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	*	
TERRI L. WATTAY, V.M.D.	*	DOCKET NO. 00-057
LICENSE NO. 3654	*	

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

DECISION AND ORDER

The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") is the State licensing authority that oversees the practice of veterinary medicine in Maryland. Under the Veterinary Practice Act, the Board may prescribe reasonable standards for the practice of veterinary medicine, including conduct and ethics. The Board also may discipline a veterinarian who it finds guilty of violating a law or regulation governing the practice of veterinary medicine in this State. More specifically, the Board may "suspend, or revoke [the veterinarian's] license, and censure or place [the veterinarian] on probation" (Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art. §2-310); 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).

On February 22, 2001, the Board conducted a hearing on the charge that Dr. Terri L. Wattay practiced veterinary medicine in Maryland during a period in which she was not registered, a violation of Agriculture Article, §2-313, Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 15.14.01.11. Dr. Wattay appeared at the hearing, and did not contest the charge; she did, however, contest the proposed sanction.

Dr. Donald M. Carman, the Board's President, presided over the hearing. The following Board members also were in attendance: (1) Dr. Willard L. Hawkins; (2) Dr.

Reggie Cox; (3) Dr. James R. McClellan; (4) Dr. John P. O'Mara; and (5) Mr. Iven J. Rathbone.

Thomas F. Filbert, Assistant Attorney General, was the presenter of evidence.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Per stipulation between the Board's counsel and Dr. Wattay, the Board finds that:

1. For the 1999-2000 licensing year, which expired on June 30, 2000, Dr. Wattay was licensed and registered to practice veterinary medicine in this State.
2. In April 2000, the Board mailed a registration renewal application for the 2000-2001 licensing year to Dr. Wattay at: 300 Dolphin Street, Ocean City, MD 21842. This was the most recent address that Dr. Wattay had provided the Board.
3. Dr. Wattay failed to renew her registration for the 2000-2001 licensing year on or before July 1, 2000, the day this licensing year began, and allowed her registration with the Board to lapse. Her license remained invalid until October 5, 2000, when she took steps to renew her registration for the 2000-2001 licensing year.
4. Between July 1, 2000 and October 4, 2000, a period of time in which her license had lapsed, Dr. Wattay practiced veterinary medicine in this State, albeit, for health-related reasons, on a very limited basis.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact, the Board concludes as a matter of law that Dr. Wattay practiced veterinary medicine in this State during a period in which she had failed to register with the Board, a violation of Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., §2-313, and COMAR 15.14.01.11.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finding that Dr. Terri L. Wattay violated Agriculture Article, §2-313, Annotated Code of Maryland, and

COMAR 15.14.01.11, it is this 22nd day of February, 2001, by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED**:

That Dr. Wattay is censured (reprimanded).

STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

February 22, 2001
Date

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