



# Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

## Mailing Address:

4600 Kietzke Ln. O-265  
Reno, NV 89502  
Phone- (775) 688-1788  
Fax-(775) 688-1808  
Email:  
[vetbdinfo@vetboard.nv.gov](mailto:vetbdinfo@vetboard.nv.gov)  
Website :  
[www.nvvetboard.us](http://www.nvvetboard.us)

SPRING 2016

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## From the President Bill Taylor, DVM, ABVP

Another busy year has passed for the Board. This year, I would like to discuss more about the many responsibilities of the Board. Simply stated, our mission statement directs us to protect the public and their animals, which we accomplish in a number of ways.

1. Participating in the legislative process and regulatory rule making which creates laws that govern the standards of practice in our state.
2. Investigating complaints filed by members of the public.
3. Overseeing the licensure process.
4. Conducting hospital inspections.
5. Evaluating and approving/rejecting non-RACE approved or local continuing education courses.

I would like to discuss the first two items in greater detail, the first being the Board's involvement with the legislative process. We are fortunate to have a state association that works quite closely with the Board in the legislative process. Unfortunately, many states are not so lucky. In part, the Board monitors veterinary-related bills that have been presented to the Legislature and provides insight as to the bills' potential impact on the veterinary community. The 2015 Legislative Session has ended where the Board monitored approximately 80 bills where most of these bills were administrative in nature. Several bills that did not pass that could have affected the state's practitioners were the equine dentistry bill which would have allowed non-veterinarians or veterinary technicians to perform dentals and extractions, an animal marijuana bill that would have allowed the dispensing of marijuana to animals, and a bill that would have required veterinarians to actively participate in the prescription monitoring program.

The Board also works to introduce regulations that serve to maintain the standard of veterinary care within our state. In fulfilling this duty, the Board conducts workshops and hearings to seek input from both the public and veterinarians. In my 34 years in practice, I have witnessed significant improvements in the practice of veterinary medicine; what was the gold standard is now the standard of care in many cases. In my 12 years as a Board

member, our Practice Act has changed to reflect these improvements in medical care. A few of those include intraoperative fluids, intraoperative monitoring and post-operative release of the patient, dentistry, pain management, the responsibilities of Licensed Veterinary Technicians and Veterinary Assistants.

The second area I would like to discuss in greater detail is the area of filed complaints. In my last letter, I discussed the Board process once a complaint has been filed. I will now address how to avoid receiving "that letter" informing you there has been a complaint filed against you or your hospital. Unfortunately, the number of complaints in the past year has risen quite dramatically. As mentioned in previous newsletter articles, many of the complaints are secondary to monetary concerns or poor communication.

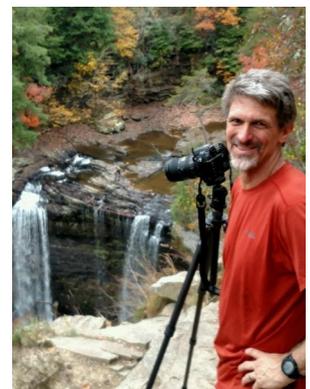
The Board does not have the legislative authority to act on complaints that are strictly monetary in nature. Nevertheless, financial concerns certainly play a part in many of the complaints we discuss at each board meeting, and while they may not be the sole basis of the complaint, they may certainly fuel the fire. Accurate estimates, informed consent of the charges, written permission (or verbal authorization if the owner is not immediately available) noted in the medical records, and frequent updates to the owner regarding the charges all make sense, not only for good management but also to avoid confusion regarding the bill.

The other great source of client complaints lies in communication. Effective, thorough communication is a crucial skill that the veterinarian and the practice as a whole should strive to develop. Beyond good business practice, strong client communication also serves to reduce the number of complaints actually filed against you, your employees, or your facility. Similarly, good medical records serve to avoid mistakes and to protect you in the event a complaint is filed. The medical record is part of our communication and is extremely important in our investigation of a complaint. Thorough

records with respect to discussions with clients, accepted or rejected recommended courses of treatment, medical treatments administered, the diagnosis or a list of differential diagnoses, SOAP the case (no groans please) may all become very important if you are confronted with a filed Board complaint. "If it is in the record, it happened; if not in the record, it did not happen" is an often-repeated axiom during Board discussions.

There are many ways I would suggest in keeping clients informed, and which may help to forestall a complaint. Be transparent and honest with the client. Advise the client each step of the way and allow them to be a part of their pet's care. Offer options and note these in the medical records. Do not allow your ego to get the better of your judgment. If there has been a problem, it is best for the veterinarian to speak directly to the owner (rather than through a staff member) and to follow-up with the client. We all hate to call after a pet has passed away under unfortunate circumstances, but showing you care is very important to the pet owner. Many complaints may have been avoided altogether by a simple act of human compassion.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me, another board member, or the board staff.



