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

IN THE MATTER OF:	*	
BRADFORD T. LEVORA, DVM LICENSE NO. 3316, OWNER	*	DOCKET NO. 15-05
	*	
LITTLE SENECA ANIMAL HOSPITAL HOSPITAL LICENSE NO. 15-060	*	

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CIVIL PENALTY FINAL ORDER

This Civil Penalty Order (Order), dated this 16th day of September, 2014, is issued by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) to Bradford T. Levora, DVM (Dr. Levora), License No. 3316. This Order confirms the intention of Dr. Levora to waive the right to contest the charge filed by the Board on August 22, 2014 in Docket No. 15-05, alleging that Dr. Levora violated the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). Specifically, the Board alleged that Dr. Levora violated COMAR 15.14.03.01-1 Licensing Requirement, on or about April 28, 2014 until June 24, 2014, by operating a veterinary hospital; specifically, Little Seneca Animal Hospital, Hospital License No. 15-060, located at 20630 Seneca Meadows Parkway, Suite E2, in Germantown, Maryland 20876, without a valid hospital license from the Board for about two months. On or about September 2, 2014, Dr. Levora submitted payment of the $350 civil penalty in Docket No. 15-05 as the only sanction assessed by the Board in this matter and, thus, voluntarily waived the right to a hearing and appeal. Dr. Levora has no disciplinary history with the Board.

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, Sections 2-301 through 2-316, Annotated Code of Maryland and related Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 15.14.01 through 15.14.17. 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 or veterinary practitioner . . . [f]ails to comply with Board rules and regulations after receiving a

license[.]" Md. Code Ann., Agric. Section 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, or revoking a veterinarian's license, respectively. Md. Code Ann., Agric. Section 2-310.1. In setting the amount of a civil penalty, the Board may consider the severity of the violation, the good faith of the violator, and the history of prior violations as well as the Board's regulatory civil penalty standards. Md. Code Ann., State Government Article, Section 10-1001(b); COMAR 15.14.11 Civil Penalty Standards for Veterinarians.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Bradford R. Levora, DVM, License No. 3316, owner of Little Seneca Animal Hospital, a veterinary hospital, License No. 15-060, has waived the right to a hearing or appeal of the charge in Docket No. 15-05. After having the opportunity to seek advice of legal counsel, Dr. Levora voluntarily agreed to the Board's sanction, acknowledging that the Board has sufficient evidence to find, as fact, and conclude as a matter of law that he did violate COMAR 15.14.03.01-1 Licensing Requirement at C, by operating a veterinary hospital, Little Seneca Animal Hospital, Hospital License No. 15-060, located at 20630 Seneca Meadows Parkway, Suite E2, in Germantown, Maryland 20876, from on or about April 28, 2014 until June 24, 2014 without a valid hospital license from the Board. On June 24, 2014, the Board issued Hospital License No. 15-060 for Little Seneca Animal Hospital.

Taking all the facts and circumstances into consideration, including the nature of the violation, Dr. Levora's lack of a prior disciplinary history with the Board, and his good faith effort to resolve this matter promptly, the Board concluded that the most reasonable and appropriate resolution in this matter was a civil penalty only.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 16th day of September, 2014, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED** that for the violation of COMAR 15.14.03.01-1 Licensing Requirement at C in Docket No. 15-05, Dr. Levora is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of $350. The Board acknowledges that payment of $350 was received from Dr. Levora on September 2, 2014.

David L. Handel, DVM

David L. Handel, D.V.M.
President
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners