



ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

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September 28, 2024

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2024

Dear Governor Hobbs:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2203, the Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board submits the following as its annual report.

LICENSING

- At the close of FY 2024 the agency oversaw the practice of:

	FY24	FY23*	FY22	FY21*	FY20
Licensed Veterinarians	3510	3265	3250	2968	2885
Certified Veterinary Technicians	1450	1322	1386	1282	1263
Licensed Veterinary Premises	1126	960	1031	1112	974
Licensed Animal Crematories	18	16	16	14	16

* FY21 and 23 were license renewal years. Historically, a decrease in licensees/certificate holders is seen in the first 6-9 months following the renewal period. However, over the entire year, the numbers tend to rebound to previous levels or exceed them. We have noticed this trend lessen for veterinarians since COVID times.

- Licenses/Certificates issued:

	FY24**	FY23**	FY22	FY21*	FY20*
Veterinarians	335	324	270	263	295
Certified Veterinary Technicians	134	111	84	101	130
Veterinary Premises	257	232	201	201	165
Animal Crematories	4	4	1	3	1

*Circumstances around COVID may have impacted application submittals in FY21 and FY20.

**Due to the high demand of veterinarians nationwide, there was more mobility with individuals seeking licensure for temporary and full-time positions.

- Licenses/Certificates denied – FY24:
 - Veterinarian: 0
 - Certified Veterinary Technicians: 0 Premises: 0
 - Animal Crematory: 0
- There were 30 Temporary Veterinary Licenses issued.

INVESTIGATIONS/COMPLAINTS

- During FY 24, the Board received 159 new complaints and 44 complaints had been carried over from FY 2023 for a total of 203 cases. (Carry-over from FY2023 was impacted by the need to cancel some meetings due to COVID in FY20 and FY21).
 - 164 of these were reviewed by the Investigative Committee/Investigative Division in FY24.
 - 39 of the 203 total cases were carried over to FY 2025 for Investigative Committee and Board review.
- The A.M. Investigative Committee held 11 meetings
- The P.M. Investigative Committee held 11 meetings
- The average number of days from receipt to the Investigative Committee was 105 days.
- The average number of days from receipt to the Board's Initial Investigative Review was 112 days.
 - **Due to COVID-19-related concerns, some cases were delayed in FY20 and FY21, resulting in a much higher number of cases to process in FY21, FY22, FY23, and FY24 due to the carry-over.
- The average number of days from receipt to Informal Interview was 163 days.
 - **Due to COVID-19-related concerns, some cases were delayed in FY20 and FY21, resulting in a much higher number of cases to process in FY21, FY22, FY23, and FY24 due to the carry-over.

BOARD ACTIONS

- The Board held 12 meetings in FY24.
- During FY 2024, the Board conducted the following:
 - 173 Initial Investigative Reviews – (Previous year: 155)
 - 36 Informal Interviews – (Previous year: 23)
 - 2 Formal hearings – (Previous year: 0)
- 31 Consent Agreements were offered; 28 were issued. (Previous year: 21)
- 21 Board Orders were issued. (Previous year: 9)
- 22 Letters of Concern were issued, which are non-disciplinary actions. (Previous year: 22)
- Of the cases resolved by the Board, 40 cases involved discipline, resulting in the following:

Revocation	2
Suspension	3
Probation	27
Censure	1
Civil Penalty	17
Practice Restrictions	3

FACILITY INSPECTIONS

- Staff completed 445 facility inspections – (Previous year: 262)

BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

- At the end of FY24, there was one vacancy on the Board, with a second member planning to step down in August 2024. There were five other members whose terms had expired prior to the end of the fiscal year. All are awaiting reappointment or to be replaced.

If you should need any further information, please contact Victoria Whitmore, Executive Director at 602-364-1739 or Victoria.whitmore@vetboard.az.gov.

Sincerely,

Victoria Whitmore

On Behalf of the Board

Victoria Whitmore
Executive Director