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

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF *

W. CONRAD FILSINGER, D.V.M. * DOCKET NO. 02-001

LICENSE NO. 1234 *

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

CONSENT AGREEMENT

This Agreement, dated this 2nd day of April, 2002, is between the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") and W. Conrad Filsinger, D.V.M., License No. 1234. The Agreement concerns the complaint that Michael A. White filed against Dr. Filsinger, alleging that Dr. Filsinger exercised poor professional judgment when he performed certain non-emergency veterinary procedures upon Mr. White's dog, Tippy, without the owner's consent.

Under the Veterinary Practice Act, the Board is charged with regulating the veterinary profession, and "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 $5000 (Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., §2-310.1).

In lieu of proceeding with a disciplinary action against Dr. Filsinger, however, the Board and Dr. Filsinger enter into this Consent to resolve Mr. White's complaint against him. The Board also advises Dr. Filsinger as follows: **A veterinarian who is treating an animal under non-emergency circumstances should not administer treatment or surgery without first obtaining the owner's consent.**

NOW, THEREFORE, to resolve Mr. White's complaint against Dr. Filsinger, Dr. Filsinger agrees to:

1.) Accept One Hundred dollars ($100) from Mr. White as full payment for the veterinary services he provided Mr. White's dog, Tippy, that began when Tippy was presented to him on or about November 24, 2001;

2.) Excepting the One Hundred dollars ($100) noted in paragraph 1, forgive payment of any remaining unpaid portion of the bill that Mr. White was charged for these services (that being, approximately Three Hundred Dollars ($300)), and any interest thereon, or additional fee charged; and

3.) Within seven days from the date of this Agreement, direct any person acting on his behalf, in writing, to cease attempting to collect upon the above-referenced bill, and provide a copy of this letter to Mr. White and the Board.

Upon proof that Dr. Filsinger has complied with the terms of this Agreement, the Board shall dismiss Mr. White's complaint against Dr. Filsinger.

Date

Donald M. Carman, D.V.M.
President
State Board of Veterinary
Medical Examiners

CONSENT

I, W. Conrad Filsinger, 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. In order to resolve this matter, I agree to accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Agreement, consisting of 3 pages.

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

4-3-02
Date

W. Conrad Filsinger, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF Maryland

CITY/COUNTY OF Frederick

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 2nd day of April, 2002, before me, a Notary Public of the State and City/County aforesaid, personally appeared W. Conrad Filsinger, D.V.M., and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Order was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 12-01-05

Potomac Animal Hospital
13000 Winchester Rd SW
Cumberland, MD 21502

April 8, 2002

State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Attn.: Paulette Holloway
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Sir/Madame,

Please be advised that the account between Potomac Animal Hospital and Michael White has been settled. Mr. White's credit status has not been affected, as per the Credit Collections, USA.

Sincerely,

W. Conrad Filsinger,

cc: Michael White
Credit Collections, USA

RECEIVED
APR 10 2002
Maryland Department of Agriculture
State Board Of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Annapolis, Maryland