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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF
THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE OF

CHRISTOPHER R. WELCH, DVM,

Respondent

ORDER GRANTING STAY

On June 24, 2002, the Veterinary Examining Board issued its Final Decision and Order in the above-captioned matter, by which respondent was granted a limited license to practice veterinary medicine in Wisconsin. Under the terms of the Order, the term of the license was for three months, with provision for three month renewals of the license conditioned upon Dr. Welch's compliance with certain limitations on the license. Among these are that he participate in individual and/or group therapy a minimum of once each month, that he attend AA or NA meetings at least weekly, that he abstain from the use of alcohol and unprescribed controlled substances, and that he arrange for quarterly work reports from his employer, if any.

On September 18, 2002, the board considered Dr. Welch's letter of September 2, 2002, by which he makes a number of requests in addition to his request for renewal of the limited license. First, he asks that the requirement for therapy be terminated or, in the alternative, to permit him to receive therapy by telephone. Second, Dr. Welch asks that the requirement that he attend AA be dropped. Finally he asks that the renewal period be changed to an annual or biannual basis.

As to the first two requests, Dr. Welch has practiced under his limited license for only three months. Before any modification of the order is possible, Dr. Welch must comply with the conditions on his license for a period of time sufficient to provide assurance to the board that a particular limitation may be dropped or modified. This period is generally considered to be at least one year. As to the request that the term of the license be extended, the board considers three months to be the maximum period necessary to achieve proper monitoring. Accordingly it is ordered as follows:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the license of Christopher R. Welch, DVM, to practice veterinary medicine in Wisconsin is hereby renewed for a period of three months.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Welch's requests that requirement for therapy be eliminated or modified, that the requirement that he attend AA be dropped, and that the term of his limited license be extended, are each denied.

Dated this 24th day of September, 2002.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

Diane Scott, DVM,
Chair