## Nevada Continuing Education Requirements for Veterinary Technicians

By Melissa Schalles, MS, LVT



*“Nevada licensees are fortunate enough to have two regional veterinary conferences offered within the state.”*

In Nevada, an integral member of the professional veterinary health care team is the Licensed Veterinary Technician (LVT). To maintain licensure in Nevada the LVT must complete a minimum of 10 hours of approved continuing education per year, with no more than 5 hours to be completed online or via correspondence courses. Veterinary technicians in the state of Nevada are required to complete annual renewal paperwork and annual dues for renewal purposes. As of the date of this article, the current renewal fee for LVT's is \$75.00 not including any late fees.

Only courses approved by the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners will be considered appropriate for continuing education requirements. According to NAC 638.042, appropriate courses can be approved by: the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or a specialty group within the AVMA, regional veterinary conferences, the United States or State Department of Agriculture, the American Animal Hospital Association, the American Association of Veterinary State Boards, the Nevada Veterinary Medical Association, an institute of the Nevada System of Higher Education, or a

school of veterinary medicine or veterinary technicians accredited by the AVMA. Continuing education documentation must include: the name of the licensee, the number of hours completed/awarded for the course, a description of the course and the date the course was completed. All documentation obtained must be maintained by the licensee for a minimum of 4 years.

According to NAC 638.0425 random audits will be performed to confirm fulfillment of the continuing education requirements. If selected for an audit, a written notice will be sent. The licensee has 30 days, after receipt of the notification, to provide proof of completion of 10 hours of continuing education during the 12 months preceding the new license year.

If it is found the licensee has renewed their license and falsified proof of continuing education hours, an investigation of the licensee will be opened on behalf of the Board. If the investigation is completed and it is discovered the licensee was non-compliant, the licensee will be responsible for investigative costs, a potential Letter of Reprimand (which is a permanent mark on the licensee's disciplinary history). The licensee will be re-

quired to make-up the deficient CE hours which are in addition to the requirements for the current license year. If the licensee does not comply or is non-responsive, their case will be brought to the Board during a general meeting and disciplinary action will be discussed. This could result in additional costs and a potential for revocation of their Nevada license.

In conclusion, Nevada licensees are fortunate enough to have two regional veterinary conferences offered within the state, Western Veterinary Conference in Las Vegas and Wild West Veterinary Conference in Reno. Additionally approved continuing education courses are offered year around all over our great state. Having a plethora of continuing education opportunities makes obtaining the required continuing education hours trouble-free. If you find yourself having difficulty obtaining the required hours, please notify the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to see if you qualify for an extension. Falsifying your renewal application may lead to a disciplinary action that has the potential to follow you wherever you obtain licensure as a veterinary technician.

# 2014 Hospital Inspection Report

**A special thank you to the following hospitals for outstanding inspections:**

<i>Veterinary Hospital or Animal Control Agency</i>	<i>Veterinarian or Euthanasia Technician in Charge</i>	<i>Area of Nevada</i>	<i>Non-Compliance Violations</i>
Banfield Pet Hospital 5915 So. Eastern	Brittany Sharpe, DVM	Las Vegas	0
Western Veterinary Conference	Don Waldron, DVM	Las Vegas	0
Sunrise Veterinary Clinic	David Henderson, DVM	Las Vegas	0
Northwest Veterinary Clinic	Jerry Gumfory, DVM	Las Vegas	0
College of Southern Nevada	Dennis Olsen, DVM	Las Vegas	0
City of Henderson Animal Control	Cindy Lauby, LVT, ET	Henderson	0
The Animal Foundation	Michelle Barbosa, ET	Las Vegas	0
Damonte Ranch Animal Hospital	Shelby Baker, DVM	Reno	1
Banfield, West Craig	Velia Waite, DVM	North Las Vegas	1
Blue Cross Animal Hospital	David Tack, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Pet Medical Center	Jennifer Yates, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Durango Animal Hospital	Travis McDermott, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Cheyenne W. Animal Hospital	Brian Hewitt, DVM	Las Vegas	1
A Cat Hospital	Patricia Auge, DVM	Henderson	1
Lone Mtn. Veterinary Hospital	Katherine Roberts, DVM	Carson City	1
DOC's Veterinary Hospital	David Haebler, DVM	Carson City	1
Sahara Pines Animal Hospital	Daniel Ultichny, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Sahara Animal Hospital	Raul Arteaga, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Dewey Veterinary Hospital	Joseph Freer, DVM	Las Vegas	1
Spay & Neuter of So. Nevada	Taryn Griffith, DVM	Las Vegas	2
Spencer Springs Animal Hospital	Susan Costa, DVM	Las Vegas	2
Banfield Pet Hospital Ft. Apache	Danita Reese, DVM	Las Vegas	2
Holistic Pet Care	David Lowell, DVM	Reno	2
Southwest Veterinary Hospital	Erin Rasmussen, DVM	Reno	2
Aloha Animal Hospital	Jamie Sullivan, DVM	Las Vegas	2

