



The Scratching Post

Letter From the Chairman SCOTT PLUMMER, DVM, DACVIM

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License numbers:

- 2044 Veterinarians
- 937 CVTS
- 780 Premises
- 16 Crematories
- As of 2/1/2012

I hope you find this helpful. For several years, the board and the state association have been working to change statute to allow for anonymous, self-reporting by colleagues who have a substance abuse problem. SB1342 will allow the board to contract with an organization to oversee the recovery efforts of affected individuals. The self-reporter would not be known to the board as long as they comply with the program's requirements. For example, these could include AA meetings, random fluid testing, and counseling. Those already being monitored by the board may be referred to the program.

It is our fervent hope that by allowing anonymous reporting, an affected individual would seek help without the stigma of a substance abuse problem. SB1342 would also allow for the potential use of a small portion of licensing fees to defray a portion of the program's costs for the enrollees as well as providing education and information to the veterinary medical community for prevention and intervention. Unfortunately, the veterinary profession is the only

health care profession in the United States that does not have a national monitoring program for mental health issues and substance abuse. It is our hope that this is a small step forward in helping the profession while protecting the public.

Recently the Arizona Veterinary Medical Association, published information regarding compounding in their monthly newsletter. The letter was attributed to me but actually it came to us from a pharmacist and an attorney who asked that we pass it along to veterinarians. Included in this newsletter are questions and answers regarding compounding from them. One big issue raised was veterinarians buying large orders of compounded medications to resell in their practice. They wanted us to know that pharmacists cannot do this nor can veterinarians. Again, these are not statutes related and enforced by the veterinary board. I hope this clears up any misunderstanding that may have occurred. It was for informational purposes only and may need to be addressed in future legislation.

Finally, after a long moratorium on rule making, the board will be able to update the administrative rules. These changes are needed to clarify areas that were unclear or became contradictory as the statutes were changed. As always, you can view, download or print the statutes and administrative rules from our website. Although dry reading, it does help to review them every now and then.

We will have two new board members, James Christensen, DVM and Julie Mumford, CVT. This means we will be saying goodbye to Larry Metheny, DVM and John Musil, PharmD. We will greatly miss both of them and their invaluable contributions. In addition, Ms. Jenna Jones is leaving as Executive Director. We thank her for her dedication.



Arizona Veterinary Medical Examining Board

Mission Statement

The Veterinary Board protects the health, safety and welfare of the general public, as well as the welfare of animals, by enforcing the licensing standards prescribed by statute for the licensing and regulation of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary premises and animal crematories.

MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

James Christensen, DVM. James was born and raised in the great State of Arizona.

He obtained his BS degree from Arizona State University in 1999 and then received his DVM degree from Colorado State University in 2003. He currently works in a two doctor equine ambulatory practice in the east valley.

Julie Mumford, CVT has been a CVT since 2000. She has a strong interest in working with large and small animals. She is married and has a full house with 2 children, 3 step-children, 4 dogs, 3 horses, and 2 cats. She resides in the Prescott area and is active in sports, the outdoors and her family loves to camp. She will be the first CVT to serve on the Board and is looking forward to her new appointment and involvement in the veterinary field.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The Board meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month. There is no Board meeting in July.

All licenses expire on 12/31/12.

REMINDER: YOU CAN EARN 2 CE CREDITS BY ATTENDING A BOARD MEETING, (IF YOU ARE NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA). IT IS FREE AND AN EASY WAY TO GET THOSE 2 EXTRA HOURS. JUST BE SURE TO SIGN IN ON THE SHEET AT THE DOOR TO THE MEETING ROOM. BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD AT 1400 W. WASHINGTON, BASEMENT ROOM B1, PHOENIX, AZ 85007.

REPORTABLE CRIMINAL CHARGES

Under Arizona law, any veterinarian or certified veterinary technician, or person who has filed an application for either, is required to report to the Veterinary Medical Examining Board within 10 days of being charged with any felony or with certain misdemeanors (see A.R.S. § 32-3208).

