

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

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**DATE: April 30, 2010**

**RE: No Temporary Registration for Out of State Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians**

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As you may be aware, the Governor of Louisiana issued a Declaration of a Public Emergency (effective on or about April 29, 2010) regarding the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and its imminent effect. The oil is migrating towards Louisiana and is anticipated to have a devastating impact on the coastal parishes of our state, as well as the shoreline of other Gulf states. The Declaration provides the Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine (LBVM) with the legal authority and obligation, as set forth in R.S. 29:769(E), as amended in the 2006 Regular Session of the LA Legislature, and Rule 309, to make the determination as whether or not there is a current need to permit temporary registration of qualified out of state veterinarians and/or veterinary technicians. The LBVM has made the decision that, at the current time, there are sufficient numbers of Louisiana licensed and federally employed veterinarians to address the emergency. This decision is based on information provided by LA Incident Command Central (which includes designated federal, state and local relief officials on hand at "ground zero").

Again, at the present time, there is no temporary registration of out of state veterinarians and veterinary technicians. Therefore, in the event a veterinarian or veterinarian technician, who is not FIRST granted full licensure/registration by the LBVM, practices veterinary medicine in Louisiana, whether gratuitously or otherwise, then such conduct will be considered the unlawful practice of veterinary medicine and prosecuted accordingly.

Please monitor the LBVM's website at [www.lsbvm.org](http://www.lsbvm.org) for future updates, as well as access the applications/information for full licensure/registration should you wish to pursue this procedure. Thank you for your concern and inquiry.

*Please note the limited applicability of the Emergency Rule (2010 Deepwater Horizon - ER #1) to those out of state veterinarians who meet the specific and express requirements necessary for temporary registration as set forth in the emergency rule. Otherwise, the LBVM's Notice, dated April 30, 2010, remains in effect until further notice.*