

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



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STATE OF WISCONSIN
BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF A PETITION FOR
AN ADMINISTRATIVE INJUNCTION
INVOLVING

MARCUS A STEELE,
RESPONDENT.

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ADMINISTRATIVE INJUNCTION

ORDER 0001109

[Division of Enforcement Case #11 UNL 099]

The parties to this action for the purposes of Wis. Stat. § 227.53 are:

Marcus A. Steele
1218 Ellis Street
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Division of Enforcement
Department of Safety and Professional Services
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

Department of Safety and Professional Services
1400 East Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

The parties in this matter agree to the terms and conditions of the attached Stipulation as the final decision of this matter, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Safety and Professional Services. The Secretary has reviewed the attached Stipulation and considers it acceptable.

Accordingly, the Secretary adopts the attached Stipulation and makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Marcus A. Steele ("Respondent") was born on April 12, 1971, and has never been licensed as a veterinarian pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 453.06.
2. Respondent's most recent address on file with the Department of Safety and Professional Services is 1218 Ellis Street, Kewaunee, Wisconsin.

3. At all times relevant to this proceeding, Respondent worked as a chiropractor in his own clinic, Steele Chiropractics, located in Kewaunee, Wisconsin.

4. Between 1992 and 1994, Respondent attended weekend seminars at Palmer College of Chiropractic regarding animal chiropractic adjusting.

5. Between 2008 and 2010, Respondent provided chiropractic adjustments to a few dogs, and adjusted the spinal segments of four horses.

6. The dogs that Respondent performed adjustments on were referred to him by Dr. R.S., a veterinarian in Kewaunee, Wisconsin. Respondent performed these adjustments after a consultation with Dr. R.S, but not under his direct supervision.

7. Chiropractic adjustments of animals may be performed only under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

8. Respondent's conduct in performing chiropractic adjustments on animals without the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian constitutes the practice of veterinary medicine.

9. Respondent has since disgorged the fees paid for the horse adjustments through a donation to the Full of Hope Animal Shelter, in the amount of \$120.00.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code ch. RL 3, and Wis. Stat. § 440.21 and is authorized to enter into the attached Stipulation and Order, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(5).

2. The conduct described above constitutes the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine, contrary to Wis. Stat. § 453.05.

ORDER


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the attached stipulation is accepted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that unless and until Respondent is properly licensed as a veterinarian by the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services or is under direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, Respondent is enjoined and prohibited from the practice of veterinary medicine in the State of Wisconsin. Violation of this special order may result in a forfeiture of up to \$10,000 for each day of violation. See Wis. Stat. § 440.21(4)(a).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if the Secretary determines that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent has violated any terms of this Administrative Injunction, the Secretary may refer the violations covered by this decision and order to any appropriate prosecutorial unit for review for possible criminal charges.

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

Issued at Madison, Wisconsin, 9/16/11.

By: 

Michael J. Bernat, General Counsel
On behalf of the Secretary