1. Being charged with the crime triggers the duty to report. Being arrested is not the same as being charged.
2. You have to report the matter in writing within 10 days of being charged. That means 10 business/work days. It is not acceptable to wait until you re new your license or certification.
3. You must report being charged with any felony, even if you or your attorney thinks the felony is not related to your practice.
4. You must report being charged with a reportable misdemeanor. A list will be available shortly on our website. Please note that DUIs, drug offenses and sexually based offenses are on the list, no matter if they are charged by the federal government, the State of Arizona, or by any city, town or municipality.
5. You may report the charge by mailing, faxing, or emailing a written state statement to the Board office that you have been charged, giving the date of the charge, and the specific criminal statutes you were charged with violating. You must attach a copy of the official charging documents. You may send any other document or information you choose to send. Of course, if you have an attorney, the attorney may send this for you.



IS YOUR CLINIC IN COMPLIANCE?

The Board has recently seen a surprising trend in the possible violations as a result of premise inspections. Many clinics, new and old, do not have a separate inventory and dispensing log for controlled substances. Do you? Does it meet the minimum requirements?

Please review A.A.C. R3-11-502 (K) to ensure that your controlled substance and inventory and dispensing logs are in compliance. Sample forms are also available under the "Forms" area on the website. We have also included a sample Anesthesia Log form you may use for compliance with A.A.C. R3-11-502 (5).

For other clinic related compliance issues there is a sample inspection report on the Board's website (www.vetboard.az.gov) under "Forms."

COMPOUNDED MEDICATIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Submitted by Roger Morris

This was submitted by an attorney that presented this information to the Board at their December 21, 2011 meeting. The Board has not adopted policies to address or enforce these interpretations.

Q: Why are some pharmacies willing to sell bulk compounds for veterinary hospital dispensing and others are not?

A: The pharmacists may not be aware that the clinic is dispensing the medications for clients to take home, or the pharmacy may be unfamiliar with the laws governing this practice.

Q: What if I am not reselling the compounded medication, rather I am providing the "take-home" portion of a compounded medication that was obtained from a pharmacy free of charge?

A: Both reselling and dispensing at no-fee are restricted to the practice of pharmacy in Arizona.

Q: Does this mean that veterinarians must write a prescription for 100% of the compounded medications used to treat animals outside of the clinic?

A: Yes

Q: Does this mean that veterinarians are restricted from sending a small quantity of compounded medications home with the patient to cover the period of time between the patient's visit and the pharmacy's filling of the prescription?

A: Yes

Q: What if my practice works exclusively with rescued animals that are under foster care, can a pharmacy provide my practice with pre-made compounded medications to send to the foster homes?

A: No. Even fostered animals cared for outside of the clinic or hospital require the veterinarian to arrange for a pharmacy to fill the prescrip-

tion.

Q: What if there is an acute need for a compounded medication and the animal cannot wait?

A: Most specialty pharmacies that provide compounding services understand these challenges and provide emergency services. The specialty pharmacies can also arrange for delivery of medications to rural areas, usually within 24-hours. Collaborating with a trained veterinary pharmacy specialist can often provide the veterinarian with several options during emergency situations to accommodate acute needs.

Q: Can the State of Arizona update the veterinary practice act to address this issue?

A: The legislature does have a process and the power to expand the veterinary practice act to allow veterinarians more options as they pertain to compounding services.



Testing Information

Certified Veterinary Technician Exam

Applications must be complete by the deadline date. Application deadline for the June 28, 2012 exam is April 25, 2012.

The application deadline for the December 7, 2012 exam is October 3, 2012.

State Veterinary Exams

Deadline for receipt of a completed application is 30 days prior to examination date. Exams are given monthly.

