

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

In the Matter of
William B. Isaacson, D.V.M.
License Number: 05769

**STIPULATION AND
CONSENT ORDER**

STIPULATION

William B. Isaacson, D.V.M. ("Licensee"), and the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine ("Board"), by its Complaint Review Committee ("Committee"), agree the above-referenced matter may be resolved without trial of any issue or fact as follows:

I.

JURISDICTION

1. The Board is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes sections 156.001 to 156.20 to license and regulate veterinarians and to take disciplinary action as appropriate.
2. Licensee holds a license from the Board to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Minnesota and is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board with respect to the matters referred to in this Stipulation and Consent Order.

II.

REPRESENTATION

3. The Committee that negotiated this Stipulation with Licensee is composed of John Lawrence, D.V.M., and Michelle Vaughn, D.V.M. Gregory J. Schaefer, Assistant Attorney General, represented the Committee at the conference on July 24, 2013. The Committee was subsequently represented by Bryan D. Huffman, Assistant Attorney General. Julia Wilson, D.V.M., Executive Director of the Board, was also present. Licensee was advised of his right to be represented by legal counsel and knowingly and voluntarily waived that right.

III.

FACTS

4. Licensee was licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Minnesota on July 1, 1969.

5. Licensee conducts a mixed animal practice in Park Rapids, Minnesota.

6. On November 7, 2011, Licensee examined and treated a 3-year-old male Maltipoo ("pet 1"). Pet 1's owner reported that pet 1 suffered from periodic gagging and three days of reduced activity. Licensee diagnosed a slight generalized infection and treated pet 1 with single doses of penicillin and corticosteroid. Pet 1 was treated similarly when reexamined a month later, because he was still unhealthy and had lost 25 percent of his initial body weight.

7. Pet 1 was subsequently taken to another veterinarian, who noted that pet 1 presented with acute collapse and was found to be comatose, shocky, and near death. After radiographs were taken, it was revealed that a firm, five-inch mass was located in pet 1's stomach and was readily palpable. Licensee, during the course of his care of pet 1, failed to adequately examine pet 1 and did not recognize the mass.

8. On February 12, 2012, Licensee examined and treated a 7-year-old female Toy Poodle ("pet 2"). Pet 2's owner reported that pet 2 had been urinating excessively and drinking an abnormal amount of fluids. Licensee diagnosed a urinary problem without performing any diagnostic tests, treated pet 2 with antibiotics, and dispensed antibiotics for home use. Pet 2 was reexamined on two subsequent visits and again treated with antibiotics without diagnostic testing, even though Licensee considered diabetes mellitus.

9. Pet 2 was subsequently taken to another veterinarian, who noted that pet 2 presented in poor condition and suffered from Stage IV periodontal disease and severe diabetic

ketoacidosis that required several days of hospitalization. The veterinarian confirmed diabetes mellitus and noted that pet 2 had developed cataracts. Licensee, during the course of his care of pet 2, did not note pet 2's advanced periodontal disease and failed to determine the cause of pet 2's excessive urination and thirst.

10. In addition to the aforementioned, Licensee's practice was substandard with regard to pet 1 and pet 2 because he failed to: (a) perform complete physical examinations for both dogs; (b) perform simple diagnostic tests that were indicated for diagnosis and formulation of appropriate treatment for both dogs' conditions; and (c) maintain medical records with sufficient detail.

IV.

LAWS

11. Licensee acknowledges the facts above constitute a violation of Minnesota Statutes section 158.081, subdivision 2(11), and Minnesota Rules 9100.0700, subpart 1(B) and (C), and 9100.0800, subpart 1, and justify the disciplinary action described below.