*This list is amazing. Thank you for your continued diligence this year and we look forward to another great year. The board office is always happy to answer questions and offer ideas for improving compliance.*

	2015	2014
NEW VETERINARIANS LICENSED	92	101
NEW BOARD CERTIFIED VETERINARIAN DIPLOMATES	5	4
ACTIVE VETERINARIANS/DIPLOMATES	948	880
INACTIVE VETERINARIANS/DIPLOMATES	180	190
VETERINARY FACILITIES/MOBILE FACILITIES	224	209
NEW LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS	66	58
ACTIVE LICENSED VETERINARY TECHNICIANS	621	592
VETERINARY TECHNICIANS-IN-TRAINING	200	220
NEW EUTHANASIA TECHNICIANS	4	17
ACTIVE EUTHANASIA TECHNICIANS	81	78
ANIMAL CHIROPRACTORS	7	7
ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST	4	5
FORMAL COMPLAINTS FILED	69	51
<b>BOARD MEETINGS - 2016</b>		
JANUARY 28, 2016	RENO	
APRIL 28, 2016	LAS VEGAS	
JULY 28, 2016	RENO	
OCTOBER 20, 2016	LAS VEGAS	

## Firing a Client: A Delicate Matter

by Patricia Handal, DVM, Board Investigator

There are occasions where you recognize that you cannot communicate or effectively serve the needs of an individual client. There are other times where a client is difficult, disruptive, or even abusive to you and your staff. You try to accommodate the needs of the client and make it work, but finally reach a point where you need to take control and remedy the situation. So what do you do?

Veterinarians are now sending clients a "Fire the Client Letter." The message and tone of this varies from practice to practice. The way that this letter is worded seems to dictate the perceived message received by the now "former" client.

A letter that says something like "We recognize that we cannot meet your expectations in regard to veterinary care for your pet(s), so we think it's best that you seek veterinary care at a facility that instills confidence in

you for their services. Enclosed are copies of all of your pet's medical records and we will be happy to also transfer your records to your new veterinarian's hospital once you have become an established client."

This does not put blame on either party but just states that you see things differently and it's not a viable relationship. It's non-confrontational or accusatory of any misbehavior.

On the other hand, a letter that effectively says "Due to your abusive behavior towards myself and my staff, I have decided it is no longer acceptable for you to be a client of Sample Veterinary Hospital. Enclosed are the medical records for Rex so you can establish a relationship with another veterinarian elsewhere."

While the incidents in the previous paragraph may be completely factual and did indeed cause great stress among the doctors and staff at



Sample Veterinary Hospital, the original veterinary practice, the fired client may interpret the negative personal comments as slander. They then could become defensive, go into denial, refuse to accept responsibility for their actions, and ultimately file a complaint with the Board.

Firing a client or being selective to take on a new case or offer a second opinion on a case is your choice. Understand the responsibility and carefully consider how you terminate the relationship to minimize consequences, even if the termination is warranted.

# Legislative Update 2015

During the 2015 legislative session, the NSBVME tracked over 75 Bills. The following is a snapshot of some of the Bills that were monitored: Full text of the Bills can be found at: <http://leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Reports/>

