BEFORE THE
VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Jeff A. Blea, DVM,
Veterinarian License No. VET 11928,
Respondent

Case No. 4602021001570
OAH No. 2022031029

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Veterinary Medical Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective on September 21, 2022.

It is so ORDERED August 22, 2022.

Signature On File
Kathy Bowler, President
VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BEFORE THE
VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

JEFF A. BLEA
485 San Gabriel Court
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Veterinarian License No. VET 11928,

Respondent.

Case No. 4602021001570
OAH No. 2022031029

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

PARTIES

1. Jessica Sieferman (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medical Board (Board). She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented in this matter by Rob Bonta, Attorney General of the State of California, by Michael Yi and Elaine Yan, Deputy Attorneys General.
2. Respondent Jeff A. Blea (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorneys Lisa J. Brown and George M. Wallace of Wallace, Brown & Schwartz, whose address is: 215 North Marengo Ave, 3rd Floor, Pasadena, CA 91101-1504.

3. On September 16, 1993, the Board issued Veterinarian License Number 11928 to Respondent. The Veterinarian License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570, and will expire on October 31, 2023, unless renewed.

**JURISDICTION**

4. First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The First Amended Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on February 11, 2022. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the First Amended Accusation.

5. A copy of First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated here by reference.

**ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.

7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.
CULPABILITY

9. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Veterinarian License.

10. For the purpose of resolving the First Amended Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the First Amended Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.

11. Respondent agrees that his Veterinarian License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

12. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Veterinary Medical Board. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Veterinary Medical Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

13. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

14. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary
Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.

15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

**DISCIPLINARY ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Veterinarian License Number VET 11928 issued to Respondent Jeff A. Blea is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions:

1. Obey All Laws.

   Respondent shall obey all federal and state laws and regulations substantially related to the practice of veterinary medicine. Within thirty (30) days of any arrest, Respondent shall notify the Board. Within thirty (30) days of any conviction, Respondent shall report to the Board and provide proof of compliance with the terms and conditions of the court order including, but not limited to, probation and restitution requirements. Obey all laws shall not be tolled.

2. Quarterly Reports

   Respondent shall report quarterly to the Board or its designee, under penalty of perjury, on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all terms and conditions of probation. Omission or falsification in any manner of any information on these reports shall constitute a violation of probation and shall result in the filing of an accusation and/or a petition to revoke probation against Respondent’s license registration or permit. If the final written quarterly report is not made as directed, the period of probation shall be extended until the final report is received by the Board. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation.

3. Interview with the Board

   Within 30 days off the effective date of the Decision, Respondent shall appear in person for an interview with the Board or its designee to review the terms and conditions of probation. Thereafter, Respondent shall, upon reasonable request, report or appear in person as directed.
Interview with the Board shall not be tolled.

4. Cooperation with Board Staff

Respondent shall cooperate with the Board’s inspection program and with the Board’s monitoring and investigation of Respondent’s compliance with the terms and conditions of Respondent’s probation. Respondent may receive the assistance of private counsel, but Respondent shall communicate directly with the Board or its designee, and written communications from the Board will only be sent to the Respondent. Respondent shall make available all of his patient records, hospital records, books, logs, and other documents relating to the practice of veterinary medicine to the Board, upon request.

Respondent shall claim all certified mail issued by the Board, respond in a timely manner to all notices and requests for information, and submit Reports, Identification Update reports or other reports similar in nature, as requested and directed by the Board or its designee. Respondent is encouraged to contact the Board’s probation monitoring program representative at any time Respondent has a question or concern regarding the terms and conditions of Respondent’s probation.

5. Probation Monitoring Costs

Probation monitoring costs are set at a rate of $100 per month for the duration of the probation. These costs shall be payable to the Board on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee.

6. Changes of Employment or Address

Respondent shall notify the Board, and appointed probation monitor in writing, of any and all changes of employment, location, and address within fourteen (14) calendar days of such change. This includes, but is not limited to, termination or resignation from employment, change in employment status, and change in supervisors, administrators or directors. Respondent shall also notify Respondent’s probation monitor AND the Board IN WRITING of any changes of residence or mailing address within fourteen (14) calendar days. P.O. Boxes are accepted for mailing purposes; however, Respondent must also provide Respondent’s physical residence address as well.
7. No Supervision of Students, Interns, or Residents
   Respondent shall not supervise students, interns, or residents.

