



ANNUAL BOARD UPDATE

STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

NOVEMBER 2007

Board Members

Christopher Yach, DVM

President

Las Vegas

Craig Schank, DVM

Vice-President

Fallon

Scott Bradley, DVM

Las Vegas

Gary Ailes, DVM

Past-President

Carson City

William Taylor, DVM, AVBP

Las Vegas

Richard Simmonds, DVM, MS

Reno

Beverly Willard

Public Member

Jacks Valley

Board Staff

Debbie Machen

Executive Director

Tracie Estep

Administrative Assistant

Michael Chumrau, DVM

Board Inspector

Jenna Horton, LVT

Compliance Inspector

Board Counsel

Keith Marcher

Senior Deputy

Attorney General

Mailing Address

4600 Kietzke Ln., O-265

Reno, Nevada 89502

Phone Number: (775) 688-1788

Fax Number: (775) 688-1808

E-mail: vetbinfo@vetboard.nv.gov

Web-site: www.nvvetboard.us

In This Issue...

Message from

the President

1

Disciplinary Action

2

Regulation Update

4

Controlled Substance

4

Drug Regulations

5

Technician Duties

6

Assistant Duties

7

2007 Statistics

8

Important Dates

8

From The President

As we are coming to the end of another year, I would just like to make a special point of recognizing the tremendous job, and the continued commitment that the men and woman, Doctors and lay staff who comprise your State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners have done for all of us over the years. I have been a member of the board for almost eight years and have seen 50 more hospitals open, doubling of specialty practitioners, 300 more veterinary technicians, and over 250 more veterinarians have come to our state. During this time the State Board Office and its board members have grown little in number but have had to meet the challenges from these increasing numbers. In fact, today's State Board handles more cases and many more items with greater efficiency than in years past and better than most other professional boards in our state. While our State Board was set up to allow lay citizens to question the quality of care they received, the board has many other duties which are equally

Christopher Eric Yach, DVM

as important. Making sure Nevada stays among the leaders in providing the best in Veterinary care may start with us the practitioners, but is greatly influenced by the licensed vet-techs we are in charge of, the technician programs we have been instrumental in instituting, the legislations which keeps us current, and the foresight to anticipate issues and concerns which will affect our profession in the years to come. The State Board members and the State Board's permanent staff work tirelessly to protect the public and give them confidence in our profession. Your State Board is also in charge of furthering our profession on both state and national levels as the influences which affect our practice of veterinary medicine becomes more and more broad and ever more complex. I would encourage everyone to realize that YOUR input is crucial and invaluable as we take our profession into the coming years with continued growth and the many new challenges which will accompany them.

New Board Member Appointed by Governor Gibbons

Scott Bradley, DVM, a native Nevadan, attended UNLV and UNR and received a Bachelor of Science in Zoology. While attending the veterinary program at Washington State University he met the love of his life, Ann. He graduated from Washington State University in 1982 and has practiced in Las Vegas ever since. He is celebrating his 26th anniversary and is raising four children and running a veterinary practice while trying to do so in a way that brings honor and glory to our Creator. Sometimes successfully, sometimes he feels he needs a lot of work.

He is honored to be appointed to the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Being involved with this group this past year has been greatly encouraging in seeing how dedicated the board members are in enhancing the quality of service that the veterinary community provides to the public while exhorting the practitioners to strive to be the best they can be. His prayer is that he may be able to serve in a way that brings honor to this incredible profession.

New Compliance Inspector

Jenna Anne Horton grew up in Estes Park, Colorado. In 1997, she moved to the "Little Apple" Manhattan, Kansas where she attended Kansas State University and worked for the KSU Rabies Lab. She graduated with a B.S. in Animal Science in 2001 and moved to Las Vegas. She began working as a Licensed Veterinary Technician in day practice and emergency care. Jenna became an Instructor in the Veterinary Technology program at CCSN, and then worked as a Laboratory Administrator and Clinical Education Manager for the Western Veterinary Conference. Jenna began working for the Board as a Board Compliance Investigator in July of 2007.

