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

IN THE MATTER OF:	*	
ADRIENNE EDWARDS, D.V.M. Veterinary License No. 2894	*	DOCKET NO. 09-55
	*	
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CONSENT AGREEMENT & ORDER

This Consent Agreement and Order ("Agreement & Order") dated this 4th day of JUNE 2009, is between the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") and Adrienne Edwards, D.V.M. ("Dr. Edwards"), License No. 2894. This Agreement concerns the resolution of charges filed by the Board in April 2009 concerning Dr. Edwards's care and treatment of Carlita Birth's dog, "Queeny," on September 21, 2008.

Specifically, the Board alleged that Dr. Edwards failed to conform to the minimal standard of care expected of a veterinarian in Maryland by not treating "Queeny" with IV fluid therapy when she examined the dog on September 21, 2008, and diagnosed the dog as experiencing protracted diarrhea and vomiting.

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. Edwards, 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 she did not provide IV fluid therapy to "Queeny" on September 21, 2008, despite the fact that the dog, as specifically noted by Dr. Edwards, was experiencing protracted diarrhea and vomiting. Based on this finding of fact, Dr. Edward acknowledges that the Board could conclude as a matter of law that she violated the minimal standard of care expected of veterinarian in this State, a violation of COMAR 15.14.01.07.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law finding that Dr. Edwards violated the Veterinary Practice Act and its affiliated regulations, it is this 4th day of JUNE 2009, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED**:

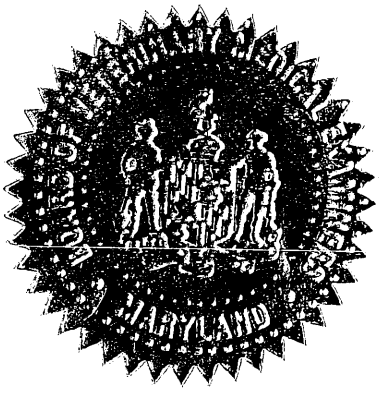
1. That Dr. Edwards is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of $250.00;
2. That Dr. Edward's license is suspended for one week; one week of this suspension, however, is stayed;

3. That Dr. Edwards is placed on probation for a period of six months from the date of this Agreement & Order requiring her to obey all laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine in this State. Violation of probation (i.e., she is charged and the Board ultimately concludes that Dr. Edwards was in violation of the Maryland Veterinary Practices Act during the period of probation) will result in the stay being lifted, and Dr. Edwards having to serve a one week suspension for the charges resolved here.

4. That Dr. Edwards must complete 3.0 credit hours of Board-approved continuing education relating to emergency medicine by October 15, 2009.

Chris H. Runde, DVM

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



CONSENT

I, Adrienne Edwards, 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 three 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.

6/3/09
Date

Adrienne Edwards, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF

CITY/COUNTY OF Prince Georges

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3 day of June, 2009, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Adrienne Edwards, 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.

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

STATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC MARYLAND
MARVIN A FORBES
Prince George's County
My Commission Expires
June 5, 2012