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

IN THE MATTER OF:	*	
COREEN PESCO, D.V.M. Veterinary License No. 6268	*	DOCKET NO. 09-26
	*	

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CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

This Consent Agreement and Order ("Agreement & Order"), dated this 19th day of ~~January~~ February 2009, is between the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") and Coreen Pesco, D.V.M. ("Dr. Pesco"), License No. 6268. This Agreement concerns the resolution of charges filed by the Board in November 2008, alleging that, from July 1, 2008, to October 28, 2008, Dr. Pesco practiced as a veterinarian by diagnosing and treating patients at Banfield, The Pet Hospital, located in Annapolis. She, however, did not have a valid annual veterinary registration.

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. Pesco, 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, as fact, that Dr. Pesco practiced veterinary medicine in the State of Maryland without a valid annual veterinary registration. Based on these findings of fact, Dr. Pesco further acknowledges that the Board could conclude as a matter of law, that by engaging in a "veterinarian-client-patient relationship," as defined in COMAR 15.14.01.03B(10), from July 1, 2008 to October 28, 2008, and not registering her veterinary license annually, as required by Md. Agric. Code Ann. § 2-309, Dr. Pesco violated the Maryland Veterinary Practice Act.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finding that Dr. Pesco violated the Veterinary Practice Act, it is this 19th day of ~~January~~ February 2009, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED** that Dr. Pesco is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of Two Hundred Dollars ($200.00).

Chris H. Runde, DVM

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

CONSENT

I, Coreen Pesco, 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.

2/4/09
Date

COREEN PESCO, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF MD

CITY/COUNTY OF Harford

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 4th day of February, 2009, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Coreen Pesco, D.V.M., and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Candace M. Eff
Notary Public

My Commission expires: 8/6/11