



BOARD NOTES

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF TEXAS
1911—2011

Summer 2011 Issue
Phone: (512) 305-7555

A Publication of the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Now that the 82nd Legislative Session has ended, I thought it would be useful to recap some of the activities affecting TBVME and the veterinary profession

HB 412 Relating to the requirement that certain impaired veterinarians participate in a peer assistance program. This adds to our statute that we may direct a licensee to participate in a peer review program. We have been doing this internally, this just clarifies what we are able to do so.

HB 413 Relating to the confidentiality of certain information held by a veterinarian. This adds that the confidentiality is waived by a client or owner of an animal treated by a vet in a proceeding to collect on a debt for services rendered. It also allows for a vet to release rabies vaccination status of a specific animal to a "public" health authority, or "other licensed health care professional" in addition to a veterinarian or physician who were previously listed. A public health authority that receives the information must maintain the confidentiality of the information.

HB 414 Relating to the regulation of equine dentistry and the conducting of licensing examinations by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. This started off changing only ½ of a sentence by removing the requirement of a board meeting to conduct licensing exams, but in the end, the licensing and regulation of Equine Dental Providers (Sen. Seliger's SB1032) was added on.

Deadlines in this bill include:

1. The Equine Dental Provider Advisory Committee (EDPAC) must be named by the TBVME Presiding Officer no later than October 1, 2011. The EDPAC was appointed by the TBVME Board President at the June 28, 2011 meeting, they are:
 - a. Doug Smith – Presiding Officer
 - b. Carl Mitz
 - c. Larry Kimberlin, DVM

The two EDP members of the committee are not required to hold a license until Sept. 1, 2012.
2. There is a grandfathering period until September 1, 2012. Under the grandfathering period, an EDP may become licensed with:
 - a. proof of graduation from and completion of 280 hours of course work at a board-approved equine dental school or another board-approved entity or organization;

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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