8. Notice to Employers
   During the period of probation, Respondent shall notify all present and prospective
   employers of this Decision and the terms, conditions, and restrictions imposed on Respondent by
   this Decision, as follows:
   Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Decision and within fifteen (15) days of
   Respondent undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall cause Respondent’s supervisor
   and/or managing licensee (licensee manager) to report to the Board in writing, acknowledging
   that the listed individual(s) has/have read this Decision, including the terms conditions, and
   restrictions imposed. It shall be Respondent’s responsibility to ensure that Respondent’s
   supervisor and/or licensee manager submit timely acknowledgment(s) to the Board.
   If Respondent provides veterinary services as a relief veterinarian, Respondent shall notify
   each individual or entity with whom Respondent is employed or contracted and require the
   supervisor and/or licensee manager to submit to the Board timely acknowledgment of receipt of
   the notice.

9. Notice to Employees
   Throughout the probationary period, and in a manner that is visible to all licensed,
   registered, or permitted veterinary employees at the veterinary premises, Respondent shall post a
   notice provided or approved by the Board, that recites the violations for which Respondent has
   been disciplined and the terms and conditions of probation.

10. Tolling of Probation
    Respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within fifteen (15) calendar
    days of any periods of non-practice lasting more than thirty (30) calendar days and shall notify
    the Board or its designee within fifteen (15) calendar days of Respondent’s return to practice.
    Any period of non-practice will result in the Respondent’s probation being tolled.
    Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding thirty (30) calendar days in which
    Respondent is not engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine in California.
It shall be considered a violation of probation if Respondent’s periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California total two years. However, it shall not be considered a violation of probation if Respondent is residing and practicing in another state of the United States and is on active probation with the licensing authority of that state, in which case the two-year tolling limitation period shall begin on the date probation is completed or terminated in that state.

The following terms and conditions, if required, shall not be tolled:

Obey All Laws
Interview with the Board
Tolling of Probation
Maintain a Current and Active License
Cost Recovery

Non-practice is also defined as any period that Respondent fails to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for the duration of probation (except reasonable time away from work for vacations, illnesses, etc.) or as determined by the Board. While tolled for not meeting the hourly requirement, Respondent shall comply with all terms and conditions of this Decision.

Any period of tolling will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term.

11. Maintain a Current and Active License

At all times while on probation, Respondent shall maintain a current and active license with the Board. Maintain a current and active license shall not be tolled.

12. Violation of Probation

If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an accusation or petition to revoke probation is filed against Respondent during probation, or if the Attorney General's office has been requested to prepare any disciplinary action against Respondent's license, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final. No petition for modification or termination of probation shall be considered while there is an accusation or
petition to revoke probation pending against Respondent.

13. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this Decision, should Respondent cease to practice veterinary medicine due to retirement or health issues, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may tender Respondent’s license to practice veterinary medicine to the Board for surrender. The Board or its designee has the discretion to grant the request for surrender or to take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the license surrender, Respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. The surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the Respondent’s license history with the Board.

Respondent must relinquish Respondent’s license to the Board within ten (10) days of receiving notification from the Board that the surrender has been accepted.

14. Completion of Probation

All costs for probation monitoring and/or mandatory premises inspections shall be borne by Respondent. Failure to pay all costs due shall result in an extension of probation until the matter is resolved and costs paid or a petition to revoke probation is filed. Upon successful completion of probation and all payment of fees due, Respondent's license will be fully restored.

15. Cost Recovery

Pursuant to Section 125.3 of the California Business and Professions Code, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall pay to the Board its enforcement costs including investigation and prosecution, in the amount of $131,424.00 which may be paid over time in accordance with a Board approved payment plan, within six (6) months before the end of the probation term. Cost recovery shall not be tolled.
16. Inspections

If Respondent is the owner or managing licensee of a veterinary premises, the following probationary conditions apply:

(A) The location or mobile veterinary practice shall hold a current premises registration issued by the Board, and Respondent shall make the practice or location available for inspections by a Board representative to determine whether the location or veterinary practice meets minimum standards for a veterinary premises. The inspections will be conducted on an announced or unannounced basis and shall be held during normal business hours. The Board reserves the right to conduct these inspections on at least a quarterly basis during probation. Respondent shall pay the Board for the cost of each inspection, which is $500.