BILL #	DESCRIPTION	OVERVIEW	OUTCOME
AB53	Revises provisions governing administrative regulations of state agencies	Revises the standard of proof for administrative hearings in existing law to conform to the preponderance-of-the-evidence standard set by a recent Nevada Supreme Court decision. This bill also codifies into statute the definition of "substantial evidence" in case law for purposes of the standard for judicial review. Among other provisions, A.B. 53 also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides that the voluntary surrender of a license in a contested case will constitute disciplinary action against the licensee;</li> <li>• Requires a party who requests the transcription of oral proceedings to pay for the costs of the transcription;</li> <li>• Clarifies that, to be a contested case, the provision of notice and opportunity for hearing must be required by statute or regulation; and</li> <li>• Makes it discretionary instead of mandatory for a regulatory body that initiates disciplinary proceedings against a licensee to require the licensee to submit his or her fingerprints.</li> </ul>	Approved by the Governor 5/25/2015
AB89	Makes various changes to provisions relating to certain professions	The bill requires a regulatory body to prepare and submit an annual report to the Council on the number of veterans who have applied for a license, who have been issued a license, or who have renewed a license. A.B. 89 explicitly allows private employers to adopt employment policies which provide a hiring preference on the basis of an applicant being a veteran or the spouse of a veteran. Additionally, A.B. 89 provides for an exemption from the driving skills test in order to receive a commercial driver's license for persons with military experience in driving such vehicles. <i>The bill authorizes a regulatory body to grant a license by endorsement to a qualified professional who is licensed in another state or territory and is also an active member, veteran, spouse of an active member, or surviving spouse of a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States, to practice his or her respective profession in this State. The measure also authorizes certain regulatory bodies to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the corresponding regulatory authority in another state or territory of the United States for the purposes of authorizing a licensee to practice concurrently in Nevada and another jurisdiction and revises certain other provisions relating to licensed professionals.</i>	Approved by the Governor 6/12/2015
AB157	Revises provisions governing service animals.	AN ACT relating to service animals; making certain provisions relating to service animals and service animals in training applicable only when the animal is a dog or a miniature horse; revising provisions governing the use of a service animal by a person with a disability; allowing an employer to determine whether it is reasonable to allow an employee to keep a service animal that is a miniature horse at the place of employment; allowing a place of public accommodation or common carrier to determine whether it is reasonable to admit a service animal or service animal in training that is a miniature horse; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.	Approved by the Governor 5/14/2015
SB68	Revises provision governing professions.	Authorizes certain qualified physicians, osteopaths, podiatrists, and other providers of health care and professionals to obtain a license by endorsement to practice in Nevada if they hold a valid and unrestricted license to practice in the District of Columbia or another state or territory of the United States.	*Note-Veterinarians were removed from this Bill. Approved by the Governor 6/9/2015
SB261	Makes various changes related to certain research facilities.	Authorizes a research facility that intends to euthanize a dog or cat to instead offer the animal for adoption through a program of the facility or through an agreement with an animal shelter or animal rescue organization, if the dog or cat is appropriate for adoption. The bill also provides that the research facility and any officer, director, employee, or agent of the facility is immune from civil liability for any act or omission relating to the adoption of the dog or cat.	Approved by the Governor 6/2/2015
SB288	Revises provisions relating to prescribing controlled substances.	Requiring each person who is authorized to prescribe or dispense a controlled substance to be provided access to the database of the computerized program to track prescriptions for certain controlled substances that are filled by pharmacies; requiring each practitioner who is authorized to prescribe controlled substances to access the database and, to the extent that the program allows, review certain information and verify to the Board that he or she continues to have access to the database; authorizing various professional licensing boards to take disciplinary action against a person who fails to comply with these requirements; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.	Approved by the Governor 5/27/2015 Exemption for Veterinarians.
SB488	Revises provisions relating to veterinary biologic products and commercial feed sold in Nevada	Requiring the licensing of manufacturers, distributors and guarantors of commercial animal feed by the State Department of Agriculture; requiring a licensee to submit certain fees and reports to the Department on a quarterly basis; creating the Commercial Feed Account in the State General Fund; authorizing the Department to conduct certain inspections and audits; establishing labeling requirements for commercial animal feed manufactured, distributed or guaranteed in this State; prohibiting the misbranding, adulteration or reuse of packaging of commercial feed	Approved by the Governor 6/8/2015
AB119	Revises provisions governing the practice of veterinary medicine.	AN ACT relating to veterinary medicine; authorizing a veterinarian or veterinary technician who is licensed in another state to provide professional services in this State during a critical incident under certain circumstances; authorizing a qualified organization to establish a temporary veterinary facility to provide shelter, food, water and veterinary care to certain animals; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.	FAILED Primary Sponsors: Assemblywoman Heidi Swank Senator Mark Manendo
AB271	Enacts provisions relating to equine dentistry.	AN ACT relating to equine dentistry; providing for the licensure of equine dental providers by the Nevada State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners; creating the Equine Dental Provider Advisory Committee; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.	FAILED
SB243	Revises provisions relating to animal shelters	Relating to animals; requiring, with limited exceptions, an animal shelter to hold an impounded animal for not less than 5 consecutive business days before making it available for adoption; requiring an animal shelter to provide certain alternative methods of payment for applicable fees and charges owed to the animal shelter by the owner of an impounded animal; requiring, with limited exceptions, an animal shelter to make available for adoption an impounded animal for not less than 5 consecutive business days before destroying it	FAILED Primary Sponsors: Senator Ben Kieckhefer Senator Michael Roberson
SB372	Making various changes relating to medical marijuana.	Provides for the medical use of marijuana for animals.	FAILED Primary Sponsor: Senator Tick Segerblom

# Tips from the Investigator



Our pets are part of the family. We delight in their uniqueness and celebrate their lives. When a pet passes on, sometimes the automatically generated reminder card for services continue to be sent from a veterinary facility to the owner. Worse are cases of birthday cards for pets being sent from a third party vendor. Either of these oversights causes pain and dissatisfaction in the pet owner. So in addition to updating medical records to reflect a patient is deceased, don't forget to stop reminders and birthday cards.

For many, euthanasia is the ultimate gift of love one can give to their pet companion. The expectations are for a humane, peaceful, and painless transition. This last connection with the pet is what the owners will remember for the rest of their lives. Routinely placing an IV catheter (butterfly works great) and sedating the animal avoids the potential complications due to individual variation in responses to the owner's emotions perceived by the pet, restraint, and vocalization upon injection of the euthanasia drug. Using a back leg for catheter placement allows the owner to hold small pets or cradle the head on a larger pet without interfering in the procedure.

