill (HB) 414, 82nd Legislative Session, which gave the Board the authority to license and regulate equine dental providers.



NOTICE OF ADDRESS CHANGE

Please email, fax, or mail to:
Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
333 Guadalupe, Suite 3-810
Austin, Texas 78701
FAX: 512-305-7556
Email: vet.board@tbvme.state.tx.us

Please print or type

Name _____

License Number _____

Mailing Address:

Street/PO Box _____
City, State _____ Zip Code _____
Email _____

Practice Address:

Practice Name _____
Street _____
City, State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____

Home Address:

Street _____
City, State _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____

Note: The mailing address is the default address. All documents, forms and letters sent to you from this agency will be mailed to this address.

The mailing address is printed on your license renewal certificate. If you have changed your mailing address and need a duplicate renewal certificate, please indicate below.

___ Please send a duplicate renewal certificate.

Pursuant to Board Rule 573.76(a) "A veterinarian shall notify the Board of any change of any items in subsection (a) not later than the 60th day after the change takes place." Subsection (a) includes: name and license number; clinic or practice name; physical business address; mailing address; residence address; business telephone number; and residence and/or cellular telephone number.

NOTICE TO CLIENTS

To file a commendation or grievance concerning a veterinarian,
please contact:

Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

333 Guadalupe, Tower 3, Suite 810

Austin, Texas 78701-3942

Phone: (512) 305-7555

Fax: (512) 305-7556

To obtain information about filing a complaint, you may access the Board's
voicemail 24 hours a day by calling toll free: 1-800-821-3205