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Vet. School/Grad Year</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
<i>T.E. Fitzpatrick, DVM</i>	<i>Lynnville, IA</i>	<i>Iowa State 1959</i>	<i>January 19, 2010</i>
<i>Roland Mallet, DVM</i>	<i>Holly Lake Ranch, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1944</i>	<i>January 25, 2010</i>
<i>Roland Roudon, DVM</i>	<i>Keller, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1968</i>	<i>February 15, 2010</i>
<i>Robert James, DVM</i>	<i>Selma, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1958</i>	<i>February 24, 2010</i>
<i>Terry Gee, DVM</i>	<i>El Paso, TX</i>	<i>Colorado 1973</i>	<i>March 1, 2010</i>
<i>George Gray, DVM</i>	<i>Sulphur Springs, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1946</i>	<i>March 3, 2010</i>
<i>Reuben Loggins, DVM</i>	<i>West Columbia, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1958</i>	<i>March 12, 2010</i>
<i>Sidney Hanslik, DVM</i>	<i>Big Spring, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1974</i>	<i>March 24, 2010</i>
<i>John Redden, DVM</i>	<i>Kerrville, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1957</i>	<i>April 4, 2010</i>
<i>Vader Loomis, DVM</i>	<i>Waynesboro, PA</i>	<i>Cornell 1950</i>	<i>April 23, 2010</i>
<i>Floyd Blackburn, DVM</i>	<i>Dumas, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1951</i>	<i>June 1, 2010</i>
<i>James Richards, DVM</i>	<i>Pasadena, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1971</i>	<i>July 18, 2010</i>
<i>Donald Johnson, DVM</i>	<i>San Antonio, TX</i>	<i>Minnesota 1962</i>	<i>August 7, 2010</i>
<i>James Hoban, DVM</i>	<i>Corpus Christi, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1950</i>	<i>September 21, 2010</i>
<i>Dwayne Fitte</i>	<i>Marlin, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1953</i>	<i>October 2, 2010</i>
<i>Donald Williams, DVM</i>	<i>Rockport, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1945</i>	<i>October 21, 2010</i>
<i>Dorman Warren, DVM</i>	<i>Granbury, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1970</i>	<i>October 23, 2010</i>
<i>John Fields, DVM</i>	<i>Sonora, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1970</i>	<i>October 28, 2010</i>
<i>Leon Slatko, DVM</i>	<i>Houston, TX</i>	<i>Colorado 1946</i>	<i>October 29, 2010</i>
<i>Richard Howe, DVM</i>	<i>Brenham, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1949</i>	<i>November 15, 2010</i>
<i>Paul Durham, DVM</i>	<i>Jasper, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1955</i>	<i>November 20, 2010</i>
<i>Roy Wilson, DVM</i>	<i>Houston, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1949</i>	<i>December 3, 2010</i>
<i>James Saunders, Jr., DVM</i>	<i>San Antonio, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1941</i>	<i>December 11, 2010</i>
<i>Dennis Wendt, DVM</i>	<i>Houston, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1976</i>	<i>December 14, 2010</i>
<i>Betsy Trenckmann, DVM</i>	<i>Fairfield, TX</i>	<i>Tennessee 1984</i>	<i>December 19, 2010</i>
<i>Odie Wright, DVM</i>	<i>Menard, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1974</i>	<i>January 23, 2011</i>
<i>Norman Heidelbaugh, DVM</i>	<i>Fairfax Station, VA</i>	<i>UPenn</i>	<i>January 28, 2011</i>
<i>Henry Ash, DVM</i>	<i>Plano, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1947</i>	<i>February 19, 2011</i>
<i>G.D. Lindsey, DVM</i>	<i>Levelland, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1952</i>	<i>February 24, 2011</i>
<i>Edward Driscoll, DVM</i>	<i>Pasadena, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1941</i>	<i>March 20, 2011</i>
<i>Duard Linam, DVM</i>	<i>Austin, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1945</i>	<i>April 9, 2011</i>
<i>Walter Juliff, DVM</i>	<i>College Station, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1946</i>	<i>May 30, 2011</i>
<i>Jack Rux, Jr., DVM</i>	<i>Olney, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1973</i>	<i>June 18, 2011</i>
<i>Donald Pitts, DVM</i>	<i>Breckenridge, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1952</i>	<i>July 9, 2011</i>
<i>Susan Fulton, DVM</i>	<i>Houston, TX</i>	<i>TAMU 1990</i>	<i>August 12, 2011</i>

Licensing Exam Dates

State Board Exam 2011

Exam Date	Application Deadline	Location
8/8/11	6/24/11	UT, JJ Pickle Center, Austin
10/10/11	8/26/11	UT, JJ Pickle Center, Austin
12/5/11	10/21/11	UT, JJ Pickle Center, Austin



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> (Registry of Approved Continuing Education) Search for Available CE: http://www.aavsb.org/RACE/RaceSearch.asp</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 A&M</u> Phone: (979) 845-9102 Fax: (979) 862-2832 Email: ceoffice@cvm.tamu.edu</p> <hr/> <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>
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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 seeking solutions to issues that strengthen the profession and protect the public.