The Board receives 2-3 consumer complaints a year where the perception by the owner is that the euthanasia was performed with a lack of technique, sensitivity, and compassion.



# Regulation Update

Section	Description	Immediate Effects
2-4	Defines "general anesthesia,"	Clarification of terms used throughout NAC 638.
5	Details the duties of a supervising veterinarian in a veterinary facility where animals are boarded.	Would benefit the public and their animals by stipulating that policies or procedures are established in a veterinary facility where animals are boarded overnight.
6	Defines "veterinary dentistry" and the requirements in which veterinary dentistry may be performed.	Would establish a defined standard of care for dentistry in veterinary medicine. <b>Section 6 on the use of intraoral radiology is effective 1/1/2016.</b>
7-8	Revises the continuing education (CE) requirements for all licensees who present CE and also allow licensees who attend the complaint portion of a Board meeting to obtain no more than 4 hours of CE/year.	The Licensee would benefit from attending the complaint section of the Board meeting by allowing the Licensee the ability to understand what prompts consumer complaints and learn from the experiences that are discussed in each complaint.
9	Adopts by reference a code of ethics for veterinary technicians.	Would standardize a code of conduct for veterinary technicians.
10	Defines "informed consent."	Will allow the public a better understanding of the options of treatment, risk assessment and prognosis, and an estimate of the fees expected for veterinary care prior to agreeing to treat-
11	Allows the Board to charge a fee of \$10.00 for a duplicate wall certificate (license).	
12-15	Revises the continuing education re-	Would comply with the current regulations established in NAC
16	A medical record must include an initial of the person who made the entry in the medical record and allows the board to inspect medical records of any licensed veterinarian.	With the initialing of entries in the medical record the staff, the public, and the Board will know who performed certain procedures on the animal. Allows the Board the ability to inspect medical records of veterinarians who have mobile practices or do not practice in a veterinary facility.
17	Revises the tasks that a licensed veterinary technician (LVT) is authorized to perform.	An LVT is being taught in school how to use therapeutic lasers and this regulation would allow them to perform that duty on the job providing more services available to the public's animals.
18	Defines a "veterinarian in charge" of a facility.	Would ensure that a veterinarian in charge is practicing in the State of Nevada.
20	Revises provisions related to labeling	Specific to euthanasia technicians employed by an animal control
21	Revises provisions related to physical examinations being done on a frac-	Protects staff from being injured while trying to conduct a physical examination on a fractious animal.
22-23	Allows the Board to inspect medical records of an animal chiropractor/ physical therapist.	Ensure that proper medical records are being kept by registered animal physical therapists and animal chiropractors.

Effective 6/23/2014 Full text at [www.nvvetboard.us](http://www.nvvetboard.us) "What's New"

## 2014-2015 Disciplinary Cases

RS01-070913 Letter of Reprimand	South	Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 638.045 (2) (Negligence) and 638.057(1) (e) Ensuring That Unlicensed Personnel Do Not Perform Acts That Require Licensure. In particular, the Board finds that the Licensee, as supervising veterinarian, was responsible for ordering and allowing an unlicensed veterinary assistant to perform tasks that only a veterinarian or licensed veterinary technician can lawfully perform, namely the placing of an intravenous catheter, the administration of prescription drugs through the catheter, and the induction of anesthesia. Additionally, the Licensee allowed the unlicensed veterinary assistant to perform the tasks that were beyond his or her scope of practice outside the Licensee's immediate supervision.	The Licensee's will jointly and severally pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00  The Licensees shall provide to the Board's office a copy of new policies and procedures relating to which tasks the practice will allow to be performed by unlicensed personnel and detailing what will occur if a veterinarian or veterinary technician orders or allows a violation of the policy.
SS01-110813 Letter of Reprimand	South	Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 638.140(6) (Negligence) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 638.045(2) (Negligence) and NAC 638.0629(1)(f)(7) in that the Licensee failed to assure that the owner understood that the first dose of the Previcox was not be to administered until October 25, 2013 where the Licensee had earlier made an off-label administration of Ketoprofen to the dog and that he failed to include such directions for use on the Previcox vial's label.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00  The Licensee will complete two hours of continuing education in the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.
GS01-091113 Letter of Reprimand	South	NAC 638.045(2) (Negligence) in that the Licensee failed to appreciate the gravity of the Boston Terrier's condition and to sufficiently manage the dog's course of treatment from Sept. 1 through Sept. 3, 2013.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00. The Licensee will provide to the Board's office written evidence of successful completion of two hours of continuing education in wound care.
2014DVM-004 Letter of Reprimand	North	NAC 638.045(2) (Negligence) for lack of review of the medical records at the same hospital from Dr. A two days previously showing the dog was given an injection of Vetalog (a long-acting steroid) and NAC 638.045(3) (Incompetence) for prescribing Rimadyl (carprofen) and attempting to prescribe Prednisolone. Rimadyl and Vetalog, which are both contraindicated in a diabetic, are also contraindicated to give concurrently. Similarly, even a short course of Prednisolone given after a Vetalog injection two days before is also contraindicated.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$700.00.  The Licensee will provide to the Board's office written evidence of successful completion of four hours of continuing education in diabetic care and treatments.
2014DVM-009 Letter of Reprimand	South	NAC 638.045(3) (Incompetence) for inappropriate management of a diabetic cat. In particular, the Licensee's diagnostic procedures did not adequately determine the cat's physiologic response to the insulin injections. He did not reduce the cat's AM insulin dosage even though the cat's BGL was at 65 (hypoglycemia) five hours after the morning insulin injection. The Licensee's ordering of a recheck period of three to four weeks was too long a time period in view of the cat's fluctuating and unstable blood glucose levels.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$700.00.  The Licensee will provide to the Board's office written evidence of successful completion of six hours of continuing education in care of diabetic animals.