Disciplinary Action			
The following is summary of disciplinary action taken by the Board in the past year:			
Case #	Area of NV	Violations	Conditions of the Order
VS01-101806	Las Vegas	Negligence, a departure in the standard of practice of veterinary medicine in that the Licensee neglected to evaluate blood work or inform the client of abnormal results prior to proceeding with a dentistry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
KS01-012607	Las Vegas	Acquiring a controlled substance from a pharmacy or other source by misrepresentation, fraud, deception, or subterfuge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Surrender of license
SS01-082306	Las Vegas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violation of Probation • Neglect, in that the Licensee having undertaken the care of animal, shall not neglect the animal unless the DVM has been discharged and has given adequate notice to the owner. • Licensee failed to maintain adequate medical records. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probation is extended for two years • Licensee is required to provide copies of medical records upon a request from the Board • Licensee is required to establish a protocol regarding the maintaining of medical records • Fined \$2500.00
MS-01101806	Las Vegas	Negligence, a departure in the standard of practice of veterinary medicine in that the Licensee established a VCPR with the owner, obtained consent to provide blood work but neglected to evaluate the blood work, inform the client of the abnormal results, and communicate the abnormalities to the associate DVM who performed the procedure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
HS-091106	Las Vegas	AVMA Code of Ethics, in that the Licensee waited two days to do surgery after a diagnosis of an infected fractured tooth and did not administer or prescribe antibiotics or pain medication on the day of the diagnosis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing education in the subject of periodontal disease • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
WS01-10106	Las Vegas	Negligence, in that the Licensee failed to perform a surgery within the standard of practice of veterinary medicine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.

Case #	Area of NV	Violations	Conditions of the Order
DS01-100606	Las Vegas	Licensee failed to maintain a medical record on an animal that became a hospitalized patient during boarding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
PS01-011507	Las Vegas	Negligence, in that the hospital used Snuggle Safe Microdiscs during procedures where the animal was anesthetized or unconscious resulting in the dog being burned.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hospital shall immediately discontinue use of the product during procedures where the animal is anesthetized or unconscious. • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
KS01-020307	Las Vegas	Negligence, in that the Licensee failed to administer a sufficient amount of blood to stabilize an animal and failed to provide any testing to determine the amount of blood needed to stabilize the animal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing education on the subject of blood transfusion therapy • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
MR01-081506	Rural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incomplete medical records that did not justify the diagnosis or treatment. • Licensee did not provide a copy of the medical record to the owner within 48 hrs of a request by the owner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing education on the subject of small animal reproduction • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
HR01-062007	Rural	Acquiring a controlled substance from a pharmacy or other source by misrepresentation, fraud, deception, or subterfuge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Surrender of license • License reinstated/ Probation
PN01-110606	Reno	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negligence, a departure in the standard of practice of veterinary medicine in that the Licensee failed to offer the client options in regard to pre-op blood work or x-rays in determining the overall condition of the animal. • Incomplete medical records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing education on the subject of anesthesia protocols • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.

Case #	Area of NV	Violations	Conditions of the Order
MR01-040407	Rural	Negligence, a departure in the standard of practice of veterinary medicine in that the Licensee did not inform the owner of the animal the condition of her horse or the potential for euthanasia. -Insufficient information in the medical record to justify the diagnosis or the determination of the medical status of the animal in determining or warranting treatment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.
TN01-011907	Reno	Non-Compliance Facility Inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In possession of out of date controlled substances • Access of controlled substances not restricted to licensed DVM's or LVT's • Incomplete medical records • Unlicensed personnel performing dentals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and board costs.

The following regulations were adopted by the Board in November 2006:

Aseptic Surgery

Requirements for performance of aseptic surgery. (NAC 638.715)

1. A veterinary facility which provides aseptic surgical services must reserve a room, separate and distinct from all other rooms, for aseptic surgical procedures.
2. When performing aseptic surgery:
 - (a) Each member of a surgical team shall wear the appropriate sanitary cap and sanitary mask;
 - (b) Any instrument used to perform aseptic surgery must be sterilized; and
 - (c) Each member of the surgical team who will be handling an instrument or touching the surgical site shall wear a sterilized surgical gown and sterilized gloves.
3. As used in this section, "aseptic surgery" means surgery performed under sterilized conditions to prevent the introduction of infectious microorganisms.

Clean Surgery

Requirements for performance of clean surgery. (NAC 638.720)

1. When performing clean surgery:
 - (a) Any instrument used to perform clean surgery must be sterilized; and
 - (b) Each member of the surgical team who will be handling an instrument or touching the surgical site shall wear clean attire and gloves.
2. As used in this section, "clean surgery" means a surgical procedure which does not warrant the use of aseptic surgical procedures and which is conducted in a manner that is consistent with the prevailing standards of acceptable veterinary medical practice.



CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES/ PRESCRIPTION DRUG REGULATIONS FOR VETERINARIANS & VETERINARY PRACTICES

REGISTRATION

1) A veterinarian may not prescribe controlled substances unless he is registered with the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy. The DEA certificate and the Pharmacy Board certificate must be prominently displayed in the facility.

2) A veterinarian may administer and dispense controlled substances without registering with the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy if:

(a) The veterinarian is employed by or an agent of a veterinarian who is registered with the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy;

(b) Both veterinarians work in the same facility;

(c) The facility makes and maintains a log in which all veterinarians are required to account for their use of the controlled substances, whether by administration or dispensing, so that the controlled substances purchased by the veterinarian who is registered are accounted for.

