

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



## Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing Access to the Public Records of the Reports of Decisions

This Reports of Decisions document was retrieved from the Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing website. These records are open to public view under Wisconsin's Open Records law, sections 19.31-19.39 Wisconsin Statutes.

### Please read this agreement prior to viewing the Decision:

- The Reports of Decisions is designed to contain copies of all orders issued by credentialing authorities within the Department of Regulation and Licensing from November, 1998 to the present. In addition, many but not all orders for the time period between 1977 and November, 1998 are posted. Not all orders issued by a credentialing authority constitute a formal disciplinary action.
- Reports of Decisions contains information as it exists at a specific point in time in the Department of Regulation and Licensing data base. Because this data base changes constantly, the Department is not responsible for subsequent entries that update, correct or delete data. The Department is not responsible for notifying prior requesters of updates, modifications, corrections or deletions. All users have the responsibility to determine whether information obtained from this site is still accurate, current and complete.
- There may be discrepancies between the online copies and the original document. Original documents should be consulted as the definitive representation of the order's content. Copies of original orders may be obtained by mailing requests to the Department of Regulation and Licensing, PO Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935. The Department charges copying fees. *All requests must cite the case number, the date of the order, and respondent's name as it appears on the order.*
- Reported decisions may have an appeal pending, and discipline may be stayed during the appeal. Information about the current status of a credential issued by the Department of Regulation and Licensing is shown on the Department's Web Site under "License Lookup." The status of an appeal may be found on court access websites at: <http://ccap.courts.state.wi.us/InternetCourtAccess> and <http://www.courts.state.wi.us/wscca>.
- Records not open to public inspection by statute are not contained on this website.

**By viewing this document, you have read the above and agree to the use of the Reports of Decisions subject to the above terms, and that you understand the limitations of this on-line database.**

**Correcting information on the DRL website:** An individual who believes that information on the website is inaccurate may contact the webmaster at [web@drl.state.wi.gov](mailto:web@drl.state.wi.gov)

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
BEFORE THE VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

-----  
IN THE MATTER OF THE DISCIPLINARY  
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST

RONALD M. SCHULTZ, JR., D.V.M.,  
RESPONDENT.

:  
:  
:  
:  
:

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

LS0403243VET

-----  
Division of Enforcement

The parties to this proceeding for purposes of sec. 227.53, Stats., are:

Ronald M. Schultz, Jr., D.V.M.  
655 Half Mile Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593

Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board  
1400 East Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
1400 East Washington Ave.  
P.O. Box 8935  
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter, Ronald M. Schultz, Jr., D.V.M., Respondent, and Pamela M. Stach, attorney for the Department of Regulation and Licensing, agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final disposition of this matter, subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board. The Board has reviewed this Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Board in this matter adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. That Ronald M. Schultz, Jr., D.V.M., Respondent herein, of 655 Half Mile Road, Verona, Wisconsin 53593, whose date of birth is June 24, 1962, is licensed and currently registered to practice veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin under license # 3479 which was granted on August 31, 1989.
2. A formal investigation, entitled 00 VET 17, is pending before the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board.
3. Respondent is the owner of the veterinary clinic where this incident occurred.
4. On March 30, 2000, a ten-month-old Beagle was presented at Verona Veterinary Medical Service because of vomiting. Dr. SR, a veterinarian employed by Respondent, took an x-ray that revealed a metal staple causing an obstruction in the intestine. Dr. SR informed the dog's owner that she would have to do exploratory surgery.
5. During exploratory surgery by Dr. SR, staples and a pair of knee high nylons were discovered and removed. Fourteen to eighteen inches of intestine were surgically removed because of tissue necrosis and Dr. SR performed an intestinal anastomosis.
6. The dog was hospitalized for observation at the clinic. Dr. SR did not inform the owner that their clinic does not have the capability to provide 24-hour monitoring and did not give the dog's owner the option of transferring the dog to an emergency 24-hour animal hospital that would have 24-hour monitoring.
7. On March 31, 2000, the dog refused to eat and was force-fed. Dr. SR did not place a nasoesophageal feeding tube. The dog was given subcutaneous fluids, but no IV fluids.
8. From April 1 thru April 2, 2000, Respondent monitored the dog's post-operative condition. Respondent believed that the dog was not dehydrated, and did not require any fluids, so Respondent did not administer any IV fluids to the dog.
9. On April 3, 2000, Dr. SR called the dog's owner and asked him to take the dog home because the dog might be more willing to eat in a more familiar home environment.

10. Approximately two hours after discharge, the dog's owner took the dog to Emergency Clinic for Animals because the dog continued to vomit, was not eating, and was lethargic. The dog was diagnosed with dehydration and was immediately given IV fluids and IV antibiotics. CBC blood work was performed, and a nasoesophageal feeding tube was placed.

11. On April 4, 2000, radiographic contrast studies and an abdominocentesis were performed. The results of these studies led to the conclusion that there was probably a leak in the intestinal tract and that exploratory surgery was necessary. The dog was vomiting with increasing frequency despite medications that had been given to him to try to control his vomiting.

12. On April 5, 2000, exploratory surgery was done and revealed that the anastomosis had failed, that there was a leaky incision in the colon, and that there was a fresh hemorrhage in the abdomen. Moderately severe peritonitis was noted throughout the abdomen. The blood, blood clots, and necrotic omentum were all removed. The failed anastomosis site was resected and repaired. The leaky colon incision was resected and repaired.

