



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

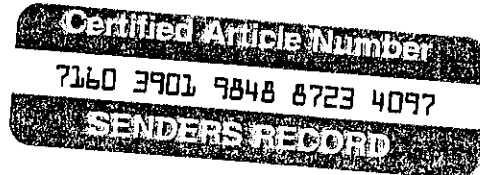
Robert A. Nebiker
Director

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January 24, 2006

Constance C. Houk, DVM
10566 Pleasant Vale Rd.
Delaplane, VA 20144



RE: Order of the Special Conference Committee

Dear Dr. Houk:

Enclosed is a Copy Teste of the Order entered by the Board of Veterinary Medicine following the Special Conference held on January 19, 2006. Should the Board office not receive written notification requesting a Formal Hearing within thirty-three days of the date on the Certificate of Service, this Order becomes final.

Should you have any questions concerning the Committee's recommendations, you may refer them to me or to Terri Behr at (804) 662-9915.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Enclosure

pc: Robert Nebiker, Director, Dept. of Health Professions
Jane Smith, Administrative Proceedings Division
Marta Ishmael, Enforcement
Susan Beasecker, Compliance
Michael L. Goodman, Esq.
Peggy Call, Program Administrator
Committee members

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

IN RE: CONSTANCE CARR HOUK, D.V.M.
License No.: 0301-002725
Complaint No.: 103932

ORDER

Pursuant to § 2.2-4019, § 2.2-4021 and § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended ("Code"), a Special Conference Committee ("Committee") of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine ("Board"), composed of John T. Wise, D.V.M., and Henry McKelvin, D.V.M., met with Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M., on January 19, 2006, in Henrico County, Virginia. Dr. Houk was present and was represented by Michael L. Goodman, Esquire. The purpose of the informal conference was to receive and act upon evidence concerning the allegations in the Amended Notice of Informal Conference dated November 17, 2005.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

After consideration of the evidence and statements concerning the allegations, the Committee makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

1. Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M., holds license number 0301-002725 which was issued by the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine on June 19, 1986. Said license will expire on December 31, 2006, unless renewed. Dr. Houk was a staff veterinarian at Marshall Veterinary Clinic ("MCV"), Marshall, Virginia, at all times material to the findings below.

2. Dr. Houk violated §§ 54.1-3303.A, 54.1-3408.A, 54.1-3409, and 54.1-3807(5) and (6) of the Code, and 18VAC150-20-140(6) and (7) of the Regulations of the Board of Veterinary Medicine ("Regulations"), in that, by her own admission in an interview with the Department of Health Professions Inspector on or about July 18, 2005, Dr. Houk was self-administering

hydromorphone (Schedule II), which she obtained from MVC. Additionally, she stated that she realized that she needed help in regards to her drug abuse problem and subsequently entered into a Participation Contract with the Health Practitioners Intervention Program (“HPIP”) on or about August 11, 2005.

3. Dr. Houk violated §§ 54.1-54.1-3807(5) of the Code, as further defined in 18VAC150-20-140(6) and 18VAC150-20-190.D of the Regulations, in that, on or about July 18, 2005, she removed her drug box, which contained multiple schedule II-IV controlled substances, from MVC to her home because she could not locate her key to the box.

4. Dr. Houk stated to the Committee that she suffered a severe leg fracture in August 2003 and was taking a substantial amount of prescribed pain medication for a long period of time. The oral pain medications were not controlling her pain. She discovered that MCV had hydromorphone, which was Dilaudid, and she began self-injecting because it made the pain go away.

5. Dr. Houk signed a Recovery Monitoring Contract with the HPIP on November 23, 2005.

6. Dr. Houk stated to the Committee that her sobriety date is August 15, 2005, that she attends at least one Alcohol Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous meeting per day, she has a sponsor, and that she has a good environment at home for her recovery. Further she stated that her injury no longer causes her pain.

7. Dr. Houk’s HPIP Case Manager, Rochelle Bland, informed the Committee that Dr. Houk has done well in the program, that Dr. Houk has participated in the 12-step and Caduceus programs, and that she foresees a positive outcome for Dr. Houk. Additionally, Ms. Bland reported that all of Dr. Houk’s urine drug screens have been negative.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M., shall comply with all terms and conditions for the period specified by the HPIP. She shall immediately report any changes to her Recovery Monitoring Contract. She shall be noticed to appear before a Committee at such time as the Board is notified that:

- a. She is not in compliance with the terms and conditions specified by the HPIP;
- b. She has been terminated from participation in the HPIP; or
- c. There is a pending investigation or unresolved allegations against her involving a violation of law, regulation or any term or condition of this Order.

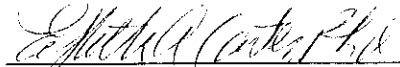
2. Dr. Houk shall maintain a course of conduct in her practice of veterinary medicine commensurate with the requirements of Chapter 38, Title 54.1 of the Code, and the Regulations of the Board of Veterinary Medicine. Any violation of the foregoing terms and conditions of this Order or any statute or regulation governing the practice of veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the license of Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M., and an administrative proceeding shall be convened to determine whether Dr. Houk's license to practice veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth shall be suspended or revoked.

Pursuant to § 54.1-2400(10) of the Code, this Order shall become final thirty (30) days after service unless a written request for a hearing before the Board is filed with Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director, Board of Veterinary Medicine. In the event that this decision is served by mail, three (3) days shall be added to the thirty (30) day period.

Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M.

Pursuant to § 2.2-4023 of the Code, the signed original of this Order shall remain in the custody of the Department of Health Professions as a public record and shall be made available for public release, inspection and copying upon request.

FOR THE BOARD:



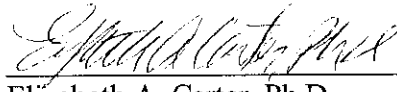
Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.

Executive Director

ENTERED: January 24, 2016

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Order was mailed to Constance Carr Houk, D.V.M., at 10566 Pleasant Vale Road, Delaplane, Virginia 20144, and her counsel, Michael L. Goodman Esquire, 4501 Highwoods Parkway, Suite 210, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060, on the 24th day of July, 2006.



Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Board of Veterinary Medicine