(B) As a condition precedent to any premises registration issued to Respondent as Owner or managing licensee, the location or mobile veterinary practice for which application is made shall be inspected by a Board representative to determine whether the location or mobile veterinary practice meets minimum standards for a veterinary premises. Respondent shall submit to the Board, along with any premises registration application, a $500 inspection fee.

17. Continuing Education

Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Decision, and on an annual basis thereafter, Respondent shall submit to the Board for its prior approval, an educational program or course related to recordkeeping which shall not be less than 8 hours per year, for each year of probation. Upon successful completion of the course, Respondent shall provide proof to the Board. This program shall be in addition to the Continuing Education required of all licensees for licensure renewal. All costs shall be borne by Respondent.
ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorneys, Lisa J. Brown and George M. Wallace. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Veterinarian License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Veterinary Medical Board.

DATED: ____________________________

Jeff A. Blea
JEFF A. BLEA
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Jeff A. Blea the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.

DATED: ____________________________

Signature On File

LISA J. BROWN
GEORGE M. WALLACE
Attorney for Respondent
ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Veterinary Medical Board.

DATED: August 3, 2022  Respectfully submitted,

ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California

KIM KASRELIOVICH
Supervising Deputy Attorney General

ELAINE YAN
Deputy Attorney General

Signature On File

MICHAEL YI
Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant
Exhibit A

First Amended Accusation number 4602021001570
Before the
Veterinary Medical Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Jeff A. Blea
485 San Gabriel Court
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Veterinarian License No. VET 11928,

Respondent.

PARTIES

1. Jessica Sieferman (Complainant) brings this First Amended Accusation (Accusation) solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medical Board (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.

2. On September 16, 1993, the Board issued Veterinarian License Number VET 11928 to Jeff A. Blea (Respondent Blea). The Veterinarian License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this First Amended Accusation and will expire on October 31, 2023, unless renewed.
3. This First Amended Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

4. Section 118, subdivision (b), provides that suspension, expiration, surrender, or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated.

5. Section 4875 provides, in relevant part, that the Board may revoke or suspend the license of any person to practice veterinary medicine, or any branch thereof, in this state for any causes provided in the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Bus. & Prof. Code § 4800, et seq.). In addition, the Board has the authority to assess a fine not in excess of $5,000 against a licensee for any of the causes specified in section 4883. Such fine may be assessed in lieu of, or in addition to, a suspension or revocation.

6. Section 4021 defines “controlled substance” to mean “any substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.”

7. Section 4022 provides:

   a. “Dangerous drug” or “dangerous device” means any drug or device unsafe for self-use in humans or animals, and includes the following:

   b. Any drug that bears the legend: “Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription,” “Rx only,” or words of similar import.

   c. Any device that bears the statement: “Caution: federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a _____,” “Rx only,” or words of similar import, the blank to be filled in with the designation of the practitioner licensed to use or order use of the device.

   d. Any other drug or device that by federal or state law can be lawfully dispensed only on prescription or furnished pursuant to Section 4006.

8. Section 4024, subdivision (b), defines “dispense” to include the furnishing of drugs or devices directly to a patient by a veterinarian acting within the scope of his or practice.
9. Section 4169 provides, in relevant part:

   (a) A person or entity shall not do any of the following:

   . . . .

   (3) Purchase, trade, sell, or transfer dangerous drugs that the person knew or reasonably should have known were misbranded, as defined in Section 111335 of the Health and Safety Code.

10. Section 4170 provides, in relevant part:

   (a) No prescriber shall dispense drugs or dangerous devices to patients in his or her office or place of practice unless all of the following conditions are met:

   . . . .

   (2) The dangerous drugs or dangerous devices are necessary in the treatment of the condition for which the prescriber is attending the patient.

11. Section 4829.5 states:

   (a) Each time a veterinarian initially prescribes, dispenses, or furnishes a dangerous drug, as defined in Section 4022, to an animal patient in an outpatient setting, the veterinarian shall offer to provide, in person or through electronic means, to the client responsible for the animal, or his or her agent, a consultation that includes the following information:

   (1) The name and description of the dangerous drug.