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
Teleah Grand-Bergen, DVM	7912	McKinney, TX	Formal Reprimand	September 10, 2010
Michael Dodd, DVM	5719	Atlanta, TX	Probated Suspension, Formal Reprimand	September 10, 2010
Dennis Wendt, DVM	4008	Houston, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	September 10, 2010
David Snyder, DVM	5560	Terrell, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	September 10, 2010
Alfred Vardeman, DVM	6535	Colorado City, TX	Formal Reprimand	September 10, 2010
Michael Moran, DVM	4569	Woodville, TX	Formal Reprimand	September 10, 2010
John Manning, DVM	7772	Corsicana, TX	Formal Reprimand with Stipulations, 2 year Suspension with all but 180 days Probated	September 10, 2010
Linwood Shelton, DVM	11073	Dripping Springs, TX	Formal Reprimand	September 10, 2010
Sidney Zarges, DVM	1964	El Paso, TX	Voluntary Surrender	December 13, 2010
John Manning, DVM	7772	Corsicana, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	December 13, 2010
Robert Rosebrock, DVM	4582	Buda, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	December 13, 2010
George Kidd, DVM	2530	San Saba, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	December 13, 2010
Lynn Stucky, DVM	5268	Sanger, TX	Probated Suspension, Formal Reprimand with Stipulations	December 13, 2010
Ricky Rogers, DVM	4182	Corsicana, TX	Formal Reprimand with Stipulations, 2 year Suspension with all but 14 days Probated	December 13, 2010
Jay K. Meyer, DVM	8248	Round Rock, TX	Suspension	December 15, 2010
Alfred Vardeman, DVM	6535	Colorado City, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 29, 2011
Jay K. Meyer, DVM	8248	Round Rock, TX	Formal Reprimand	March 29, 2011
Timothy Holt, DVM	7095	Terrell, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	March 29, 2011
Robert C. Tiller, DVM	4002	Waskom, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	June 28, 2011
Llelwyn P. Gregg, DVM	3577	Campbell, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	June 28, 2011
James Gieb, DVM	2897	Springtown, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	June 28, 2011
William Isomoto, DVM	7008	Malverne, NY	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	June 28, 2011
Watt Norman, DVM	2948	Malakoff, TX	Formal Reprimand with Additional Stipulations	June 28, 2011

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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
Angel Gonzalez	McAllen, TX	September 10, 2010
Cori Schultz	Houston, TX	September 10, 2010
Dawn Thompson	Rosanky, TX	September 10, 2010
Michael Pirrone	Anthony, NM	September 10, 2010
Michael Schultz	Houston, TX	September 10, 2010
Molly Green	Granbury, TX	September 10, 2010
Pamela Murray	New Braunfels, TX	September 10, 2010
Angela Bivens	Webster, TX	December 13, 2010
Cheryl Frame	Sanger, TX	December 13, 2010
Darrell Bivens	Webster, TX	December 13, 2010
Gina Byrom	Sanger, TX	December 13, 2010
Justin Holland	Fort Worth, TX	December 13, 2010
Lailia Ferrell	Rockwall, TX	December 13, 2010
Lester Jourdan	Big Spring, TX	December 13, 2010
Maria de los Angeles Benavides	McAllen, TX	December 13, 2010
Ricky Ferrell	Rockwall, TX	December 13, 2010
Rose Stanford	Nacogdoches, TX	December 13, 2010
C. L. Mayhugh	Millsap, TX	March 29, 2011
Cindy Hiemenz	Luling, TX	March 29, 2011
David Shackelford	Southlake, TX	March 29, 2011
Judy Glidewell	Canyon, TX	March 29, 2011
Karen Morris	Houston, TX	March 29, 2011
Amanda Shea Moon Dore	Coppell, TX	June 28, 2011
Brady George	Martinsville, TX	June 28, 2011
Edward Flores	Austin, TX	June 28, 2011
Michael Joyce	Austin, TX	June 28, 2011
Nolan Donop	Mason, TX	June 28, 2011
Randy Riedinger	Weatherford, TX	June 28, 2011

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BOARD PROPOSES CHANGES TO RULES

At the June 28, 2011 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.

