

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINARY :  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST : FINDINGS OF FACT,  
: CONCLUSIONS OF LAW  
ELLEN JEANETTE KEIFER, D.V.M. : AND ORDER  
RESPONDENT :  
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The parties to this proceeding for the purposes of Wis. Stats. sec. 227.16 are:

Ellen Jeanette Keifer  
3712 Greenwood Road  
Woodstock, Illinois

State of Wisconsin  
Veterinary Examining Board  
1400 East Washington Avenue, Room 179  
P.O. Box 8936  
Madison, WI 53708

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Avenue, Room 183  
P.O. Box 8936  
Madison, WI 53708

A party aggrieved by this decision may petition the Board for rehearing within twenty (20) days after service of this decision pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.12. The party to be named as respondent in the petition is Ellen Jeanette Keifer, D.V.M.

A party aggrieved by this decision who is a resident of this state may also petition for judicial review by filing the petition in the office of the clerk of the circuit court of the county where the party aggrieved resides within thirty (30) days after service of this decision. A party aggrieved by this decision who is not a resident of this state must file the petition for judicial review in the office of clerk of the circuit court for Dane County. A party aggrieved must also serve the Board and other parties with a copy of the petition for judicial review within thirty (30) days after service of this decision pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 227.16. The party to be named as respondent in the petition is the State of Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board.

On October 5, 1983 the Veterinary Examining Board received a Stipulation in the above-captioned matter executed by Ellen Jeanette Keifer, D.V.M.; by Dr. Keifer's attorney, Jeffrey Steinbeck; and by Pamela M. Stach, attorney for complainant. A copy of the Stipulation is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Based upon the Stipulation filed by the parties and other documents of record herein, the Veterinary Examining Board makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ellen Jeanette Keifer, D.V.M. (respondent), 3712 Greenwood Road, Woodstock, Illinois, is duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin pursuant to license #2244 granted on June 17, 1981.

2. Respondent currently resides and is practicing veterinary medicine in Illinois under a license issued by that state.

3. Respondent has no immediate intention of returning to the State of Wisconsin to practice veterinary medicine.

4. From January, 1982 through April, 1982 respondent was employed by the Emergency Veterinary Service, Waukesha, Wisconsin.

5. On numerous occasions between January, 1982 through April, 1982 respondent diverted morephine-atropine product and an oxymorphone product from the veterinary clinic for her personal use, other than for medical treatment of animal patients, and without valid prescription by a physician for her individual use.

6. Morephine-atropine and oxymorphone are Schedule II controlled substances within the meaning of Wis. Stats. sections 161.01(4) and 161.16(2).

7. Respondent is currently under psychiatric/psychological treatment in Illinois, in part for drug related problems.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 453.07.

2. The personal use, misuse or sale, other than for medical treatment of animal patients of the drugs listed in Wis. Stats. Chapter 161, 1977, constitutes unprofessional conduct within the meaning of Wis. Adm. Code sec. VE 3.02(8), where those drugs have not been prescribed by a physician for individual use by the veterinarian.

#### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the license of Ellen Jeanette Keifer, D.V.M., to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin, be, and hereby is, limited as follows:

1. Respondent shall refrain from the personal use of all controlled substances as listed in Wis. Stats. Chapter 161, unless prescribed for a valid personal medical purpose.

2. Respondent shall continue psychiatric/psychological treatment until such time as her therapist determines further

treatment to be unnecessary. Respondent agrees that she will direct the treating psychiatrist to submit a written report to the Board so indicating.

3. Respondent shall permit the treating psychiatrist to submit written reports regarding respondent's treatment, condition and progress to the Veterinary Examining Board on a semi-annual basis for the entire period of treatment. It is the responsibility of respondent to ensure that these reports are submitted on a timely basis.

4. In the event respondent wishes to resume practice in the State of Wisconsin under her license granted by this State, she shall inform the State of Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board at least 90 days prior to such anticipated resumption.

5. Prior to resuming the practice of veterinary medicine in Wisconsin, respondent agrees to appear before the Veterinary Examining Board and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board her fitness to practice under her license.

6. At the time of her appearance before the Board and prior to her resumption of the active practice of veterinary medicine, respondent shall present to the Board evidence that she has no drug related health problems which will prohibit her from practicing safely and competently as a veterinarian in this state. Such evidence shall include a written statement from her treating psychiatrist to that effect.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1983.

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

By

Janice Amundson D.V.M.  
Janice Amundson, D.V.M.  
Chairperson

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