Maryland
Department of Agriculture

Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services

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MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Telephone: (410) 841-5862 Facsimile: (410) 841-5999 www.mda.state.md.us

August 21, 2008

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL –

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

John B. Slaughter, II, D.V.M.

648 West Conway Street

Baltimore, MD 21230

Re: Docket # 08-06 (*Dismissal of Complaint and Letter of Censure)*

Dear Dr. Slaughter:

The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") recently investigated a complaint filed against you by Ms. Patricia Wiseman concerning your care and treatment of her dog, "Barky," in July 2007. After reviewing the owner's complaint, your response and medical records, and the owner's letter of rebuttal, the Board has concluded that the allegations in the owner's complaint require no further action, and the complaint will be dismissed.

In investigating this matter, however, the Board carefully reviewed the medical records that were submitted and found that your records were lacking in specificity, thus giving the Board a good faith basis to find you in violation of the applicable regulations governing veterinarians in the State of Maryland. The Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 15.14.01.10 requires veterinarians to prepare a legibly written record that accurately and thoroughly reflects the treatment provided and provides a listing of information, at a minimum, that the medical record shall contain.

Specifically, your records did not comply with COMAR 15.14.01.10 in the following ways:

- No notation in the dog's medical record that you administered acepromazine to Ms. Wiseman's dog prior to examining the dog and taking radiographs on July 5, 2007;

- No notation in the dog's medical record that you administered propofol to Ms. Wiseman's dog prior to examining the dog and taking radiographs on July 5, 2007;
- A failure to label the radiographs taken of Ms. Wiseman's dog on July 5, 2007, with the patient's name, owner's name, and the date the radiograph was taken; and
- No notation of the concentration—as opposed to volume—of propofol that he administered to the dog on July 12, 2007, when the dog had bloated.

Because you have no prior disciplinary history before the Board, the Board has concluded that it is appropriate at this time to issue this **LETTER OF CENSURE** so that you may take steps to rectify the deficiencies noted. You also are hereby **ORDERED TO CEASE AND DESIST** from all further acts that would violate COMAR 15.14.01.10, a copy of which is enclosed. There is no disciplinary sanction for the violations identified herein, although this Letter of Censure is subject to disclosure under Maryland's Public Information Act §§ 10-611 *et seq.* of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, and may be taken into account by the Board in any future proceedings regarding your practice.

If you wish to be heard on this matter before the Board, please contact the Board in writing within ten (10) days from the receipt of this letter. If we do not hear from you during this ten-day period, this letter is final, and you may appeal, if you so choose, this determination pursuant to Md. Ann.Code Agric. Art. § 2-401 *et seq.*

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Downes, Executive Director of the Board, at 410-841-5862.

Sincerely,

Chris H. Runde, DVM

Chris H. Runde, D.V.M.

Board President

cc: Board file

Encl.