

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

IN THE MATTER OF: *

BOB A. COHN, DVM *

DOCKET NO. 16-29

LICENSE NO. 2236 *

* * * * *

CONSENT AGREEMENT, DECISION AND ORDER

This Consent Agreement (Agreement), dated this 28th day of March, 2017, is between the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (SBVME) and Bob A. Cohn, D.V.M., License No. 2236. The Agreement concerns the charges that the SBVME filed against Dr. Cohn, pertaining to his treatment of "Maverick," a nine or ten-year-old male Pit Bull Mix 2015 owned by Linda Couture.

Under State law, the SBVME 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 the provisions of the Veterinary Practice Act and regulations adopted pursuant to this law (Veterinary Practice Act). The SBVME "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 . . . [the Veterinary Practice Act and] 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).

In this matter, the Board has charged Dr. Cohn with violating COMAR 15.14.01.07, Professional Judgment and Practice, in his care and treatment of Maverick.

FINDINGS OF FACTS

Dr. Cohn, by entering into and signing this document, acknowledges that the SBVME could produce evidence establishing the following Findings of Fact:

1. At all times relevant to this charge, Dr. Cohn was a veterinarian licensed to practice in the State of Maryland and has been licensed since 1980. Dr. Cohn has a prior disciplinary history with the Board of operating a veterinary hospital without a license in Docket No. 13-37. At the time of the incident described in this charge, Dr. Cohn was the owner and responsible veterinarian of North Laurel Animal Hospital (Hospital), located at 9105-P All Saints Road in Laurel, Maryland 20723.
2. On or about May 19, 2015, Linda Couture (Owner) presented her nine or ten-year-old male Pit Bull Mix, "Maverick," for vaccinations and extreme thirst to a Hospital veterinarian.
3. Blood work from May 19th indicated elevated liver enzymes.
4. On or about May 22, 2015, the Owner received a message from Dr. Cohn's office stating that the blood work results for the dog were normal.
5. On or about September 14, 2015, the dog became ill, with decreased appetite and vomiting.
6. Subsequent blood work indicated severely elevated liver enzymes.
7. A review of the May 19, 2015 blood work results indicated elevated liver enzymes, not normal results.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on these Findings of Fact, the SBVME concludes that Bob A. Cohn, DVM, (Dr. Cohn), License No. 2236, failed to practice the minimal standards of care expected of a veterinarian in this State, a violation of COMAR 15.14.01.07, Professional Judgment and Practice, in his care and treatment of Linda Couture's nine or ten-year-old

male Pit Bull Mix "Maverick," at his veterinary hospital, North Laurel Animal Hospital, located at 9105-P All Saints Road in Laurel, Maryland 20723 on or about May 22, 2015, when Dr. Cohn provided incorrect blood work results of normal to Ms. Couture when the blood work results indicated elevated liver enzymes.

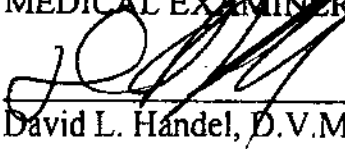
ORDER

Based on these Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law finding that Dr. Cohn violated the Veterinary Practice Act, it is this ___ day of March, 2017, by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, Ordered:

- (1) That Dr. Cohn be assessed a Civil Penalty in the amount of Five Hundred Dollars (the SBVME acknowledges that Dr. Cohn already has paid this penalty) ;
- (2) That Dr. Cohn's license to practice veterinary medicine in this State is suspended for one week, but that this suspension is stayed;
- (3) That Dr. Cohn is placed on probation for a period of six months with the condition that he take six hours of continuing education in clinical pathology and the on-line record keeping module in Dr. James F. Wilson's Veterinary Law and Ethics course (which is in addition to the eighteen hours of continuing education credits required for the annual registration renewal) and submit certificates of completion for both the continuing education and the record keeping module.

WITNESS the hand of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, State of Maryland, this 23rd day of March, 2017.

STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY
MEDICAL EXAMINERS



David L. Handel, D.V.M.

President

State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Maryland Department of Agriculture

CONSENT

I, Bob A. Cohn, D.V.M., acknowledge that I had an opportunity to consult with counsel before entering into and signing this document. By this Consent, I hereby acknowledge that the SBVME, 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 Agreement, consisting of 4 pages, plus this Consent.

I acknowledge the validity of this Consent Agreement 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 Agreement.

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

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

3-8-17
Date



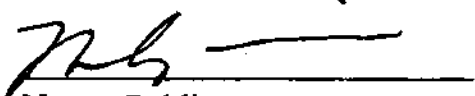
Bob A. Cohn, D.V.M.

NOTARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
CITY/COUNTY OF HOWARD

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 08 of MARCH, 2017, before me, a Notary Public of the City/County aforesaid, personally appeared BOB A. COHN, D.V.M., and made oath in due form of law that the foregoing Consent Agreement was his voluntary act and deed.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal.



Notary Public
My commission expires:

