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**BEFORE THE ARIZONA STATE
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD**

4 ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY
MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

)
) Complaint No. C-20-01

5 vs

6 Mario J. Cruz/Unlicensed Practitioner

) **CEASE AND DESIST ORDER**
)

9 To: Mario J. Cruz
10 [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]

12 The Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board ("Board") has probable cause to
13 believe that you are practicing veterinary medicine or providing veterinary services to animals.
14 A review of the Board's records reveals that you are not a licensed veterinarian. The Board has
15 information that you provided veterinary medical services to publicly owned animals in Arizona,
16 specifically "Baby" [REDACTED] a 12-year-old female mixed breed dog. A person who practices
17 veterinary medicine or surgery, as defined in A.R.S. §32-2231, without a license and registration,
18 and/or who unlawfully assumes or advertises a veterinary title conveying the impression that the
19 person is a lawful practitioner of veterinary medicine, and/or who violates any provision of the
20 Veterinary Practice Act is in violation of A.R.S § 32-2238. Moreover, a person who engages in
the unauthorized practice of a health care profession is guilty of a class 5 felony.

21 By authority under A.R.S. § 32-2237 (E), if the Board has probable cause to believe that
22 an unlicensed person is performing acts requiring licensure or violating the Veterinary Practice
23 Act, it may do any or more of the following:

- 24 1. Issue a cease and desist order.
25 2. Request the county attorney or attorney general to file criminal charges against
the person.

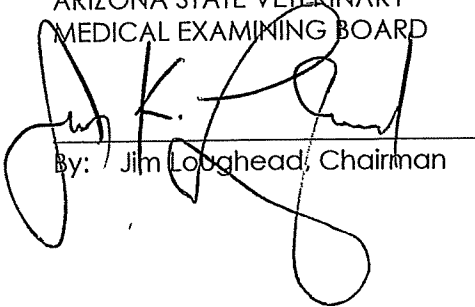
- 1 3. File an action in superior court to enjoin the person from engaging in the
2 unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine.
3 4. After notice and an opportunity for a hearing, impose a civil penalty of not more
4 than one thousand dollars for each violation.
5

6 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BOARD'S ACTION TAKEN ON OCTOBER 16, 2019, THE BOARD ISSUES**
7 **THE FOLLOWING CEASE AND DESIST ORDER:** Mario J. Cruz shall cease and desist from engaging
8 in the practice of veterinary medicine as defined in A.R.S. § 32-2231 or in any other manner
9 violating the Veterinary Practice Act. Should you fail to comply with this Cease and Desist
10 Order at any time, the Board reserves the right to pursue any and all additional legal actions
11 authorized by law.
12

13 **NOTICE:** Pursuant to section 41-1093.01, Arizona Revised Statutes, an agency shall limit all
14 occupational regulations to regulations that are demonstrated to be necessary to specifically
15 fulfill a public health, safety or welfare concern. Pursuant to sections 41-1093.02 and 41-1093.03,
16 Arizona Revised Statutes, you have the right to petition this agency to repeal or modify the
17 occupational regulation or bring an action in a court of general jurisdiction to challenge the
18 occupational regulation and to ensure compliance with section 41-1093.01, Arizona Revised
19 Statutes.
20

21 DATED this 20TH day of November 2019.


22 ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY
23 MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD

24 By:  Chairman
25

1 ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed
DATED this 20th day of November 2019 with:

2
3 Arizona State Veterinarian Medical Examining Board
1740 W. Adams St, Ste. 4600
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
4

5 COPY of the foregoing certified return receipt U.S. mail
DATED this 29th day of November 2019, to:

6 Mario J. Cruz
7 
Phoenix, Arizona
8

9 COPY of the foregoing sent by U.S. regular mail
DATED this 29th day of November 2019, to:

10 Jose L. Mendoza, Esq.
11 Jose L. Mendoza, LLC
722 E. Osborn Rd, Ste. 400
12 Phoenix, Arizona 85014

13 COPY of the foregoing sent by interdepartmental mail
DATED this 29th day of November 2019, to:

14 Assistant Attorney General's Office
15 1275 W. Washington CIV/LES
Phoenix AZ 85007
16

17 By: 

18 DATED this 29th day of November 2019.

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