V.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

12. The Board hereby **SUSPENDS** Licensee's license to practice veterinary medicine. The suspension is **STAYED** so long as Licensee complies with the following **CONDITIONS**:

a. Licensee will limit his small and companion animal veterinary practice to routine wellness and preventative care, such as vaccines, nutritional advice, heartworm prevention, and deworming. The messaging system on Licensee's business line must inform patients that Licensee has limited his small and companion animal veterinary practice.

b. Within three months of the date of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Licensee must complete modules 6 and 7 of the “*Online Veterinary Law and Ethics Course*” offered by James F. Wilson, D.V.M., J.D. Alternatively, Licensee may complete a minimum of five hours of continuing education on the topics of veterinary medical records, veterinary law, and ethics. Each continuing education course must be preapproved by the Committee, based upon but not limited to written documentation regarding the course’s instructor and measureable learning objectives. The continuing education credits from this requirement may not be used in the subsequent license renewal.

b. Within six months of the date of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Licensee must complete a minimum of 24 hours of work with an American College of Internal Medicine small animal medicine certified veterinary specialist (“board-certified specialist”). The board-certified specialist must be preapproved by the Committee. Licensee’s time working with the specialist must include time observing and discussing cases that focus on small animal medicine. Additionally, Licensee must work with the specialist to develop standard operating procedures for Licensee’s diagnosis and treatment in small animal medicine. The standard operating procedures must be approved by the specialist and address small animal endocrinology, gastroenterology, and urology.

c. Within six months of the date of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Licensee must take and pass the Companion Animal Species Specific Examination provided by the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. Licensee must submit or cause to be submitted to the Board evidence of his successful passage of the examination. Failure to pass the examination in two attempts or less will constitute noncompliance with this Stipulation and Consent Order.

e. Within 30 days of the date of this Stipulation and Consent Order, Licensee must submit documentation of all continuing education hours, meeting attendance, and/or hours of self-study completed in satisfaction of the most recent license renewal period.

VI.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE OR ADDITIONAL VIOLATIONS

13. It is Licensee's responsibility to ensure all payments, reports, evaluations, and documentation required to be filed with the Board pursuant to this Stipulation and Consent Order are timely filed by those preparing the report, evaluation, or documentation. Failure to file payments, reports, evaluations, and documentation on or before their due date is a violation of this Stipulation and Consent Order.

A. Noncompliance With Requirements for Stayed Suspension

14. If the Committee has probable cause to believe Licensee has failed to comply with or has violated any of the requirements for staying the suspension as outlined above, the Committee may remove the stayed suspension pursuant to the procedures outlined in paragraph 15 below, with the following additions and exceptions:

a. The removal of the stayed suspension shall take effect upon service of an Order of Removal of Stayed Suspension ("Order of Removal"). Licensee agrees that the Committee is authorized to issue an Order of Removal, which will remain in effect and have the full force and effect of an order of the Board until the Board makes a final determination pursuant to the procedures outlined in paragraph 15 below. The Order of Removal must confirm the Committee has probable cause to believe Licensee has failed to comply with or has violated one or more of the requirements for staying the suspension of Licensee's license. Licensee further agrees an Order of Removal issued pursuant to this paragraph will be deemed a public

document under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Licensee waives any right to a conference or hearing before removal of the stayed suspension.

b. The Committee shall schedule the hearing pursuant to paragraph 15 below to be held within 60 days of the notice.

B. Noncompliance With Stipulation and Consent Order

15. If Licensee fails to comply with or violates this Stipulation and Consent Order, the Committee may, in its discretion, seek additional discipline either by initiating a contested case proceeding pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 14 or by bringing the matter directly to the Board pursuant to the following procedure:

a. The Committee must schedule a hearing before the Board. At least 20 days before the hearing, the Committee must mail Licensee a notice of the violation(s) alleged by the Committee. In addition, the notice must designate the time and place of the hearing. Within ten days after the notice is mailed, Licensee must submit a written response to the allegations. If Licensee does not submit a timely response to the Board, the allegations may be deemed admitted.

b. The Committee, in its discretion, may schedule a conference with Licensee prior to the hearing before the Board to discuss the allegations and to attempt to resolve the allegations through agreement.

c. Prior to the hearing before the Board, the Committee and Licensee may submit affidavits and written argument in support of their positions. At the hearing, the Committee and Licensee may present oral argument. Argument may not refer to matters outside the record. The evidentiary record must be limited to the affidavits submitted prior to the hearing and this Stipulation and Consent Order. Unless stated otherwise in this Stipulation and

Consent Order, the Committee will have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation has occurred. Licensee waives a hearing before an administrative law judge, discovery, cross-examination of adverse witnesses, and other procedures governing hearings pursuant to Minnesota Statutes chapter 14.