Disciplinary Action 2014-2015: Additional information on the individual discipline can be obtained by contacting the Board office. The following is summary of disciplinary action taken by the Board in the past year:

2014LVT-021 Letter of Reprimand	South	NAC 638.041 in that the Licensee failed to obtain the required continuing education for 2013.	The Licensee shall provide proof of the satisfactory completion of nine hours of CE. The Licensee will pay Board costs of \$500.00. The License shall be audited for the next three renewal periods.
2014LVT-022 Letter of Reprimand	South	NAC 638.041 in that the Licensee failed to obtain the required continuing education for 2013.	The Licensee shall provide proof of the satisfactory completion of eight hours of CE. The Licensee will pay Board costs of \$500.00. The License's shall be audited for the next three renewal periods.
2014DVM-027 Letter of Reprimand	South	NAC 638.045(2) (Negligence) in that the Licensee did not consider, offer, or discuss with the cat's owner any other diagnostic tools relating to a potential aortic embolism.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$600.00. The Licensee will provide to the Board's office written evidence of successful completion of four hours of continuing education in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac disease in small animals.
2014LVT-026 Letter of Reprimand	South	NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of regulations by Board and Pharmacy Board) and NRS 638.140(3) (Addiction to the use of a controlled substance) and NRS 453.336(1) (Possession of a controlled substance without a valid prescription) and Sec. 9 of uncodified provisions of the Nevada Administrative Code contained in regulations adopted and effective on 6-23-2014 known as LCB File No. Ro63-13 (Violation of Veterinary Technician Code of Ethics) and NAVTA Code of Ethics provisions #7 (LVT shall assume accountability for individual professional actions) and #10 (LVT shall uphold the laws and regulations) in that the Licensee ordered, received, and removed from her employing veterinary facility controlled substances namely alprazolam and hydrocodone with acetaminophen without a valid prescription or other lawful authorization.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00.  The Licensee shall continue in her voluntary treatment with PRN-PRN. A violation of her substance abuse treatment contract with PRN-PRN shall constitute a violation of this Letter of Reprimand and will result in additional disciplinary action. During the period that the Licensee is in treatment with PRN-PRN, she will notify any employing veterinarian or veterinary hospital or facility of the terms of this Letter of Reprimand by providing a copy of this Letter of Reprimand to the employing veterinarian or veterinary hospital or facility.
2014DVM-037 Letter of Reprimand	South	NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of Board regulations) and NAC 638.057(1)(e) and (2) (Veterinarian Assure that Unlicensed Assistants Do Not Perform Licensed Tasks) for authorizing, allowing, and directing unlicensed assistants to perform tasks that are, by law, to be performed only by veterinarians or licensed veterinary technicians.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$600.00 Cease and desist from authorizing, allowing, or directing any unlicensed assistant to perform any task that, by law, must be performed only by a veterinarian or a licensed veterinary technician.
2014DVM-038 Letter of Reprimand	North	NAC 638.045(3) Incompetence in that the barium study performed by the licensee was inadequate in that the stomach was not filled by the 16 ml. of solution used. Radiographs were taken only thrice, at 0 minutes, at 30 minutes, and at 120 minutes. The Licensee's records do not indicate adequate interpretation of the data she created, including that she failed to account for the lack of movement of the barium after 2 hours and the pearl string appearance of the intestinal tract that might have suggested the presence of a linear foreign body. The Licensee's records resultant from the 8-29-2014 visit violated NAC 638.0475 (Medical Records) because they lacked a brief history of the dog's condition, lacked a TPR and weight, lacked the diagnosis or condition at the beginning of custody of dog, including the results of tests administered, and lacked all clinical information pertaining to the dog sufficient to justify the diagnosis or determination of the medical status of the dog and to warrant the treatment recommended and administered.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$1,080.00  Four hours of continuing education in the administration and interpretation of barium studies in small animals