   (2) Route of administration, dosage form, dosage, duration of drug therapy, the duration of the effects of the drug, and the common severe adverse effects associated with the use of a short-acting or long-acting drug.

   (3) Any special directions for proper use and storage.

   (4) Actions to be taken in the event of a missed dose.

   (5) If available, precautions and relevant warnings provided by the drug’s manufacturer, including common severe adverse effects of the drug.

   (b) If requested, a veterinarian shall provide drug documentation, if available.

   (c) A veterinarian may delegate to a registered veterinary technician or veterinary assistant the task of providing the consultation and drug documentation required by this section.

   (d) It shall be noted in the medical record of the animal patient if the consultation described in this section is provided or declined by the client or his or her agent.

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12. Section 4855 states:

A veterinarian subject to the provisions of this chapter [the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act] shall, as required by regulation of the board, keep a written record of all animals receiving veterinary services, and provide a summary of that record to the owner of animals receiving veterinary services, when requested. The minimum amount of information which shall be included in written records and summaries shall be established by the board. The minimum duration of time for which a licensed premise shall retain the written record or a complete copy of the written record shall be determined by the board.

13. Section 4883 states, in relevant part:

The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license or assess a fine as provided in Section 4875 for any of the following:

... 

(c) Violation or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, any of the provisions of this chapter [the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act].

... 

(g) Unprofessional conduct, that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

... 

(3) A violation of any federal statute, rule, or regulation or any of the statutes, rules, or regulations of this state regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances.

... 

(i) Fraud, deception, negligence, or incompetence in the practice of veterinary medicine.

... 

(o) Violation, or the assisting or abetting violation, of any regulations adopted by the board pursuant to this chapter [the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act].

14. Health and Safety Code section 11190 states, in relevant part:

. . . . 

(c)(1) For each prescription for a Schedule II, Schedule III, or Schedule IV controlled substance that is dispensed by a prescriber pursuant to Section 4170 of the Business and Professions Code, the prescriber shall record and maintain the following information:
(A) Full name, address, and the telephone number of the ultimate user or research subject, or contact information as determined by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the gender, and date of birth of the patient.

(B) The prescriber’s category of licensure and license number; federal controlled substance registration number; and the state medical license number of any prescriber using the federal controlled substance registration number of a government-exempt facility.

(C) NDC (National Drug Code) number of the controlled substance dispensed.

(D) Quantity of the controlled substance dispensed.

(E) ICD-9 (diagnosis code), if available.

(F) Number of refills ordered.

(G) Whether the drug was dispensed as a refill of a prescription or as a first-time request.

(H) Date of origin of the prescription.

(2) (A) Each prescriber that dispenses controlled substances shall provide the Department of Justice the information required by this subdivision on a weekly basis in a format set by the Department of Justice pursuant to regulation.

(B) The reporting requirement in this section shall not apply to the direct administration of a controlled substance to the body of an ultimate user.

(d) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2005.

(e) The reporting requirement in this section for Schedule IV controlled substances shall not apply to any of the following:

(1) The dispensing of a controlled substance in a quantity limited to an amount adequate to treat the ultimate user involved for 48 hours or less.

(2) The administration or dispensing of a controlled substance in accordance with any other exclusion identified by the United States Health and Human Service Secretary for the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005.

(f) Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), the reporting requirement of the information required by this section for a Schedule II or Schedule III controlled substance, in a format set by the Department of Justice pursuant to regulation, shall be on a monthly basis for all of the following:

(1) The dispensing of a controlled substance in a quantity limited to an amount adequate to treat the ultimate user involved for 48 hours or less.

(2) The administration or dispensing of a controlled substance in accordance with any other exclusion identified by the United States Health and Human Service Secretary for the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005.
15. Health and Safety Code section 111440 states: “It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale any drug or device that is misbranded.”