- **Chapter 571.27. Disability Accommodations.** *The proposed amendment seeks to clarify and codify the Board's procedure for making modifications to examination protocols in order to accommodate an applicant's disability. The proposed rule is created in part to meet the requirement set forth in Senate Bill 867, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, effective September 1, 2011, that all Texas licensing agencies must adopt a rule establishing the eligibility criteria a dyslexic examinee must meet for accommodation. Rather than single out individuals with dyslexia, the Board instead chose to set forth in the proposed rule its procedures for accommodating all disabled individuals. The procedures described in the proposed rule were already written policy at the Board, so the codification of these procedures into rule will not represent a change in practice at the Board.*
- **Chapter 573.17. Dentistry.** *The Board has proposed the repeal of this section. The repeal of this section is necessary because it is obsolete and no longer necessary, as it conflicts with the changes to the Veterinary Licensing Act made by House Bill 414, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, effective September 1, 2011.*
- **Chapter 575.5. Subpoenas/Witness Expenses.** *The amendment seeks to remove the \$200 per day limitation on the amount the Board can pay an expert witness testifying on behalf of the Board at a contested case hearing. Under the proposed rule, the Board will be able to contract with expert witnesses in keeping with the official state procurement processes, and the amounts the Board is able to pay as fees to retained experts will be limited only by the Board's budgetary constraints.*
- **Chapter 575.25. Recommended Schedule of Sanctions.** *The proposed amendment seeks to clarify the type of violation by a licensee that results in a Class B penalty. Under the proposed amendment, there are two types of violations that result in a Class B penalty: either a subsequent violation by a licensee who has already committed a prior Class C violation; or a first-time offense that is severe enough to require a greater penalty than that allowed for a Class C violation, but is not so severe as to create the imminent peril to the public required for a Class A violation.*
- **Chapter 575.26. Complaint Form.** *The repeal of §575.26 is necessary because the rule is obsolete, no longer necessary, and redundant of the amendment proposed for §575.27. The limited methods through which the public could deliver a complaint to the Board as set out in §575.26 does not reflect the modern realities of electronic communication by facsimile and email.*
- **Chapter 575.27. Complaints—Receipt.** *The amendment to §575.27 seeks to reflect the modern reality of the diverse communications technologies through which the Board accepts complaints. The proposed rule sets out how a member of the public can obtain the Board's complaint form—either in hard-copy from the Board's offices, or downloaded from the Board's website.*
- **Chapter 577.15. Fee Schedule.** *The proposed amendment seeks to set fees for the new equine dental provider licenses created by House Bill 414, 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, effective September 1, 2011. The amendment also seeks to modify the fees charged to licensed veterinarians to accommodate the budgetary appropriations set for the Board by the 82nd Legislature and the rising costs of processing veterinary licenses.*

Important 2011 License Renewal Information

Renewal Notices:

As with renewal year 2010, the agency sent out post card renewal reminders in January for renewal year 2011 as well as late notices in March. **All licensees should have renewed their license on-line at www.tbvme.state.tx.us by now.** The online renewal system is still available should you still need to renew your license.

Practicing With An Expired License Is Illegal:

All licensees should be aware that if they have not renewed their license on or before March 1, 2011, **they must cease practicing until the license has been renewed.** The law requires that veterinarians not practice without a current license. Penalties for practicing with an expired license can include a reprimand, a \$1,000 per day fine, or other measures.

Continuing Education Requirements:

Veterinarians must have attained 17 hours of acceptable continuing education during calendar year 2010 (January 1 through December 31). Of those 17 hours, seven must have been obtained from personal attendance at live seminars. Please remember, if you **EARNED** in excess of 17 hours during any calendar year prior to the renewal year, you may carry-over the excess hours earned.

Board Meeting Dates*

October 18, 2011

*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.

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.

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.

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.

From the Executive Director continued...

- b. and submits with the application and other required information two notarized affidavits in which veterinarians who are licensed to practice in this state and are in good standing with the board state that they know the person and that the person is competent in the practice of smoothing or filing teeth by floating.

The Board may waive the requirement of the proof of graduation and 280 hours of coursework if an applicant demonstrates proficiency by:

- a. submitting financial records showing they have earned the majority of their income for the two years proceeding the effective date of the Act (9/1/11) by performing equine dental services; or
 - b. submitting sworn affidavits from at least two clients who certify that the applicant has performed satisfactorily in addressing the dental needs of the client's animal.
3. The TBVME in consultation with the EDPAC shall adopt rules, procedures and a jurisprudence exam not later than June 1, 2012.
 4. On September 1, 2012 going forward, in order for a person to be licensed as an EDP, they will need to:
 - a. take and pass a jurisprudence examination; and
 - b. be certified by the International Association of Equine Dentistry or another board-approved certification entity or organization;
 - c. submit the required application and other supporting documentation.