SECURITY

A veterinarian must have and use effective controls and procedures to prevent and guard against theft, misuse, and diversion of controlled substances including at least:

1) Storing all controlled substances in a securely locked, substantially constructed cabinet. Controlled substances in schedule II must be doubly locked, such as in a locked cabinet in a locked room or in a lock-box inside a safe.

2) Restricting access to the controlled substances to the veterinarian or his licensed veterinary technician at the direction of the veterinarian. Veterinary technicians in training may possess and administer a controlled substance at the direction of a supervising veterinarian.

3) Prohibiting access to any employee who has been convicted of a felony involving controlled substances or who has had a DEA registration denied, revoked, or surrendered unless the board has allowed the employee to have such access.

RECORD KEEPING, THEFT AND LOSS REPORTING & DISPOSAL

1) A veterinarian must make and keep complete, accurate, and readily retrievable records of each prescription drug, including each controlled substance purchased and dispensed.

2) Records of controlled substance orders and purchases must be maintained separately from similar records for other drugs.

regarding controlled substances in Schedules III, IV, and V.

4) All order forms for Controlled substances in Schedule II must be accounted for, fully filled out and signed and kept for at least two years.

5) Within ten days of discovery, a veterinarian must report any theft or loss of a controlled substance to the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy and the Department of Drug Enforcement on a DEA form 106 and may also report the theft or loss to the Nevada Department of Public Safety or a local law enforcement agency.

6) Out-of-date or unusable controlled substances must be listed on a DEA form 41 and should be destroyed with the assistance of either the DEA or the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy.

7) A veterinarian who dispenses controlled substances to owners of animals must make a keep a current inventory of each drug.

8) All records regarding prescription drugs, including controlled substances, must be maintained for at least four years and must be available during regular business hours to agents of the veterinary board or to agents for the board of pharmacy for review, copying, and potential removal.

LABELING-ALL PRESCRIPTIONS

1) All prescriptions filled by a veterinarian must be dispensed in a container to which is affixed a label or other device which clearly shows:

(a) The dispensing date;

(b) The name and address of the veterinarian who filled the prescription;

(c) The name of the prescribing veterinarian, the name of the owner of the animal for whom the drug is prescribed, and the name of the animal for whom the drug is prescribed;

(d) The number of dosage units;

(e) Specific directions for use given by the veterinarian;

(f) The expiration date of the drug;

(g) The name of the drug; and

(h) The strength of the drug or medicine.

2) All prescriptions dispensed by a veterinarian shall be dispensed in a container which is designed to prevent a child from opening it, if commercially available, unless the owner of the animal for whom the drug is prescribed:

(a) Is at least 18 years of age;

(b) Specifically requests a container which is not so designed; and

(c) Signs a document verifying that he made such a request.

Updated 10-2007

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN DUTIES

Authorized tasks performed by **LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS**

A licensed veterinary technician may perform the following tasks under the immediate supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Application of casts for the immobilization of fractures.
- (b) Dental extractions.
- (c) Induction of anesthesia.
- (d) Assisting a licensed veterinarian in surgery.
- (e) Euthanasia.
- (f) Fluid aspiration from a body cavity.

A licensed veterinary technician may perform the following tasks under the immediate or direct supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Endotracheal intubation.
- (b) Blood administration.
- (c) Monitoring of vital signs.
- (d) Application of casts and splints.
- (e) Tasks listed in subsection 4, if the animal is anesthetized.
- (f) External noninvasive ultrasonography.
- (g) Cystocentesis to obtain a urine specimen.
- (h) Dental prophylaxis.
- (i) Physical therapy.

A licensed veterinary technician may perform the following tasks under the immediate, direct or indirect supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Administration of enemas.
- (b) Administration of an electrocardiogram.
- (c) Application of bandages.
- (d) Catheterization of an unobstructed bladder.
- (e) Introduction of a stomach tube.
- (f) Ear flushing with pressure or suction.
- (g) Positioning of animals for X- rays.
- (h) Operation of X-ray machines.
- (i) Administration of oral and rectal radio-opaque materials.
- (j) Administration of oral and topical medications, including controlled substances.
- (k) Starting and restarting of intravenous fluids.
- (l) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis, including, but not limited to, blood, urine, skin, parasites and microorganisms.
- (m) Collection of tissue during or after a postmortem examination by a DVM.
- (n) Administration of intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous injections.
- (o) Placement of an intravenous catheter.

A licensed veterinary technician may not perform the following tasks of animal health care:

- (a) Surgery.
- (b) Diagnosis and prognosis of animal diseases.
- (c) Except as authorized by a veterinarian, prescribe, administer or dispense drugs, medicines or appliances.
- (d) Any other activity which represents the practice of veterinary medicine or which requires the knowledge, skill and training of a licensed veterinarian.