16. Health and Safety Code section 11153, subdivision (a) states:

(a) A prescription for a controlled substance shall only be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his or her professional practice. The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances is upon the prescribing practitioner, but a corresponding responsibility rests with the pharmacist who fills the prescription. Except as authorized by this division, the following are not legal prescriptions: (1) an order purporting to be a prescription which is issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research; or (2) an order for an addict or habitual user of controlled substances, which is issued not in the course of professional treatment or as part of an authorized narcotic treatment program, for the purpose of providing the user with controlled substances, sufficient to keep him or her comfortable by maintaining customary use.

REGULATORY PROVISIONS

17. California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 4, section 1867, subsection (b), prohibits the possession and/or use on the premises of a facility under the jurisdiction of the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) of any drug, substance, or medication by a veterinarian that has not been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in the United States.

18. CCR, title 16, section 2030 states, in relevant part:

All fixed premises where veterinary medicine and its various branches are being practiced, and all instruments, apparatus and apparel used in connection with those practices, shall be kept clean and sanitary at all times and shall conform to or possess the following minimum standards:

…

(f) The veterinary premises shall meet the following standards:

…

(6) All drugs and biologicals shall be maintained, administered, dispensed and prescribed in compliance with state and federal laws.

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19. CCR, title 16, section 2032.1 provides, in relevant part:

(a) It is unprofessional conduct for a veterinarian to administer, prescribe, dispense or furnish a drug, medicine, appliance, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture or bodily injury or disease of an animal without having first established a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal patient or patients and the client, except where the patient is a wild animal or the owner is unknown.

(b) A veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall be established by the following:

(1) The client has authorized the veterinarian to assume responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal, including the need for medical treatment,

(2) The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept, and

(3) The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and has communicated with the client a course of treatment appropriate to the circumstance.

(c) A drug shall not be prescribed for a duration inconsistent with the medical condition of the animal(s) or type of drug prescribed. The veterinarian shall not prescribe a drug for a duration longer than one year from the date the veterinarian examined the animal(s) and prescribed the drug.

(d) As used herein, “drug” shall mean any controlled substance, as defined by Section 4021 of the code, and any dangerous drug, as defined by Section 4022 of the code.

(e) No person may practice veterinary medicine in this state except within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship or as otherwise permitted by law. A veterinarian-client-patient relationship cannot be established solely by telephonic or electronic means.

20. CCR, title 16, section 2032.3 provides, in relevant part:

(a) Every veterinarian performing any act requiring a license pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 11, Division 2, of the code, upon any animal or group of animals shall prepare a legible, written or computer generated record concerning the animal or animals which shall contain the following information:

. . . .

(4) Except for herds or flocks, age, sex, breed, species, and color of the animal.
(6) A history or pertinent information as it pertains to each animal, herd, or flock's medical status.

(7) Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination.

(8) Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medications, dosages, route of administration, and frequency of use.

(10) Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure.

(11) If relevant, a prognosis of the equine patient’s condition.

(12) All medications and treatments prescribed and dispensed, including strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use.

COST RECOVERY

21. Section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that a Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

DRUG CLASSIFICATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

22. Acepromazine, commonly known as Ace, is a tranquilizer used in horses. Acepromazine is restricted for use by, or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

23. Acetylsalicylic acid, see aspirin.

24. Adequan IM, see polysulfated glycosaminoglycan.

25. Aspirin, also known as acetylsalicylic acid or ASA, is used to reduce pain, fever, or inflammation. Aspirin is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 in its injectable form. There are no FDA approved aspirin products and dosages for veterinary patients.

26. Bute, see phenylbutazone.

27. Butorphanol tartrate, is a narcotic, Schedule IV controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (c)(3), and a dangerous drug pursuant to
section 4022.

28. Calcium Phosphorus Vitamin Powder is an oral calcium and phosphorus containing nutritional supplement. It is not a dangerous drug under section 4022.