HB 1451 Relating to the licensing and regulation of certain dog and cat breeders; providing penalties. “Puppy Mill Bill” – This adds the licensing and regulation of dog or cat breeders to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. A dog or cat breeder is defined as a person who possesses 11 or more intact adult female animals and is engaged in the business of breeding those animals for direct or indirect sale or for exchange in return for consideration and who sells or exchanges, or offers to sell or exchange, not fewer than 20 animals in a calendar year.

SB 158 Relating to offenses involving the fraudulent or unlawful obtaining, delivering, dispensing, distributing, or diverting of a controlled substance; providing penalties. This adds to the Health and Safety Code an offense if a person knowingly converts to their own use or benefit, or diverts to the unlawful use or benefit of another person, a controlled substance to which the person has access by virtue of the person's profession or employment. Conversion for their own use is a state jail felony and diversion to another person is a third degree felony.

SB 811 Relating to the regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine. This is a general clean up of the Veterinary Licensing Act. It includes the provision from HB412 related to requiring peer assistance; changes that we must conduct the exam at least twice each year without the requirement of a meeting to do so; it adds that we may contract with a board-approved entity to conduct the exams; adds language to the temporary license portion of the Act relating to minimal requirements specifically allowing a temporary license for an applicant who is licensed in good standing as a veterinarian in another state or foreign country, who meets the eligibility requirements of the age of majority and graduate of a board-approved school or college of veterinary medicine; and includes the provision of HB413 relating to confidentiality of records.

SB 867 Relating to testing accommodations for a person with dyslexia taking a licensing examination administered by a state agency. This requires that for each licensing examination administered by a state agency, the agency shall provide accommodations to an examinee diagnosed as having dyslexia. Each state agency shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section not later than December 1, 2011. Board Rule §571.27 was proposed at the June 28, 2011 meeting and will be up for discussion and possible adoption at the October 18, 2011 meeting.

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From the Executive Director continued...

- SB 1733 Relating to the occupational licensing of spouses of members of the military.** This adds that a state agency that issues a license shall adopt rules for the issuance of the license to an applicant who is the spouse of a person serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States. It sets out specific criteria that must be met, and that agency rules must include provisions to allow alternative demonstrations of competency. It is staff's belief that our Provisional License covers this requirement.
- HB 2471 Relating to limiting the civil liability of certain persons who obtain or provide medical care and treatment for certain animals.** This provides that a person who in good faith and without compensation renders or obtains medical care or treatment for a non-livestock animal that is injured or in distress because of an emergency, abandoned, running at large or stray is not liable for civil damages for an injury to the animal resulting from an act or omission in rendering or obtaining medical care or treatment unless they commit gross negligence. The person must take reasonable steps to locate the animal's owner and a veterinarian must determine the animal need treatment.

An animal control agency or employee acting within the scope of their employment is entitled to coverage under this law as well.

TBVME ENFORCEMENT OF PRACTICING WITHOUT A LICENSE

On Monday, August 29, 2011, San Antonio Police Department assisted the Enforcement Division by arresting Alejandro Vasquez for Practicing Veterinary Medicine Without a License.

The complaint was sent in by a veterinarian who picked up a flyer at her elderly mother's home in San Antonio. Vasquez listed the services he provided on the flyer, including vaccinations, spay/neuter of cats and dogs and castration of horses. TBVME Director of Enforcement, Karen Phillips, contacted Special Investigations with SAPD and asked if they would like to completely handle the criminal investigation or just make the arrest. They chose the latter.