2012 TEST DATES

March 9, 2012
 April 13, 2012
 May 11, 2012
 June 8, 2012
 July 13, 2012
 August 10, 2012
 September 14, 2012
 October 12, 2012
 November 9, 2012
 December 14, 2012

LICENSED ANIMAL CREMATORIES
Check to verify you are using a licensed crematory

Entrusted Pet, LLC
 2237 S. 15th Street
 Phoenix, AZ 85034
 602-430-6866

Ponderosa Pet Crematory
 1519 N. Main St., Ste. 109
 Flagstaff, AZ 86004
 928-774-5669

El Encanto Memorial Crematory
 1050 N. Dodge Blvd.
 Tucson, AZ 85716
 520-325-4973

Family Pet Crematory
 21 Riviera Blvd
 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
 928-855-4450

Spirit Mountain Animal Hospital
 7227 Mesquite
 Mohave Valley, AZ 86446
 928-758-3979

Ames Diversified Services, LLC
 511 S. 18th Ave
 Phoenix AZ 85007
 602-697-4517

Peaceful Pet Rest
 White Mountain Lake Rd.
 Show Low, AZ 85901
 928-537-4988

High Desert Pet Cremation
 2500 Fifth Street, Ste. #8
 Prescott Valley, AZ 86314
 928-759-0645

PALS-Pet & Animal Lovers Service, Inc
 3629 N. 40th Ave
 Phoenix, AZ 85019
 602-455-6677

Animal Cremation Services
 5646 W. Bethany Home Rd.
 Glendale, AZ 85301
 623-842-0908

Griffith Pet Cremation Services
 4650 Northern Ave #B
 Kingman, AZ 86409
 928-757-7692

All Pets Great & Small Cremation Service, LLC
 1110 S. Horne Ste. 103
 Mesa, AZ 85204
 480-668-8500

Forever Yours Pet Crematory
 2225 N. Kiowa Blvd.
 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
 928-854-7387

Verde Valley Humane Society
 1502 W. Mingus Avenue
 Cottonwood, AZ 86326
 928-634-7387

Ames Diversified Services, LLC
 2017 Rogers Ave
 Douglas, AZ 85607
 520-364-3404

Chaparral Veterinary Clinic
 1963 S. Arizona Avenue
 Yuma, AZ 85364
 928-782-9219

*Arizona
 Licensed
 Animal
 Crematories*

32-2291. License requirements; inspections

- A. An animal crematory license shall be for a fixed location where animal cremation occurs. A person who holds an animal crematory license may provide animal cremation services to the public at the licensed fixed location. There shall be a separate animal crematory license for each fixed location at which animal cremation services are regularly offered to the public.
- B. The board shall inspect all fixed locations before issuing an animal crematory license. Adequate equipment and sanitation shall be available for use by any location that is necessary to provide the animal cremation services offered.
- C. The board may inspect any animal crematory licensed pursuant to this article.

USDA—APHIS Office closing

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Veterinarians are needed for the Board's Investigative Committee.

If interested, please go to the website and submit an application.

Terms are for two years! You can obtain CE for your service!

The Board recently learned that the USDA's APHIS Veterinary Services Arizona office (Tempe office) has been selected as one of the closures in 2012. Services currently provided by the Tempe office will be transferred to the Albuquerque, New Mexico office.

What does this mean for you?

Do you have clients that need to travel internationally? For an individual to move their dog, cat, horse, etc into another country requires a federally endorsed health certificate. In FY2011, there were 2155 international travel certificate endorsements processed and 917 for products. These 3000+ certificates would now be required to be handled by the Albuquerque office.

Of the animal certificates issued, approximately 60% are for small animals, 40% for equine and 80% of the traffic into the Tempe office were done by walk-in.

A good example was from a few weeks ago. A stallion was collected in Prescott for a breeding in Canada. The Canadians do not accept frozen equine semen but do accept fresh, cooled. After the collection, the owners drove to Tempe for the necessary certificate endorsements, then they drove to the Canadian border. With this closure, they would need to go to Canada via Albuquerque.

To relocate export document endorsement processes to Albuquerque will likely create an unnecessary hardship for many, and may impede the growth of the state's equine industry. The Arizona Department of Agriculture (ADA) has been asked to help develop equine import facilities to assist the equine industry. Unfortunately the ADA is short on personnel and the newly hired State Veterinarian, Perry Durham is trying to help.

