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

IN THE MATTER OF:	*	
NAVE S. DHILLON, D.V.M.	*	DOCKET NO. 10-18
LICENSE NO. 2322	*	

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

This Consent Agreement and Order (Consent Agreement), dated this 13th day of January, 2011, is between the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) and Nave S. Dhillon, D.V.M. (Dr. Dhillon), License No. 2322. This Consent Agreement resolves the charges filed by the Board on August 26, 2010, alleging that Dr. Dhillon violated the Maryland Veterinary Practice Act and related regulations, specifically, COMAR 15.14.01.10 and COMAR 15.14.01.07, in March and April of 2008 by repeatedly inadequately documenting the medical record and by providing inappropriate care and treatment of Ms. Connie Cosler's cat "Princess," who was vomiting and anorexic. On September 6, 2010, Dr. Dhillon requested a hearing before the Board to dispute the charges. Thereafter, the parties entered into discussions and were able to reach a resolution. By entering into this Consent Agreement, Dr. Dhillon waives the right to a hearing and appeal on the charges.

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 Maryland Veterinary Practice Act, Agriculture Article §§ 2-301 *et seq.*, Annotated Code of Maryland and related regulations. 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 impose a civil penalty of not more than $5,000 for a first offense or $10,000 for a second or subsequent offense 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. Dhillon, by entering into and signing this Consent Agreement, while generally and specifically denying liability in this case, agrees to this Consent Agreement, acknowledging that the Board has sufficient evidence to find, as fact, and conclude as a matter of law that he did violate certain regulations adopted under the Maryland Veterinary Practice Act, specifically, COMAR 15.14.01.10 and COMAR 15.14.01.07, by repeatedly inadequately documenting the medical recordof Ms. Cosler's cat "Princess" and by providing inadequate care and treatment to "Princess," who was vomiting and anorexic, between March 24, 2008 and April 4, 2008, when the cat was either hospitalized or under treatment by Dr. Dhillon. "Princess" was released to Ms. Cosler on April 4, 2008 and died on April 5, 2008. Taking all the facts and circumstances into consideration, the Board concluded that the most reasonable and appropriate resolution in this matter included the following sanctions.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 13th day of JANUARY, 2011, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED** that:

a.) Dr. Dhillon is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of $5,000.00 (payment of $2,500.00 to the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) within 30 days of this Order, and payment of $2,500.00 to the Board within six months of this Order);

b.) Dr. Dhillon's veterinary License No. 2322 is suspended for a period of one month; two weeks of this suspension, however, is stayed, the suspension to be from January 1, 2011 until January 14, 2011;

c.) Dr. Dhillon shall serve a period of probation of twelve months from the date of this Order. While on probation, the veterinarian will obey all laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine in this State and the conditions of this Consent Agreement. Violation of probation means that the veterinarian is charged and the Board ultimately concludes that the veterinarian violated the Veterinary Practice Act or the terms of this Consent Agreement during the period of probation. Violation of probation will result in the stay being lifted and the Board ordering the veterinarian t

comply with the sanction; in this case, an additional two-week suspension of veterinary License No. 2322.

d.) As a condition of probation, Dr. Dhillon shall complete 6.0 credit hours of continuing education (CE) in record keeping, as preapproved by the Board, within twelve months of the date of this Order. To fulfill this requirement, the veterinarian shall obtain approval for the selected CE from the Board before registering and attending in person the CE course. The CE is not confined to courses in Maryland. After completion of the 6.0 credit hours, the veterinarian shall forward to the Board proof of completion of the CE credits required under this Order. Proof from the CE provider shall include Dr. Dhillon's name, the number of hours of continuing education completed, the topics covered, and the date the CE course was given. Completion of this CE will not be counted towards the 18 hours of CE required annually for re-registration of the veterinary license.

John L. Heizer, DVM

John L. Heizer, D.V.M.
Vice President
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

CONSENT

I, Nave Dhillon, 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. In order to resolve this matter, I agree to accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Agreement, consisting of four pages, including this page.

I sign this Consent without reservation as my voluntary act after having had an opportunity to consult with counsel, and I acknowledge that I fully understand the language, meaning, and terms of this Consent Agreement.

01/03/2011
Date

Nave Dhillon, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF Montgomery

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3rd day of January, 2011, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared Nave Dhillon, 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: 3/24/14