

STATE OF MINNESOTA
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

In the Matter of Kent Wright and Heidi
Wright, individually and d/b/a Wright-Haven
ET Service

**CEASE AND DESIST ORDER AND
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO HEARING**

TO: Kent Wright, Heidi Wright and Wright-Haven ET Service, 58577 450th Street,
Sebek, MN 56477

Minnesota law prohibits any person from practicing veterinary medicine without having first secured a veterinary license or temporary permit, as provided in Minn. Stat. ch. 156, unless the person is exempt from such licensing requirements.

The practice of veterinary medicine is defined in Minn. Stat. § 156.12, subd. 1, as follows:

Subdivision 1. **Practice.** The practice of veterinary medicine, as used in this chapter, shall mean the diagnosis, treatment, correction, relief, or prevention of animal disease, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental conditions; the performance of obstetrical procedures for animals, including determination of pregnancy and correction of sterility or infertility; and the rendering of advice or recommendations with regard to any of the above. The practice of veterinary medicine shall include but not be limited to the prescription or administration of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique.

Pursuant to the above-referenced statutes, the Board of Veterinary Medicine, by its Complaint Review Committee, has determined as follows:

1. Kent Wright and Heidi Wright are not now and never have been licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Minnesota and are not exempt from the licensure requirements set forth in Minn. Stat. ch. 156.
2. In July 2004, the Board of Veterinary Medicine received a complaint that Kent Wright and Heidi Wright d/b/a Wright-Haven ET Service (“Respondents”) were advertising and operating an embryo transfer business.

3. The embryo transfer process involves various procedures that constitute the practice of veterinary medicine, including prescribing and/or administering various hormones for the reproductive management and super-ovulation of embryo donors, the use of invasive medical techniques to recover embryos from the donor cow and administration of epidural anesthesia and tranquilization to perform the embryo recovery and the diagnosis and treatment of reproductive conditions in the embryo donor and recipient.

4. A business card for Respondents' embryo transfer business states: "Send us your old, ex-cow and we'll make her profitable again."

5. The Board has obtained certificates of embryo recovery showing that on two dates in 2003, Respondent Kent Wright recovered embryos from a donor Holstein named Garnet Broker Shelby. In about May 2004, Respondents submitted a bill to Garnet Broker Shelby's co-owner for a portion of their embryo transfer services.

6. Respondents, by the conduct referenced in paragraphs 1 through 5 above, have engaged in and/or threaten to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine in Minnesota without a license, in violation of Minn. Stat. § 156.10, and should therefore be ordered to cease and desist from violating this statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 156.15, that Respondents shall cease and desist from engaging in any act or practice in Minnesota that constitutes the practice of veterinary medicine as defined in Minn. Stat. § 156.12, subd. 1, including, but not limited to, performing embryo recovery or transfer or other obstetrical procedures on animals, determining pregnancy or correcting infertility and prescribing or administering drugs, hormones or anesthetics.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 156.15, subds. 1 and 3, that Respondents may request a hearing in this matter. Such request shall be made in writing and delivered to the Complaint Review Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”), 2829 University Avenue S.E., Suite 540, Minneapolis, MN 55414, whereupon the Committee shall set a date for hearing within 30 days after its receipt of the request unless Respondents and the Committee by agreement waive the 30-day time period. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 156.15, subd. 4, if no hearing is requested by Respondents within 30 days of service of this Order, this Order will become final and will remain in effect until it is modified or vacated by the Board.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that if a hearing is requested, this Order will remain in effect until it is modified or vacated or made permanent by further order of the Board pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 156.15, subd. 4.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that in the event a hearing is requested in this matter, it will be held before an Administrative Law Judge to be appointed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge for the State of Minnesota, Office of Administrative Hearings, 100 Washington Square, Suite 1700, 100 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-2138, Telephone: (612) 341-7600. All parties have the right to represent themselves or to be represented throughout the proceedings herein by legal counsel or a person of their choice if not otherwise prohibited as the unauthorized practice of law. The hearing will be conducted pursuant to the contested case procedures as prescribed in Minn. Stat. §§ 14.57-14.69 and the Rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, Minn. R. 1400.5100-1400.8400. Failure to attend a hearing in this matter after being duly notified may result in the allegations of this Order being taken as true. Questions concerning the issues raised in this Order, informal disposition of

this proceeding or discovery may be directed to Assistant Attorney General Susan E. Damon,
1400 NCL Tower, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2130, Telephone: (651)
297-4010.

Dated: March 2, 2005

BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Complaint Review Committee

By: *(Signature on File)*
JOHN KING, D.V.M.
Executive Director

2829 University Avenue S.E., Suite 540
Minneapolis, MN 55414

AG: #1311506-v1