13. During the next eight days, the dog received fluid therapy via IV fluids and nutritional support through a nasoesophageal feeding tube. However, the dog did not improve, suffered renal failure, and was euthanized on April 12, 2000.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has jurisdiction in this proceeding pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 453.04.
2. The Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board has the authority to resolve this proceeding by Stipulation without an evidentiary hearing pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 227.44(5).
3. Respondent's conduct of failing to recognize that the patient was dehydrated and required IV fluids constituted a violation of Wis. Adm. Code Sec. VE 7.06(1).
4. Respondent's conduct of failing to provide adequate nutritional support, fluid therapy, and monitoring during post-op recovery constituted a violation of Wis. Adm. Code Sec. VE 7.06(1).
5. Respondent's conduct of failing to have a policy in place for informing clients that his veterinary clinic did not have the capability to provide 24 hour monitoring of patients and not having a policy in place offering to refer the patient to a facility that did offer 24 hour monitoring constituted a violation of Wis. Adm. Code Sec. VE 7.06(1).

### ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the Stipulation of the parties is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ronald M. Schultz, Jr., D.V.M., is REPRIMANDED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Ronald M. Schultz, Jr.'s license to practice veterinary medicine be LIMITED in the following respects:

1. Dr. Schultz shall, within 30 days from the date of this Order, implement a policy for informing clients that the Verona Veterinary Medical Service does not have the capability to monitor patients 24 hours a day and offering to refer patients that do require 24 hour monitoring to a veterinary facility that provides such monitoring.
  - a). The treating veterinarian needs to verbally inform the client that because of the patient's condition the patient requires 24 hour monitoring, that the Verona Veterinary Medical Service does not have the capability to monitor patients 24 hours a day, and that it's recommended that the patient be transferred to a facility that does have 24 hour monitoring.
  - b). Any conversations that any employee of Verona Veterinary Medical Services has with the client about the clinic's monitoring policy needs to be documented in the patient's medical chart.
  - c). A consent form shall be signed by the client if the client decides not to transfer the patient to a facility that offers 24 hour monitoring.
  - d). The consent form shall incorporate terms that the patient's condition requires 24 hour monitoring, that the Verona Veterinary Medical Service does not have the capability to monitor patients 24 hours a day, and shall offer to refer the client to another veterinary facility that does offer such monitoring. The consent form needs to identify by name, address, and phone number the veterinary facility that the client would be referred to.
  - e). The consent form needs to be approved by the Veterinary Examining Board prior to it being used.
2. Dr. Schultz shall, within nine months from the date of this order, participate in and satisfactorily complete a total of four (4) hours of continuing veterinary education in the care of the critical patient. This course shall include instruction on

effective hydration, and adequate nutritional support. The instruction for courses in these areas can be lecture, home study or Internet based.

a). Dr. Schultz will be responsible for locating courses satisfactory to the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board or its designee and for obtaining the required pre-approval of the courses from the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board prior to taking the courses.

b). Dr. Schultz is responsible for providing a description of the course content to the Department Monitor prior to commencement of the program.

c). The Board may reject, in whole or in part, any educational opportunity which is nominated by Dr. Schultz when, in the Board's judgment, the syllabus or description of the course or other educational opportunity is insufficient to fulfill the purpose for which Dr. Schultz nominates it by reason of the educational opportunity's scope, content, method of instruction, or degree of participation required of students. If the Board approves an educational opportunity in fulfillment of less than the entire purpose for which Dr. Schultz nominates it, Dr. Schultz may either accept the Board's limited approval, or forego the opportunity entirely and select another course.

d). Within 60 days after the courses are concluded, Dr. Schultz will file with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board certifications from the sponsoring organization of her attendance at the required courses and her personal written affidavit that she has attended each course in its entirety.

e). Dr. Schultz will be responsible for all of the costs of the educational programs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Schultz shall permit the person/s conducting the program to provide written evaluation of his participation in and successful completion of the course.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that certifications, affidavits, reports or other documents required to be filed with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board be filed with:

Department Monitor  
Department of Regulation and Licensing  
Division of Enforcement  
P.O. Box 8935  
1400 E. Washington Ave.  
Madison, WI 53708

All certifications, affidavits, reports or other documents required to be filed with the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board will be deemed filed with the Veterinary Examining Board upon receipt by the Department Monitor.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Schultz will appear before the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board, if an appearance is requested by the Board, at the conclusion of the education program to establish that he has complied with all of the terms of this Final Decision and Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that upon satisfaction of all the terms of this Final Decision and Order, Dr. Schultz will receive a full and unrestricted license.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Dr. Schultz shall pay COSTS in the amount of THREE HUNDRED dollars (\$300.00). Payment shall be submitted within sixty (60) days from the date of this order. Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing and sent to: Department Monitor, Division of Enforcement, Dept. of Regulation & Licensing, P. O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708-8935

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the pending investigation 00 VET 17 is closed without further proceedings.

The rights of a party aggrieved by this Final Decision And Order to petition the Wisconsin Veterinary Examining Board for rehearing and to petition for judicial review are set forth in the attached "Notice of Appeal Information".

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004.

WISCONSIN VETERINARY EXAMINING BOARD

Diane Scott  
A Member of the Board