

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

In the Matter of
Kathleen M. Skalko, DVM
License No. 00804

**AGREEMENT FOR
CORRECTIVE ACTION**

This Agreement is entered into by and between Kathleen M. Skalko, D.V.M. ("Licensee"), and the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine Complaint Review Committee ("Complaint Review Committee") based on Minnesota Statutes section 214.103, subdivision 6(a)(2). Licensee and the Complaint Review Committee agree to the following:

FACTS

1. While Licensee practiced veterinary medicine at Moose Lake Veterinary Clinic ("Clinic") in Moose Lake, Minnesota, the following occurred:

2. On July 6, 2022, Licensee examined and radiographed Lucy, a 2-year-old female Labrador Retriever owned by D.S. and diagnosed a phalangeal fracture of the middle toe of her right hind foot.

3. Licensee splinted the toe with pieces of tongue depressors on either side of the fractured toe, applied a splint, bandaged the leg and provided a good prognosis for recovery.

4. Licensee rechecked Lucy two days later and rebandaged the leg.

5. Licensee's pieces of tongue depressor migrated into the soft tissues between the toes, resulting in infection and significant devitalization of adjoining tissues in the paw.

6. Licensee's error and the subsequent infection and devitalization of the paw led to amputation of Lucy's hind leg at a referral hospital.

7. On October 7, 2022, Licensee met with the Complaint Review Committee, composed of Michelle Vaughn, D.V.M., Board member, and Steven Shadwick, D.V.M., Board

member, to discuss allegations regarding Licensee's practice of veterinary medicine contained in a Notice of Conference dated August 30, 2022. Rebecca Huting, Assistant Attorney General, represented the Complaint Review Committee during the conference and participated remotely. Dr. Julia Wilson, executive director of the Board, also participated. Licensee was represented by Stephen Tillett, Esq.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

8. Based on the available information, Licensee and the Committee agree that the conduct above violates Minnesota Statutes section 156.081, subdivision 2(11) and (12); and Minnesota Rules 9100.0700, subpart 1(A), (B), and (C); and 9100.0800, subpart 1. Licensee and the Committee have agreed to enter into this Agreement for Corrective Action as follows:

a. Within one (1) month from the date of this Agreement, Licensee shall submit to the Committee documentation of the continuing education for Licensee's most recent license renewal.

b. Within six (6) months from the date of this Agreement, Licensee shall submit to the Committee evidence of completion of at least two (2) credit hours of continuing education on the topic of external coaptation of canine limbs. This continuing education must be pre-approved by the Committee. The credits from this continuing education may not be applied to the requirements for Licensee's next license renewal.

OTHER INFORMATION

9. Upon Licensee's satisfactory completion of the corrective action referenced in paragraph 8 above, the Committee agrees to dismiss the complaint(s) concerning the matters referenced in paragraphs 1-6. The Committee shall be the sole judge of satisfactory completion. The Committee may reopen this complaint if it receives newly discovered information that was


not available to the Committee during the initial investigation, or if the Committee receives a new complaint that indicates a pattern of behavior or conduct.

10. If Licensee fails to complete the corrective action satisfactorily, the Committee may, at its discretion, reopen the investigation and proceed according to Minnesota Statutes chapter 156 (the Board's Practice Act) and Minnesota Statutes chapters 214 and 14. Licensee agrees that failure to complete the corrective action satisfactorily is failure to cooperate under Minnesota Statutes section 156.123 and may subject Licensee to disciplinary action by the Board.


11. This agreement shall become effective upon execution by the Board's Executive Director and shall remain in effect until the Committee dismisses the complaint, unless the Committee receives additional information that renders corrective action inappropriate. Upon receiving such information, the Committee may, at its discretion, proceed according to Minnesota Statutes chapter 156 (the Board's Practice Act) and Minnesota Statutes chapters 214 and 14.

12. This agreement is not disciplinary action. *See* Minnesota Statutes section 214.103, subdivision 6. However, this agreement is classified as public data pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5, and 214.072, subdivision 3.

13. Licensee hereby acknowledges having read and understood this agreement and having voluntarily entered into it. This agreement contains the entire agreement between the Committee and Licensee, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies the terms of this agreement.


KATHLEEN M. SKALKO
Licensee

Dated: 10/28/2022


JULIA H. WILSON
Executive Director

Dated: 11/24/22