

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
MEGHAN HESSLER, D.V.M. : LS0911114VET
RESPONDENT. :

[Division of Enforcement Case #06 VET 058]

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Meghan Hessler, D.V.M.
801 Hanksfield Place
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Veterinary Examining Board
Department of Regulation & Licensing
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Veterinary Examining Board. The Board has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Meghan Hessler, D.V.M. ("Respondent") was born on June 26, 1962, and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 4826. This license was first granted on June 19, 1998.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board is 801 Hanksfield Place, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578.
3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a veterinarian at Memorial Drive Veterinary Clinic, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.
4. Hughy was a male bichon frise dog born October 1, 1993.
5. Hughy was presented to Respondent on July 14, 2006, for evaluation because he was straining at urination and there was blood in his urine. Respondent obtained an abdominal radiograph of Hughy and diagnosed uroliths.
6. On July 20, 2006, Respondent performed a cystotomy, back flushed the urethra, and removed several stones from the bladder. Respondent obtained two post-operative radiographs, in different views. One of the films showed a urolith remaining in the urethra, but Respondent did not recognize it.
7. The owner took Hughy to a different veterinarian on August 7, August 9, and August 11, 2006, for treatment of an infected incision.
8. From October 29 through November 1, 2006, Hughy again showed straining with urination, with blood in his urine. Additionally, he appeared to have pain with bowel movements, and there was blood in his stool.
9. Hughy was seen by Dr. P.S., also a veterinarian at Memorial Drive Veterinary Clinic, on November 1, 2006. She had two radiographs taken, and diagnosed a stone in the urethra half way between the bladder and the penis. Dr. P.S. told Hughy's owner that this was a new stone, and recommended waiting until the stone had become an obstruction and an emergency situation, then open the urethra and remove the stone. Dr. P.S. prescribed an antibiotic and a medication for pain control.
10. On November 3, 2006, the owner called Memorial Drive Veterinary Clinic and requested all of the records and radiographs so she could take them to another veterinary clinic for a second opinion. Respondent spoke to the owner, and said that having looked at the radiographs again, she had made a mistake and missed the stone in the first surgery.
11. On November 7, 2006, a veterinarian at a different veterinary clinic performed an operation and removed the stone.
12. Respondent's records for Hughy for the period do not contain documentation of a complete physical examination at any time, and do not indicate that Respondent ever did a pre-operative physical. Respondent's records make reference to the type of anesthesia provided to Hughy during the operation of July 20, 2006, and mention that some post-operative pain control was attempted, but her records do not contain sufficient detail to demonstrate that it is more likely than not that adequate post-operative pain control was achieved.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §453.07, and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).
2. The conduct described in paragraph 12, above, constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § VET 7.03.

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Meghan Hessler, D.V.M., is REPRIMANDED.
2. The license of Meghan Hessler, D.V.M., to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin is hereby LIMITED by the condition that **within six months of the date of this Order**:
 - a. She complete continuing veterinary medicine education in the topic veterinary medical documentation and record keeping (2 hours).
 - b. Respondent shall be responsible for locating courses to fulfill the required continuing education order.
 - c. Respondent shall obtain Board approval for any course she intends to take in compliance with this order, before she takes the course. The Board may reject any course, and may accept a course for less than the number of hours for which Respondent seeks approval. Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the compliance with this order. No part of the continuing education required by this order may be applied to the continuing education required for renewal of the Respondent's credential or to any other continuing education requirement imposed on Respondent by the Board.
 - d. All requests for approval of courses for compliance with this Order shall be addressed to

Department Monitor
Division of Enforcement
Department of Regulation and Licensing
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935
Telephone (608) 267-3817
Fax (608) 266-2264

- e. Respondent shall submit satisfactory evidence of completion of the continuing education within thirty days of completing the continuing education. Certificates of completion of the continuing education shall be sent to

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

3. Respondent shall, within 90 days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of Nine Hundred Seventy-Five (\$975.00) dollars. Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed to:

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4. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order. In the event Respondent fails to pay costs as ordered or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education, the Respondent's license (#50-4826) SHALL BE SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the terms of this Order.

5. This Order is effective on the date of its signing.

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

By: Robert Spencer DVM
A Member of the Board

11/11/09
Date