If you would like to become involved or are asking yourself what can you do to help, please contact the State Veterinarian and your legislators both on the State and Federal levels.

The State Veterinarian can be reached :

Arizona Department of Agriculture
1688 W. Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-4293 or at
pdurham@azda.gov

GENERAL REMINDERS FOR ALL:

RENEWALS WILL BE SENT OUT IN LATE OCTOBER /EARLY NOVEMBER.

ALL LICENSES EXPIRE 12/31/2012
TEN (10) HOURS OF CE REQUIRED FOR CVT's. TWENTY (20) HOURS OF CE REQUIRED FOR VETERINARIANS.

If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving Fido only two of them. ~Phil Pastoret



JUST THE F A Q' S

(Frequently asked questions)

Q: When does my license expire? I did not receive a renewal notice.

A: All licenses expire at the end of every even-numbered year. Renewal notices are mailed out in late October or early November of every even-numbered year.

Q: How long do I need to keep medical records?

A: For 3 years from the last date an animal receives veterinary medical services, a veterinarian shall maintain a written medical record on the veterinary medical premises...this includes radiographs [see Administrative Rules R3-11-502 (L)]

Q: Who is responsible for a patient's medical records if a premise closes?

A: The veterinarian that holds the premise license for the hospital is deemed the responsible veterinarian and is therefore responsible for making sure medical records are available upon request. Once either the owner of a pet makes a request of medical records, or a licensed veterinarian providing services for a pet, copies must be made available within 10 calendar days of request, or less than 10 days if the animal's medical condition requires. [see Administrative Rules R3-11-501 (8).]

Q: What part of a complaint is public record?

A: Once a complaint is closed a public member may fill out a public request form to view the following: The complaint, the respondent veterinarian's response, the investigative report and the respondent veterinarian's order, if a violation is found.

The public does not have access to a veterinarian's home address, social security number, recommendations, records of examination grading and performance or transcripts of educational institutions.

Q: What is the difference between open session vs. executive session?

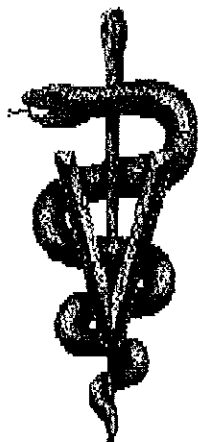
A: Open session is where the public may listen to discussion and interchange between the respondent veterinarian or complainant and the Board members, or listen to discussion and recommendations the Investigative Committee makes to the Board. Executive session is where the Investigative Committee gathers confidential information from a respondent veterinarian or the complainant or when the Board or IC obtains legal advice regarding a case.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Unfortunately, the Board Office cannot interpret the Arizona State Statutes and Rules or give legal advice.

1400 West Washington Street, Room 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2937

OFFICE (602) 364-1738
FAX (602) 364-1039
www.vetboard.az.gov



Contact and General Information

AM Investigative Committee Members

Jeffery Brown, DVM (Chair)
Robyn Jaynes, DVM
Terry Horrall
Christina M. Fleming
Alex Casuccio, DVM

PM Investigative Committee Members

Tamara Murphy (Chair)
Shelly Forstrom
Irvin Ingram, DVM
Robert Kritsberg, DVM
Amrit Rai, DVM

Board Members

Scott Plummer, DVM
Chairperson
James Christensen, DVM
Nancy Bradley, DVM
Julie Mumford, CVT
Cynthia Tidwell-Shelton
Brian Serbin, DVM
Deb Gullett
Julie Young
Christina Bertch-Mumaw, DVM

Executive Director

Jenna Jones
602-542-8150

Who to contact for...

Licensing:

Kodi G. Calais
602-542-8166

Premise Licensing:

Victoria Whitmore
602-542-8605

Investigations:

Tracy A. Riendeau, CVT
602-542-8167

General Information:

Deb Turner
602-364-1739

