STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF: ROBERT RICE, D.V.M. Veterinary License No. 4678	* * *	**DOCKET NO. 08-19**

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CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

This Consent Agreement and Order ("Agreement & Order") dated this 1st day of JUNE 2009, is between the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") and Robert Rice, D.V.M. ("Dr. Rice"), License No. 4678. This Agreement concerns the resolution of charges filed by the Board in January 2009 alleging that Dr. Rice failed to label radiographs of "Lacey," a five-year-old golden retriever owned by Chastity Crist that were taken on September 17, 2007. Because of this failure, the Board charged Dr. Rice with a violation of COMAR 15.14.01.10D.

Under State law, the Board is the licensing authority responsible for regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in this State, which includes filing disciplinary actions against veterinarians charged with violating provisions of the Veterinary Practice Act, Agriculture Article §§ 2-301 *et seq.*, Annotated Code of Maryland and regulations adopted thereunder. As part of its authority, the Board "may refuse, suspend, or revoke any application or license, and censure or place on probation any licensee . . . if the veterinarian . . . [f]ails to comply with Board rules and regulations after receiving a license." Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., § 2-310(8). In addition, the Board may also impose a civil penalty of not more than $5,000 in lieu of or in addition to suspending a veterinarian's license. Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., § 2-310.1.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Rice, by entering into and signing this document, while generally and specifically denying liability in this case, agrees to this Agreement & Order acknowledging that the Board has sufficient evidence to find that he violated COMAR 15.14.01.10D, which requires that radiographs be labeled with the patient's name, the owner's name, and the date the radiograph was taken, and that the September 17, 2007, radiograph of "Lacey" did not have such labeling.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law finding that Dr. Rice violated the Veterinary Practice Act, it is this 1st day of June 2009, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED** that Dr. Rice is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00).

Chris H. Runde, DVM

Chris H. Runde, D.V.M., President
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

CONSENT

I, Robert Rice, D.V.M., acknowledge that I have had an opportunity to consult with legal counsel before entering into and signing this document. By this Consent, I hereby acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board over this matter and to issue and enforce this Consent Agreement and Order. In order to resolve this matter, I agree to accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Agreement and Order, consisting of two pages.

I sign this Consent without reservation as my voluntary act, and I acknowledge that I fully understand the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Agreement and Order.

5/22/09
Date

Robert Rice, DVM
Robert Rice, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF Queen Anne's

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 22nd day of May, 2009, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Robert Rice, D.V.M., and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Doreen D Stivers
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 1-1-2011

