

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

---

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :

KARLA SATHRE, D.V.M., :  
RESPONDENT. :

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ORDER 0000335

---

[Division of Enforcement Case #07 VET 014]

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

Karla Sathre, D.V.M.  
5501 Lombardy Drive  
Wausau, WI 54401

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. Karla Sathre, D.V.M., ("Respondent") was born on September 28, 1966, and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 4128. This license was first granted on January 31, 1994.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board is 5501 Lombardy Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin 54401.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent was working as a veterinarian at Wausau Animal Hospital, Wausau, Wisconsin.

4. On December 28, 2006, Betty M. brought her dog, a four year old female boxer named Rosie, to Wausau Animal Hospital for diagnosis and treatment because Rosie was having difficulty urinating. A veterinarian, not Respondent, examined Rosie, diagnosed a bladder infection, dispensed antibiotics, and asked that Betty M. bring Rosie to the clinic the next day for radiographs of Rosie with a full bladder.

5. The radiographs taken on December 29, 2006, showed a large number of stones of various sizes in Rosie's bladder. Respondent performed a urine culture, and determined that the bladder stones could likely be eliminated by diet changes without surgery, and asked that Betty M. bring Rosie back in one month for radiographs to check the progress of the dietary treatment.

6. At approximately 3:00 p.m. on January 8, 2007, Betty M. telephoned Respondent and reported that Rosie was in distress, panting, and squatting frequently but unable to urinate. Respondent told Betty M. that dogs commonly pant when they are in distress, and that Rosie was probably in discomfort trying to pass a stone. Respondent further informed Betty M. that female dogs usually have no problems passing stones, and not to worry.

7. Later that same afternoon January 8, 2007, approximately half an hour after her first telephone call to Respondent, Betty M. called Respondent and reported that Rosie was lying on her side, shaking on and off. Respondent told Betty M. that was what dogs do when they are in distress, and suggested that Betty M. give Rosie an aspirin to treat inflammation. Respondent also informed Betty M. that if she needed help after clinic hours, she could take Rosie to Emergency Vets of Central Wisconsin.

8. Respondent did not tell Betty M. that she should immediately get veterinary care for Rosie.

9. At approximately 2:30 a.m. on January 9, 2007, Betty M. found Rosie in the basement, unable to move, with her jaw either locked or so tightly clenched that Betty M. could not open it. Betty M. took Rosie to Emergency Vets of Central Wisconsin, in Mosinee, Wisconsin. The veterinarian gave a tentative diagnosis of renal failure, and recommended that Betty M. take Rosie to Oakview Veterinary Medical Center in Plover, Wisconsin, for an ultrasound.

10. At approximately 12:30 p.m. January 9, 2007, a veterinarian at Oakview performed an ultrasound examination and diagnosed a ruptured bladder, which would need surgical repair by a more specialized veterinarian. Oakview referred Betty M. to Fox Valley Animal Referral Center in Appleton, Wisconsin.

11. The veterinarian at Fox Valley gave a guarded prognosis for recovery, even with surgery, because of the damage to the bladder and the release of the bladder contents into the abdomen. While at Fox Valley, Rosie vomited blood and Betty M. decided to euthanize Rosie at that time.

12. The minimally competent veterinary response to Betty M.'s second phone call to Respondent on the afternoon of January 8, 2007, was to have Rosie taken to the nearest appropriate veterinary practitioner for immediate veterinary examination and care, for pain relief and relief of the apparent urinary obstruction.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction to act in this matter, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §453.07(2), and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described in paragraphs 8 and 9, above, constitutes a violation of Wisconsin Administrative Code § VE 7.06(1).

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Karla Sathre, D.V.M., is hereby REPRIMANDED.
2. The license previously issued to Karla Sathre, D.V.M., is LIMITED by the condition that she shall, within six months of the date of this Order, successfully complete four hours of continuing veterinary medical education on the diagnosis and treatment of urolithiasis.
  - a. Respondent is responsible for finding an appropriate course or courses, and is solely responsible for all costs associated with completing the required education. Respondent shall obtain pre-approval for any course she contemplates taking in compliance with this Order. Requests for pre-approval of any course shall be made to the Board's designee, who is

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

- b. No part of any course Respondent takes in compliance with this Order may be credited to any other continuing education requirement to which Respondent may be subject.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

3. Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days from the date of this Order, pay costs of this proceeding in the amount of six hundred seventy-five (\$675.00) dollars. Payment shall be made payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, and mailed 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

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 timely submit payment of the costs or fails to comply with the ordered continuing education as set forth above, the Respondent's license (#4128) may, in the discretion of the board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with payment of the costs or completion of the continuing education.

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

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

By: Mathina L. Green DVM  
A Member of the Board

8/4/10  
Date