Disciplinary Action 2014-2015: Additional information on the individual discipline can be obtained by contacting the Board office. The following is summary of disciplinary action taken by the Board in the past year:

2014DVM-014 Letter of Reprimand	North	<p>NAC 638.045(3) Incompetence for performing the dental extractions on the dog incompletely and improperly, including breaking of many of the teeth and leaving all 12 of the teeth's roots un-extracted when she finally abandoned the procedure in frustration and with the dog still anesthetized. The dog was anesthetized for 8 hours.</p> <p>The Licensee should have recognized that the procedure was beyond her skills and capabilities much earlier, should have sought assistance from the second veterinarian earlier, and should not have abandoned the procedure and the patient out of frustration.</p>	<p>The Licensee will pay Board costs of \$500.00.</p> <p>The Licensee will provide written evidence of successful completion of four hours of continuing education in small animal case management.</p> <p>The Licensee may not perform any dentistry or dental procedures until she provides written evidence of the successful completion of twelve hours of wet labs addressing small animal dentistry.</p>
2014DVM-036 2014DVM-040 Consent Decree	South	<p>Case 1: The course of treatment of dog was negligent because it departed from the standard of practice in the management and treatment of dog in that The Licensee failed to implement new treatment regimens during a period of four days after he confirmed the diagnoses of Addison's Disease, and therefore the Licensee violated Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 638.045(2). Additionally regarding the treatment of the dog, the records reviewed showed: (1) The Licensee made no entry into the dog's medical records on May 18, 2013, the day he discharged the dog to his owner's care; (2) The Licensee failed to make a complete and useful assessment and treatment plan for each day that the dog was hospitalized; and (3) The Licensee added an addendum to the medical record dated May 17, 2013 and did not properly identify that this second entry was made at a later date, after the dog was treated at another hospital. This second entry contradicted the first in regard to the dog being discharged from the veterinary hospital. Therefore, The Licensee violated NRS 638.140 (1) (Violation of Board Regulation) and NAC 638.0475 (Medical Recordkeeping) and NAC 638.0485 (Alteration or failure to maintain medical records). CASE 2: The Licensee departed from the standard of care and was, therefore, negligent where The Licensee: (1) did not provide the owner the diagnostic options that would have been appropriate to address his original differential diagnoses; and (2) did not convey to the owner the potential significance of and changes in the masses over the five days of hospitalization. Therefore, The Licensee violated NRS 638.140(6) &amp; NAC 638.045(2).</p>	<p>The Licensee shall pay the Board's attorney fees and investigative costs of \$1,400.00. The Licensee shall pay a fine of \$1000.00.</p> <p>The Licensee's license shall be placed on probation for a period of two years commencing on the effective date of this Consent Decree and subject to the following terms and conditions:</p> <p>(a) The Licensee shall present written evidence to the Board's office of successful completion of ten hours of continuing education in internal medicine for each year of Probation and five hours in medical record making and keeping. The hours of continuing education required each year shall be in addition to the continuing education necessary for renewal of his license.</p> <p>(b) The Licensee's facility shall be inspected at least once in 2015 and at least once in 2016 (prior to the expiration of the probationary period) and The Licensee shall be personally responsible for the payment of all costs incurred by the Board in the conducting of such inspections.</p>
HS01-080813 Consent Decree	South	<p>The Licensee's treatment of the dog was incompetent because the Licensee: (1) did not ascertain and did not respond appropriately and aggressively to treat the dog for anemia where repeated examinations and blood work reflected a low packed cell volume and Hct; and (2) did not perform an Hct or blood cross-match upon the donor dog before infusing the dog with the donor dog's blood. Taken singularly or together, the preceding indicates that the Licensee's treatment of the dog showed that he lacked the knowledge, skill, or ability expected of a veterinarian discharging his professional obligations to the dog and her owners. The Licensee's records regarding his examinations, diagnostics, treatment, and communications regarding the dog's treatment violated NRS 638.140(1) and NAC 638.0475.</p>	<p>Probation for a period of 1 year with the following terms and condition: (a) The Licensee shall pay the Board's attorney fees and investigative costs of \$400.00. (b) The Licensee shall satisfactorily complete eight hours of continuing education (CE), specifically regarding internal medicine and the use and evaluation of clinical laboratory work and diagnosis and treatment of autoimmune diseases. The Licensee shall satisfactorily complete 2 hours of CE on medical records, 2 hours regarding client communications; and 3 hours regarding blood transfusion. The Licensee shall take and pass the Board's jurisprudence examination.</p>

Disciplinary Action 2014-2015: Additional information on the individual discipline can be obtained by contacting the Board office. The following is summary of disciplinary action taken by the Board in the past year:

