



## ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

1740 W. ADAMS STREET, SUITE 4600, PHOENIX, AZ 85007  
PHONE (602) 364-1738 FAX (602) 364-1039  
VETBOARD.AZ.GOV

September 28, 2022

Honorable Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor  
via email: abfoster@az.gov

### ANNUAL REPORT FY 2022

Dear Governor Ducey:

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 2022 the agency oversaw the practice of:

	FY22	FY21*	FY20	FY19*	FY18
Licensed Veterinarians	3250	2968	2885	2598	2596
Certified Veterinary Technicians	1386	1282	1263	1127	1101
Licensed Veterinary Premises	1031	1112	974	927	966
Licensed Animal Crematories	16	14	16	16	17

\* FY19 and 21 were license renewal years. Historically, a decrease in licensees 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.

- Licenses/Certificates issued:

	FY22	FY21	FY20	FY19	FY18
Veterinarians	270	263	295	247	214
Certified Veterinary Technicians	84	101	130	117	87
Veterinary Premises	211	201	165	207	190
Animal Crematories	1	3	1	2	2

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

- Licenses/Certificates denied – FY22:
  - Veterinarian: 0
  - Certified Veterinary Technicians: 0
  - Premises: 0
  - Animal Crematory: 0
- There were 32 Temporary Licenses issued.

## **INVESTIGATIONS/COMPLAINTS**

- During FY 2022, the Board received 144 new complaints and 74 complaints had been carried over from FY 2021 for a total of 218 cases. (Carry-over from FY2021 was related to the need to cancel some meetings due to COVID in FY20 and FY21).
  - 147 of these were reviewed by the Investigative Committee/Investigative Division in FY22.
  - 51 of the 218 total cases were carried over to FY 2023 for Investigative Committee and Board review.
- The A.M. Investigative Committee held 12 meetings
- The P.M. Investigative Committee held 12 meetings
- The average number of days from receipt to the Investigative Committee was 139 days.
  - \*Due to COVID-19-related concerns, some cases were delayed in FY20, resulting in a much higher number of cases to process in FY21 and FY22 due to the carry-over.
- The average number of days from receipt to the Board's Initial Investigative Review was 132 days.
  - \*Due to COVID-19-related concerns, some cases were delayed in FY20, resulting in a much higher number of cases to process in FY21 and FY22.
- The average number of days from receipt to Informal Interview was 205 days.
  - \*\*Due to COVID-19-related concerns, some cases were delayed in FY20, resulting in a much higher number of cases to process in FY21 and FY22 due to the carry-over.

## **BOARD ACTIONS**

- The Board held 12 meetings in FY22.
- During FY 2022, the Board conducted the following:
  - 169 Initial Investigative Reviews
  - 29 Informal Interviews
  - 2 Formal hearings
- 13 Consent Agreements were offered and issued.
- 13 Board Orders were issued.
- 25 Letters of Concern were issued, which are non-disciplinary actions.

- Of the cases resolved by the Board, 26 cases involved discipline, resulting in the following:

Revocation	2
Suspension	0
Probation	16
Censure	3
Civil Penalty	5
Practice Restrictions	0

### **UNLICENSED PRACTITIONERS**

- There were 14 new cases opened regarding unlicensed practitioners with outcomes as follows:
  - 10 closed
  - 2 issued Cease & Desist orders and/or forwarded to the County Attorney and Attorney General's Office
- 1 case had been carried over from FY2021. 2 cases were carried over to FY2023.

### **FACILITY INSPECTIONS**

- Staff completed 291 facility inspections

If you should need any further information, please contact Victoria Whitmore, Executive Director at 602-542-8150 or Victoria.whitmore@vetboard.az.gov.

Sincerely,



On Behalf of the Board

Victoria Whitmore  
Executive Director