

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY :
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST :
 :
 : FINAL DECISION AND ORDER
KATIE C. HOM, D.V.M. :
RESPONDENT. : ORDER 0000668

[Division of Enforcement Case # 07 VET 31]

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

Katie C. Hom, D.V.M.
1517 Sandstorm Circle
Eagle River, WI 54521

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

Wisconsin 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. Katie C. Hom, D.V.M. ("Respondent") was born on November 15, 1965, and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin pursuant to license number 4756-50. This license was first granted on March 12, 1998.

2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing is 1517 Sandstorm Circle, Eagle River, WI 54521.

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

4. From March 6, 2006 through June 25, 2007, client NN brought her dog "Ruthie," a husky mix breed, born in 1996, into Respondent's clinic for care and treatment. Ruthie suffered from arthritis and chronic lick granulomas on her front legs and was seen for treatment of this condition, and periodic routine nail trims. Both Respondent and Dr. EH provided care to Ruthie during this time period.

5. From March 6, 2006 through June 25, 2007, the medical records contain notes about arthritis treatment, medication prescriptions and refills. Physical examinations were noted on some visits and with some notations referring to weight loss. The medical records fail to sufficiently document a complete physical examination. The medical records fail to sufficiently document a diagnosis or differential diagnosis, document discussions with the owner concerning diagnostic or treatment options, or identify the treating veterinarian.

6. On August 7, 2007, Ruthie was examined by another veterinarian at a different veterinary clinic who performed a complete physical examination, drew blood for blood work, took a chest x-ray, and diagnosed Ruthie with arthritis and bone cancer that had metastasized to her lungs, and possible kidney failure. Treatment options of limb amputation and chemotherapy were discussed, but declined. Ruthie was euthanized on August 10, 2007.

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. Respondent failed to maintain minimally adequate patient medical records as required by Wis. Admin. Code § VE 7.03, as described in paragraphs 4-5, above. This conduct constitutes a violation of Wis. Admin. Code § VE 7.03, 7.06(15) and the Respondent is therefore subject to discipline pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 453.07(1)(f).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Katie C. Hom, D.V.M. is hereby REPRIMANDED.

2. Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine in the state of Wisconsin is LIMITED to require that, within twelve (12) months of the date of this Order, Respondent shall locate, and successfully complete a minimum of two (2) hours of continuing education in the area of veterinary medical record keeping and a minimum of four (4) hours of continuing

education in the area of completing a thorough physical exam on companion animals. The courses attended in satisfaction of this requirement may not be used to satisfy the statutory continuing education requirements for licensure.

3. Respondent is responsible for locating the courses required under this Order, for providing adequate course descriptions to the Department Monitor, and for obtaining pre-approval of the courses from the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board, or its designee, prior to commencement of the programs. For the purposes of this Order, the Board's designee 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

4. Within thirty (30) days following completion of the course(s) identified in paragraph 2 above, Respondent shall file with the Department Monitor certifications from the sponsoring organization(s) verifying her attendance at the required courses.

5. All costs of the educational programs shall be the responsibility of the Respondent.

6. Upon successful completion of the educational programs, submission and approval of the records and payment of the costs set forth below, Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine shall be restored to unlimited status.

7. Respondent shall, within one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of this Order, pay COSTS of this proceeding in the amount of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900.00). 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

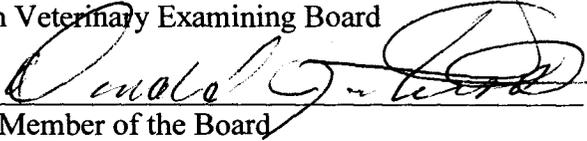
8. Violation of any of the terms of this Order may be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Respondent's license. The Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other additional discipline 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

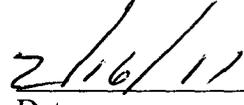
with the ordered continuing education as set forth above, the Respondent's license (# 4756-50) may, in the discretion of the Board or its designee, be SUSPENDED, without further notice or hearing, until Respondent has complied with the payment of the costs or completion of the continuing education.

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

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board

By:


A Member of the Board


Date