MS01-071513 Consent Decree	South	The Licensee's treatment of the dog was a departure from the standard of practice of veterinary medicine because the licensee, as a specialist: (1) Did not ascertain the lytic lesion of the spinal process of T7 at the time of triage when he reviewed the March 4, 2013 radiographs on May 13, 2013; (2) Did not reconsider his diagnosis of iliopsoas disorder until May 30, 2013 even though he had seen the patient on May 22, 2013 at the referring veterinarian's hospital with no improvement with the iliopsoas strain and had been informed by the referring veterinarian on May 22, and by the physical therapist on May 28, 2013 that there was no pain on palpation of the iliopsoas; (3) In the exam on May 30th, 2013, he did not detect a 12 cm. raised mass in the dorsal thoracic spine that was easily detected less than 24 hours later at a referral center.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$1522.00.
2014DVM-002A 2014FAC-002B Letter of Reprimand	South	NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of the Board's Regulations) and NAC 638.046(1) (Violation of AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics) and AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics II(A) (Needs of the Patient), II(E) (VCPR and Continuation of Care), and III(D) (Duty of Care Until VCPR Terminated) because once the associate veterinarian began treating the dog at the Animal Hospital, it was the responsibility of the Licensee and the facility to assure continuation of care for the dog while he was a patient of the hospital, including from September 3 through September 5, 2013 when Dr. A was not in the hospital and the care should have been continued by the Licensee. Whether Dr. A followed the policy and procedure of the facility regarding transfer of care of a hospitalized animal does not and cannot abrogate the Licensee's responsibility as the subsequent veterinarian and as veterinarian-in-charge for the facility to assure continuation and quality of care, especially with a dog who was hospitalized because of his critical injuries and condition. Additionally, the Board finds that the above-described acts violated NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of the Board's Regulations) and NAC 638.0475 (Medical Records). The records maintained by the Licensee during the period of September 3 through 5 were insufficient in detailing the dogs guarded and worsening condition.	The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00.  The Licensee will complete two hours of continuing education in the care of critically injured animals and two hours of continuing education regarding medical records.



Disciplinary Action 2014-2015: Additional information on the individual discipline can be obtained by contacting the Board office. The following is summary of disciplinary action taken by the Board in the past year:

2014DVM-003 Letter of Reprimand	North	<p>NRS 638.140(6) (Negligence) and NAC 638.045(2) (Negligence) in that The Licensee failed to appreciate the condition of the Dachshund puppy on rechecks and failed to note in the medical record that the Dachshund was to continue to be retained. Additionally, there was a lack of adequate documentation of the condition of the Dachshund puppy, including no listing of differential diagnoses or a treatment plan. The Board also finds this conduct to be in violation of NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of Regulations) and NRS 639.2801 (labeling of prescribed drugs) and NAC 638.0475 (Medical Records) because the records made and maintained by the Licensee were insufficient in content and detail, were often devoid of any meaningful analysis or recording of the condition of even ill animals, and in many cases the records could not be located and provided at all. Prescription drugs were not dispensed in a container with proper labeling. The Board also finds this conduct to be in violation of NRS 638.140(1) (Violation of Regulations) and NAC 638.046(1) (Violation of AVMA Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics) and AVMA Principle II(A) (Must First Consider Needs of Patient) and AVMA Principle II(G) (Assuring Treatment Decisions Made by Veterinarian), and AVMA Principle V(C) (Medical Judgment Not Be Affected by Contracts) because the Licensee allowed the store's owner to diagnose and treat some animals using prescription drugs prescribed by the Licensee and because it appeared that the Licensee may have sacrificed fully caring for the puppies at the pet store because of financial and profit considerations for the pet store.</p>	<p>The Licensee will pay attorney fees, investigative costs, and Board costs of \$400.00. The Licensee will provide to the Board's office written evidence of successful completion of two hours of continuing education in shelter medicine and two hours of continuing education regarding medical record keeping as it relates to the prescribing and administration of prescription drugs. Should The Licensee decide to provide veterinary services to any pet store after the approval of this Letter of Reprimand, The Licensee will develop and provide to the Board's office written policies and procedures for his and the use of the staff of any pet store he may choose to serve before he can commence such provision of veterinary services. The policies and procedures will delineate at a minimum: (a) the conditions under which he must be contacted by the pet store regarding the medical condition of an animal; (b) the daily tracking of the condition and treatments rendered to an animal; (c) the assurance of proper isolation procedures for a potentially contagious animal; (d) the assurance of the keeping of all medical records related to an animal; (e) the assurance that appropriate diagnostics are performed; and (f) that all prescription drugs maintained at a pet store he is serving have been ordered, stored, labeled, and are administered according to Nevada and federal law. The Licensee shall assure that the policies and procedures are provided to and become part of the routine operation of any pet store he is serving. For a period of one year from the date that the Licensee commences providing veterinary services to a pet store, the Board's staff may inspect the premises of any pet store the Licensee is serving or the Licensee's practice to review records and operations to assure that the pet store and the Licensee are abiding by the approved policies and procedures.</p>
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