UNLICENSED ASSISTANT DUTIES

Authorized tasks performed by **UNLICENSED ASSISTANTS**

An unlicensed veterinary assistant may perform the following tasks under the immediate supervision of a supervising veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician:

- (a) Assisting a licensed veterinarian in surgery or in monitoring anesthesia.
- (b) Application of bandages.
- (c) Collection of a laboratory specimen for analysis of blood.
- (d) Collection of tissue during or after a postmortem examination by a DVM.

An unlicensed veterinary assistant may perform the following tasks under the immediate or direct supervision of a supervising veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician:

- (a) Blood administration with a preplaced catheter.
- (b) Monitoring of vital signs.
- (c) Administration of an electrocardiogram.
- (d) Introduction of food into the stomach through a preplaced tube.
- (e) Ear cleaning.
- (f) Positioning of animals for X-rays.
- (g) Operation of X-ray machines.
- (h) Starting and restarting of intravenous fluids through a preplaced intravenous catheter.
- (i) Administration of intramuscular, subcutaneous or intravenous injections through a preplaced catheter, except anesthetics, controlled substances or vaccinations for zoonotic diseases.
- (j) Taking readings of the temperature, pulse, respiration or weight of an animal.

An unlicensed veterinary assistant may perform the following tasks under the immediate or direct supervision of a supervising veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician or the indirect supervision of a supervising veterinarian:

- (a) Administration of oral and topical medications, including controlled substances dispensed by prescription.
- (b) Collection of free catch urine or feces and skin scrapings.

Definitions:

“Immediate supervision” means the supervising veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician is in the immediate area and within visual and audible range of the animal and the person treating the animal.

“Direct supervision” means that the supervising veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician is on the premises with or in the same area as the animal and the person treating the animal and is quickly and easily available.

“Indirect supervision” means the supervising veterinarian is not on the premises with the animal and the person treating the animal, but has given written or oral instructions for treatment of the animal.

The supervising veterinarian:

Is responsible for determining the competency of the licensed veterinary technician to perform delegated tasks of animal health care. b. Shall ensure that the licensed veterinary technician performs the tasks of animal health care delegated to the licensed veterinary technician in a manner which is consistent with good veterinary medical practice. c. Shall make all decisions relating to the diagnosis, treatment, management and future disposition of the animal. d. Shall examine the animal before delegating any tasks to the licensed veterinary technician. The examination must be conducted at such time as good veterinary medical practice requires, consistent with the particular task of animal health care which is delegated. e. Is responsible for ensuring that unlicensed personnel do not perform duties that are specific to licensed veterinary technicians or licensed veterinarians.

Mission Statement

The Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was created in 1919 by the Nevada State Legislature for the protection of the public and their animals. It is composed of seven members appointed by the Governor. Board membership is comprised of six residents of the State of Nevada who have graduated from an approved veterinary college and who have been lawfully engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine for at least five years. One member must be a member of the general public. The board regulates the standards of conduct for the profession, reviews complaints and takes disciplinary action against licensees who have violated the statutes. The board develops and designs examinations and conducts them semi-annually for the licensure of veterinarians, veterinary technicians and euthanasia technicians, and renews their licenses on an annual basis. The Board also licenses approximately 189 Veterinary Hospitals in the State of Nevada.



2008 Veterinary Medicine Practice Act

The updated Veterinary Practice Act and other important information are now available on CD. These CD's are being mailed to each licensee with the yearly renewal. If you want a paper copy, please contact our office at (775) 688-1788.

2007 Statistics

	2007	2006
Number of New Veterinarians licensed	94	87
Total Number of Active Veterinarians licensed	734	669
Total Number of Inactive Veterinarians licensed	196	191
Number of new Board Certified Diplomates licensed	6	3
Total Number of Board Certified Diplomates licensed	68	61
Total Number of Veterinary Facilities licensed	189	182
Number of New Vet.Techs.licensed/pending	73	76
Total Number of Veterinary Technicians licensed	368	327
Total Number of Veterinary Technicians in Training	136	108
Number of New Euthanasia Technicians licensed	14	0
Total Number of Euthanasia Technicians licensed	87	78
Number of Animal Chiropractor Registrations	4	3
Number of Animal Physical Therapists Registrations	2	2
Number of complaints called into the Board office	124	113
Number of formal complaints filed	59	54
Number of complaints dismissed	26	29
Number of disciplinary settlement agreements	13	12
Number of administrative hearings held/pending	1	0

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

October 18-19, 2007 Las Vegas
 January 10, 2008 Reno



EXAMINATION SCHEDULE-NAVLE

Nov. 12-Dec. 8, 2007 Deadline August 13, 2007
 April 7-18, 2008 Deadline January 18, 2007

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE-VTNE

January 18, 2008 Deadline November 17, 2007
 June 20, 2008 Deadline April 14, 2008