TBVME's newest investigator, Emilio Morales, who speaks Spanish fluently, made the phone calls to the suspect and set up the meeting at a Home Depot parking lot. Karen's dog, Tito, was in tow and the arrest was made without a hitch. Vasquez is not legally in the country and he claimed to have been here for about a year.

We are most appreciative for SAPD's willingness to help with this case.



CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE RECORDS

Recent compliance inspections have revealed a common problem regarding controlled substance records. Licensees are to maintain records and inventories of Schedules I and II separately. Schedules III, IV, and V are also to be kept separately from other records per Section 1304.04(a) of the Code of Federal Regulations. These controlled substance records are to be readily retrievable. (DEA website has a Practitioner's Manual that addresses this and related issues.) Section 1304.04 specifically states the records are to be available for inspection and copying by authorized employees of the DEA for two years.

TBVME Rule 573.50 requires controlled substance records be kept at their place of business for five years.

Disciplinary Actions continued...

In addition to the disciplinary actions 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
23	Continuing Education	Administrative penalties and additional continuing education
37	Failure to maintain DEA/DPS registration	Administrative penalties
1	Practicing with an expired license	Administrative penalty
8	Professional Standard of Humane Treatment	Informal reprimands, additional continuing education and payment of restitution
1	Default on student loan	Administrative penalty or surrender of license
1	Records Keeping	Administrative penalty, informal reprimand, and additional continuing education
1	Advertising	Informal reprimand and administrative penalty



Texas Pharmacy Association's Professional Recovery Network (PRN) was originally established in 1981 in an effort to address chemical dependency and abuse within the pharmacy profession. With the current prescription drug misuse epidemic sweeping across the United States and the astonishing number of narcotics being prescribed, health care professionals are at an increased risk for substance abuse and dependence which is why the Professional Recovery Network is needed more now than ever. PRN is currently monitoring and supporting over 250 pharmacists, dentists, and veterinarians throughout the State of Texas. PRN's goal is to provide an opportunity for recovery to these individuals while also ensuring that the public is safe. It is our job as a society and as members of the veterinary profession to reach out to colleagues in need and direct them to a program where they can get help. PRN's philosophy is based on the principle that recovery is possible and these individuals should be given the opportunity to confront and get help for their problems before having disciplinary action taken against their licenses. The current success rate for PRN is 80%, meaning 80% of the thousands of professionals we've helped remain drug/alcohol free and have successfully integrated back into the workforce with no incidents of relapse while in our program. PRN staff is available 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year to address self or 3rd party referrals of concern relating to substance abuse/dependence or mental health.

Participant Testimonials:

- *"You have been an integral part of the reason I'm 16 months clean today and for that I am so grateful. I know I wouldn't be where I am today without you."*
- *"I just wanted to let you know how much all you do means to me in my recovery. Getting to know you has been one of the blessings of my recovery. Especially during this season, I'm grateful you are a part of PRN. I can't imagine doing it without you there."*
- *"Thank you for all of your help and encouragement during this time that has been a dark period in my life. When I started talking with you all a few months ago, I began to feel some hope for the first time in many years. Today, I am doing very well, and looking forward to what life has to offer, good and bad."*

PRN Director, Courtney Bolin, LMSW, has been working closely with the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners's Executive Director, Nicole Oria and General Counsel, Laura Moriarty to enhance ongoing communication regarding the Board's and PRN's needs. The ultimate goal is to ensure public safety while also improving support and accountability for program participants. Program participation by veterinary professionals is strong as participants continue to see the effectiveness and support of the monitoring program we've designed. We hope to only increase these numbers and reach out to those experiencing impairment due to substance abuse/dependence and mental health in the coming years.

PRN plans to hold its bi-annual seminar on October 23, 2011 and present information regarding managing pain while in recovery, as this is an ongoing struggle with program participants. Our Advisory Committee will be meeting the day prior to the seminar to discuss the program as a whole, and it will be our first face-to-face meeting with the veterinary profession being represented.

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 573.75(e) "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; and residence address.

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