

Report to Licensees

of the

LOUISIANA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

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August 2003

2004 License Renewal Deadline



The renewal period for the 2004-year licensing period began on July 1, 2003. Renewal packets were mailed to licensees the last week of June 2003. If you have not received a renewal packet, please contact the Board office via telephone 225-342-2176, fax 225-342-2142, or email lsvm@eatel.net to check the address on file and request another packet. General renewal information and a generic renewal form are available on the Board's website at www.lsvm.org. **Currently held licenses will expire unless renewed by September 30, 2003.**

Statistics FY2003

New licenses and certificates issued during FY 2003 (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003) –
DVM 66; RVT 13, CAET 15.

The Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine logged 60 complaints during FY 2003. During that period, 60 cases were considered and closed. There were three consent orders signed.

Rules Update

[Please call or write the Board office for a copy of any Notice of Intents or Rules described below.]

The following Board rule amendments will be effective August 20, 2003: **Continuing Education, Exceptions and Exemptions, Rules 405 & 503**

Helps to clarify notification of retirement, reinstatement requests following retirement, and fee exemption provisions.

Veterinary Practice, Student Extern, Rule 714

Defines student externs and the scope of duties and responsibilities.

Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians, Applications of Certificates of Approval, Rule 1201

Clarifies the minimum age requirements for application for Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians. The rule amendments will apply for the 2003 renewal period, the 2004 renewal year.

Forms and regulations are listed on our website, www.lsvm.org

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Questions from the Real Lives of Veterinarians and Other Interested Persons

Is an Animal Control Officer whose only duty is to restrain and/or capture animals required to be a CAET?

An Animal Control Officer whose only duty is to restrain and/or capture animals is NOT required to be a CAET.

Can a spouse be a director of a veterinary corporation?

Sections 1155 and 1160 of the Professional Veterinary Corporation Act, R.S. 12:1151 et

seq require a director of a veterinary medical corporation to be a voting shareholder, who must in turn be a licensed veterinarian.

Is it a breach of standard of care if a limb is not radiographed immediately after it is splinted to evaluate alignment of the bone?

It is the Board's opinion that the applicable professional standard of care requires a veterinarian to radiograph a limb immediately after it is splinted to evaluate alignment of the bone.



Have you moved?

For your renewal packet and publications to be sent directly to you, please notify the Board of any address changes – personal and/or professional.

Capture Drugs and Animal Control Officers

by Mike Tomino, Legal Counsel

The Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medicine reviewed the question of whether or not an Animal Control Officer (ACTO), whose only duty is to restrain and/or capture animals, is required to be a CAET. Additionally, the question has arisen with regards to what constitutes a legally permissible "minimal amount" of Ketamine and/or Telazol may an ACO have in his possession.

Board Rule 704 addresses animal control. Pursuant to Rules 704, an ACO may have access to capture drugs (Ketamine and/or Telazol only) without having to be a CAET if his only duty is to restrain and/or capture animals. In contrast, in order for an ACO to have access to drugs used to perform euthanasia on animals, he must be first certified by the Board as a CAET.

It should be noted that in order to qualify under the terms of Rule 704, the ACO must first attend a Board approved training course in the use of chemical capture drugs. The ACO must also be an employee of an animal control agency which is operated by a state or local governmental agency, or which is operated by any duly incorporated humane society which has a contract with a local

governmental agency to perform animal control services on behalf of the local governmental agency for the purpose of animal capture and/or restraint.

Please be advised that the veterinarian, or Lead CAET if applicable under the particular circumstances, is legally responsible for compliance with the requirements set forth in Rules 704 and 1225, respectively. Among other requirements set forth in the cited Rules, a log is required to be kept with regards to the "minimal amount" dispensed to and used by an ACO, as well as the Ketamine and/or Telazol must be kept secured in a locked container.

At its June 5, 2003 meeting, the Board established the standard or measurement as to what constitutes a lawful "minimal amount". It is the Board's decision that in order to be in compliance with Rules 704B and 1225C, an ACO may have no more than the total amount of 10 ml., or one (1) vial, of Ketamine and/or Telazol in his possession (vehicle) at any one time. Therefore, if the entirety of the total amount of 10 ml., or one (1) vial, of Ketamine and/or Telazol is not used during a single

capture attempt, the unused minimal amount may be kept by the ACO for future capture attempts as long as the Board's Rules on this subject are complied with. For example, the unused portion, or a maximum of a total amount of 10 ml., or one (1) vial, of Ketamine and/or Telazol, is legally permissible and must be secured in a locked container in the vehicle with a proper log being maintained as required by Rules 704B and 1225C.

The Board has communicated with DEA regarding the "minimal amount" issue. DEA is in agreement

with the Board's determination as to what constitutes the legally permissible "minimal amount" defined above. The Board strongly recommends that careful review be given to Rule 704 by veterinarians and Rule 1225 by Lead CAETs regarding their obligations concerning animal control officers and providing permissible capture drugs. Each Rule clearly states that the veterinarian or Lead CAET, whichever the case may be, will be held legally responsible for any violation of the standards established by the Rules.

Tip for Medical Records

When boarding an animal during an owner's extended vacation out of town/country, you may want to have the client/owner list another contact party for emergencies. Who can you call when the boarded animal needs emergency care or surgery and the owner cannot be reached overseas?

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