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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF	*	
THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY	*	
MEDICAL EXAMINERS AGAINST	*	
AMY STADER, V.M.D.	*	DOCKET NO. 98-046
LICENSE NO. 4144	*	

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CONSENT AGREEMENT

This Agreement, dated this 26th of August, 1999, is between the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") and Amy Stader, V.M.D., License No. 4144. The Agreement concerns the Board's allegation that Dr. Stader violated certain laws and regulations governing the practice of veterinary medicine in this State (the "Veterinary Practice Act"). Under the Veterinary Practice Act, 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 ... regulations after receiving a license" (Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art. §2-310 (8)); and in lieu of, or in addition to, suspending a veterinarian's license, the Board may impose a civil penalty of not more than $5,000 (Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., §2-310.1).

More specifically, the Board charged that Dr. Stader failed to conform to those minimum standards of care and treatment customary among veterinarians in this State, a violation of COMAR 15.14.01.04. These charges were based on the allegation that Dr. Stader administered a scabicidal dose of Ivermectin to a Collie, a drug commonly known among veterinarians in this State to be contraindicated for such use because it can be toxic to this breed.

On August 13, 1999, Dr. Stader received a copy of the Charging Document and the Notice of Agency Action by certified mail. In the Board's Notice, Dr. Stader was given the option of either contesting the charges filed against her, or accepting the Board's proposed sanction, that being a civil penalty in the amount of $500.00. Dr. Stader chose to accept the proposed sanction.

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DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
STATE BD VET
MEDICAL EXAM.

FINDINGS OF FACT

On or about August 25, 1998, Amy Stader, V.M.D., assumed the care of "Cookie," a nine-year-old Collie owned by Ms. Paula Cohen. When Cookie was presented to Dr. Stader, she noted that the dog exhibited signs of scabies infection. Dr. Stader's initial diagnosis subsequently was confirmed by a skin scraping. In treating Cookie for this infection, Dr. Stader administered a scabicidal dose of Ivermectin to it, and then discharged the dog to its owners. It is commonly known among veterinarians in this State that Ivermectin is contraindicated in treating Collies for scabies because the drug can be toxic to this breed.

On August 26, 1998, the owners noted that the dog was unsteady on its feet and disoriented. Early the next morning, the owners, concerned about Cookie's health, took the dog to the Reisterstown 24-Hour Veterinary Complex, where it was seen by Bill W. Benson, D.V.M.

On presentation, Dr. Benson noted that Cookie was in a stumbling, disoriented state. Dr. Benson was told by the owners that Cookie had received an injection of Ivermectin on August 25, 1998 and had stopped eating and started to become disoriented on the following day. After making a provisional diagnosis of Ivermectin toxicity, Dr. Benson admitted Cookie to the hospital and began administering fluid therapy with lactated ringers to the dog.

Over the next several days, Cookie lapsed in and out of a comatose state. On September 6, 1998, Cookie was able to stand with difficulty and, thereafter, continued to improve steadily. On September 13, 1998, Cookie was discharged to its owners.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Dr. Stader administered a scabicidal dose of Ivermectin to a Collie, a drug commonly known among veterinarians in this State to be contraindicated for such use because it can be toxic to this breed and thus, failed to conform to those minimum standards of care and treatment customary among veterinarians in this State, a violation of COMAR 15.14.01.07.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 26th day of August, 1999, by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners:

ORDERED that Amy Stader, V.M.D., pay a **CIVIL PENALTY** (fine) in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars ($500), and that payment of this civil penalty be made within 30 days from receipt of this Order.

STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

9/23/99
Date

Donald M. Carman, D.V.M.
President, State Board of Veterinary
Medical Examiners
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

CONSENT

I, Amy Stader, V.M.D., acknowledge that I have had an opportunity to consult with counsel before entering into and signing this document. By this Consent, I hereby acknowledge that the Board, by a preponderance of the evidence, could prove the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein. Accordingly, in order to resolve these matters, I agree to accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order, consisting of four (4) pages.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Order as if entered after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to call witnesses on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by the laws of the State of Maryland. I also affirm that I am waiving my right to appeal from this Consent Order.

I acknowledge the legal authority and the jurisdiction of the Board to initiate these proceedings and to issue and enforce this Consent Order.

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

9/9/99
Date

Amy Stader, V.M.D.
Respondent

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND

CITY/COUNTY OF CARROLL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 9TH day of SEPTEMBER, 1999, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared AMY STADER, V.M.D, and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was her voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Patricia J. Norwood
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 3-1-02