d. Licensee's correction of a violation prior to the conference, hearing, or meeting of the Board may be taken into account by the Board but will not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline for the violation. A decision by the Committee not to seek discipline when it first learns of a violation will not waive the Committee's right to later seek discipline for that violation, either alone or in combination with other violations, at any time while Licensee's license is suspended or the suspension is stayed.

e. Following the hearing, the Board will deliberate confidentially. If the allegations are not proved, the Board will dismiss the allegations. If a violation is proved, the Board may impose additional discipline, including suspending, revocation, or limitation of Licensee's license.

f. Nothing herein limits the Committee's or the Board's right to temporarily suspend Licensee's license pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 156.126, based on a violation of this Stipulation and Consent Order or based on conduct of Licensee not specifically referred to herein.

VII.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

16. In the event Licensee leaves Minnesota to reside or practice outside of the state, Licensee must give the Board written notification of the new location, as well as dates of

departure and return. If Licensee leaves the state, the terms of this order continue to apply unless waived by the Board in writing.

17. Licensee waives the contested case hearing and all other procedures before the Board to which Licensee may be entitled under the Minnesota and United States constitutions, statutes, or rules.

18. Licensee waives any claims against the Board, the Minnesota Attorney General, the State of Minnesota, and their agents, employees, and representatives related to the investigation of the conduct herein, or the negotiation or execution of this Stipulation and Consent Order, which may otherwise be available to Licensee.

19. This Stipulation and Consent Order, the files, records, and proceedings associated with this matter shall constitute the entire record and may be reviewed by the Board in its consideration of this matter.

20. Either party may seek enforcement of this Stipulation and Consent Order in any appropriate civil court.

21. Licensee has read, understands, and agrees to this Stipulation and Consent Order and has voluntarily signed the Stipulation and Consent Order. Licensee is aware this Stipulation and Consent Order must be approved by the Board before it goes into effect. The Board may either approve the Stipulation and Consent Order as proposed, approve it subject to specified change, or reject it. If the changes are acceptable to Licensee, the Stipulation and Consent Order will take effect and the order as modified will be issued. If the changes are unacceptable to Licensee or the Board rejects the Stipulation and Consent Order, it will be of no effect except as specified in the following paragraph.

22. Licensee agrees that if the Board rejects this Stipulation and Consent Order or a lesser remedy than indicated in this settlement, and this case comes again before the Board, Licensee will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Stipulation and Consent Order or of any records relating to it.

23. This Stipulation and Consent Order does not limit the Board's authority to proceed against Licensee by initiating a contested case hearing or by other appropriate means on the basis of any act, conduct, or admission of Licensee which constitutes grounds for disciplinary action and which is not directly related to the specific facts and circumstances set forth in this document.

VIII.

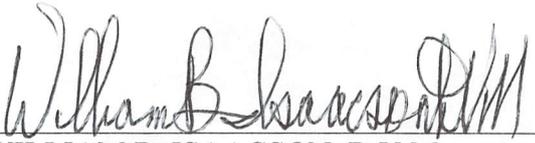
DATA PRACTICES NOTICES

24. This Stipulation and Consent Order constitutes disciplinary action by the Board and is classified as public data pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 5. Data regarding this action will be provided to all entities and data banks as required by Federal law or consistent with Board policy. While this Stipulation and Consent Order is in effect, information obtained by the Board pursuant to this Order is considered active investigative data on a licensed health professional, and as such, is classified as confidential data pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 13.41, subdivision 4.

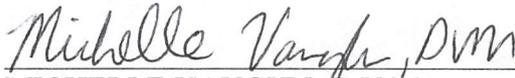
25. This Stipulation contains the entire agreement between the parties, there being no other agreement of any kind, verbal or otherwise, which varies this Stipulation.

CONSENT:

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
COMPLAINT REVIEW COMMITTEE


WILLIAM B. ISAACSON, D.V.M.
Licensee

Dated: Nov. 18, 2013


MICHELLE VAUGHN, D.V.M.
Committee Member

Dated: 11/26/13

ORDER

Upon consideration of the Stipulation, the Board hereby **CONDITIONS** Licensee's license, imposes a **STAYED SUSPENSION**, and adopts all other terms of the Stipulation on this 26th day of November, 2013

MINNESOTA BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE


JULIA H. WILSON, D.V.M.
Executive Director