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DOCKET NO. 2007-31

IN THE MATTER OF § TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
THE LICENSE OF §  
DAVID R. LACY, D.V.M. § VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

### AGREED ORDER

On this the 14th day of June, 2007, came on to be considered by the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners ("Board") the matter of the license of DAVID R. LACY, D.V.M. ("Respondent"). Pursuant to Section 801.408, Texas Occupations Code and Board Rule 575.27, an informal conference was held on March 29, 2007. The Respondent waived his appearance. The Board was represented at the conference by the Board's Enforcement Committee.

Respondent, without admitting the truth of the findings and conclusions set out in this Agreed Order, wishes to waive a formal adjudicative hearing and thereby informally dispose of the issues without a formal adjudication. Respondent agrees to comply with the terms and conditions set forth in this Order. In waiving an adjudicative hearing, Respondent acknowledges his understanding of the alleged violations and the adequacy and sufficiency of the notice provided to him.

Upon the recommendation of the Enforcement Committee and with Respondent's consent, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and enters this Agreed Order as set forth below.

### Findings of Fact

1. On August 25, 2006, Shelly Mayberry, Chillicothe, Texas, presented her dachshund "Zeke" to David R. Lacy, D.V.M., Vernon, Texas, because the dog was vomiting and had diarrhea. While preparing for the examination, Ms. Mayberry attempted to place a muzzle on "Zeke," but was unsuccessful. Dr. Lacy picked the struggling dog up by the jaws and said, "I've had enough of this." The dog began to whine and scream, and Ms. Mayberry thought "Zeke" was biting his tongue. Dr. Lacy then roughly threw the dog onto the exam table and the dog defecated on the table and on Dr. Lacy and Ms. Mayberry. At the end of the exam, he told Ms. Mayberry, "That dog is psycho." Later, Dr. Lacy called Ms. Mayberry and apologized for his losing his temper.
2. The actions of Dr. Lacy regarding the patient do not represent the same degree of humane care, skill, and diligence in treating patients as is ordinarily used in the same or similar circumstances by average members of the veterinary medical profession in good standing in the Vernon area, or similar communities.

### Conclusions of Law

1. Respondent is required to comply with the provisions of the Veterinary Licensing Act,

Agreed Order 2007-31  
David R. Lacy

Chapter 801, Texas Occupations Code, and with the Board's Rules.

2. Based on Findings of Fact 1 and 2, Respondent has violated Rule 573.22, PROFESSIONAL STANDARD OF HUMANE TREATMENT, of the Board's Rules of Professional Conduct, which requires veterinarians to exercise the same degree of humane care, skill and diligence in treating patients as is ordinarily used in the same or similar circumstances by average members of the veterinary medical profession in good standing in the locality or community in which they practice, or in similar communities.

3. Based on Conclusion of Law 2, Respondent has violated Section 801.402 (6) of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code, and is subject to disciplinary action by the Board:

801.402. GENERAL GROUNDS FOR LICENSE DENIAL OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION. A person is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 if the person:

(6) engages in practices or conduct that violates the board's rules of professional conduct.

4. Based on Conclusions of Law 1 through 3, Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Section 801.401 of the Veterinary Licensing Act, Texas Occupations Code:

801.401. DISCIPLINARY POWERS OF BOARD. (a) If an applicant or license holder is subject to denial of a license or to disciplinary action under Section 801.402, the Board may:

- (1) refuse to examine an applicant or to issue or renew a license;
- (2) revoke or suspend a license;
- (3) place on probation a license holder or person whose license has been suspended;
- (4) reprimand a license holder; or
- (5) impose an administrative penalty.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD AND RESPONDENT AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Board ORDERS that DAVID R. LACY, D.V.M., be INFORMALLY REPRIMANDED.

The Board further ORDERS that:

1 Respondent shall abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Veterinary Licensing Act, and the laws of the State of Texas and the United States.

2. Respondent shall cooperate with the Board's attorneys, investigators, compliance

Agreed Order 2007-31  
David R. Lacy, D.V.M.

officers and other employees and agents investigating Respondent's compliance with this Order.

3. Failure by Respondent to comply with the terms of this Agreed Order or with any other provisions of the Licensing Act or the Board Rules, may result in further disciplinary action.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, acknowledges his understanding of the Agreed Order, the notice, and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth herein, and agrees that he will satisfactorily comply with the mandates of the Agreed Order in a timely manner or be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by the Board.

Respondent, by signing this Agreed Order, waives his right to a formal hearing and any right to seek judicial review of this Agreed Order. Respondent acknowledges that he had the right to be represented by legal counsel in this matter.

RESPONDENT WAIVES ANY FURTHER HEARINGS OR APPEALS TO THE BOARD OR TO ANY COURT IN REGARD TO ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREED ORDER. NOTHING IN THIS ORDER SHALL BE DEEMED A WAIVER OF RESPONDENT'S RIGHTS UNDER STATUTE OR UNDER THE UNITED STATES OR TEXAS CONSTITUTIONS TO APPEAL AN ORDER OR ACTION OF THE BOARD SUBSEQUENT TO THIS AGREED ORDER EXCEPT AS RESPONDENT MAY HAVE OTHERWISE AGREED TO HEREIN. RESPONDENT AGREES THAT THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.

The effective date of this Agreed Order shall be the date it is adopted by the Board.

Agreed Order 2007-31  
David R. Lacy, D.V.M.

I, **DAVID R. LACY**, D.V.M., HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE FOREGOING AGREED ORDER. I UNDERSTAND BY SIGNING IT, I WAIVE CERTAIN RIGHTS. I SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS ORDER CONTAINS THE ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND THERE IS NO OTHER AGREEMENT OF ANY KIND, VERBAL, WRITTEN OR OTHERWISE.

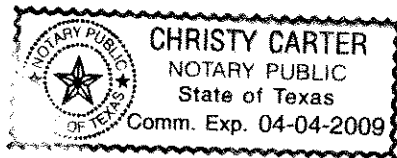
David R. Lacy D.V.M.  
David R. Lacy D.V.M.

4-11-07  
Date

STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF Willbarger §

BEFORE ME, on this day, personally appeared DAVID R. LACY, D.V.M., known to me as the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes stated therein.

Given under the hand and seal of office this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2007.



Christy Carter  
Notary Public

SIGNED AND ENTERED by the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS on this the 14th day of June, 2007

Robert Lastovica D.V.M.  
Robert Lastovica, D.V.M., President