29. CBC is an abbreviation for Complete Blood Count.

30. Copper gluconate is a compounded product only, therefore not FDA approved.

31. Core Eq Innovator Vaccine is a polyvalent equine vaccine used in horses to prevent Rabies, Tetanus, West Nile, Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis. Rabies vaccine is restricted to sale only to licensed veterinarians in by Health and Safety Code section 121700, and therefore is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

32. Cyanocobalamin, commonly known as Vitamin B-12 and used in horses, is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

33. Dantrium Suspension see Dantrolene.

34. Dantrolene suspension, used in the control of exertional rhabdomyolysis (tying up) in horses. It is not commercially available as a suspension or a paste, but is as an oral capsule and as an injectable and must be prepared by a compounding pharmacist. The compounded preparation is not FDA approved. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

35. Detomidine hydrochloride, sold under the tradename Dormosedan, is a sedative used in horses. Detomidine hydrochloride is restricted for use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian and is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022. Detomidine hydrochloride and butorphanol tartrate may be used in combination to sedate equine patients and is commonly abbreviated as Dorm/Torb.

36. Dex – SP or dexamethasone NaP abbreviation for dexamethasone sodium phosphate a steroid used to treat swelling and inflammation. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

37. DMSO, abbreviation for dimethyl sulfoxide. Approved by the FDA for only topical use in the horse. No commercial DMSO approved products exist for topical use and no approved commercial DMSO products exist for parental use in the horse. An industrial solvent used for anti-inflammatory properties. DMSO is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
38. Domorsedan, trade name for detomidine.
39. Dorm/Torb, see Detomidine and Torbugesic.
40. Doxycycline paste is an antibiotic paste made from doxycycline. The paste form must be compounded as it is not commercially available in that form. As a compounded paste it is not FDA approved. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
41. EIPH is an abbreviation for exercise induced pulmonary hemorrhage.
42. Entrolyte HE is an oral electrolyte supplement. It is not a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
43. Ferric chloride is a compounded product, therefore not FDA approved.
44. Fluid Therapy is a term used to describe the administration of physiologic liquids to an animal. The fluids may contain electrolytes and other substances mixed into the fluids, such as vitamins. Fluid therapy is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
45. Full Bucket Supplement, E Pro Pellets is a nutritional supplement. It is not a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
46. Fulvicin Paste, a compounded paste of the drug griseofulvin used for the treatment of fungal diseases. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
47. Furosemide, sold under the brand names of Lasix or Salix, is a diuretic used in horse racing as an anti-bleeding medication to prevent exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage in horses running at high speed and has long been considered a performance enhancing drug in the horse racing industry. Furosemide is available by prescription only and is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
48. GastroGard, a tradename for omeprazole, is used in the treatment and prevention of gastric ulcers in horses. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
49. Glycopyrrolate is a quaternary ammonium salt and synthetic anti-cholinergic drug that exerts peripheral anti-muscarinic effects on the respiratory tract. Glycopyrrolate is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
50. Hemo-Flo Powder is an oral nutritional supplement that increases nitric oxide levels to support circulation by regulating blood pressure and proper blood flow. It is not a
dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

51. *Hyaluronate sodium*, sold under the brand name Legend and HyVisc, is an intravenous injectable solution used in horses to treat joint dysfunction associated with equine osteoarthritis. Federal law restricts the use of hyaluronate sodium to use by, or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Hyaluronate sodium is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

52. *HyVisc or HY*, see hyaluronate sodium. It is labeled for intra-articular use only and is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

53. *Influenza/Rhinopneumonitis vaccine* is administered to control the spread of influenza and Rhinopneumonitis, which cause highly contagious respiratory infections in horses who travel frequently.

54. *IRAP* is an abbreviation for *Interleukin-1 Receptor Agonist Protein*. It is process of injecting therapeutic proteins stimulated from the horse’s own harvested white blood cells to induce anti-inflammatory effects in the joint.

55. *Lasix*, see furosemide.

56. *Legend*, see hyaluronate sodium. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

57. *Medicated Spray Antibacterial/Anti-fungal*. An unknown drug combination. It would be considered a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022, and to not be approved by the FDA without further identification.

58. *Methocarbamol*, sold under the brand name Robaxin-V, is a potent skeletal muscle relaxant, and federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Methocarbamol is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

59. *Naquasone*, see trichlormethiazide/dexamethasone.

60. *Oxibendazole* is an OTC wormer used orally in paste form for horses. It is not a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

61. *Oxytet*, an abbreviation for oxytetracycline, and antibiotic. It a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

62. *Phenylbutazone*, commonly known as Bute and sold as Butazolidin, is an NSAID used to treat lameness in horses. Phenylbutazone is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.
63. *Polyglycan*, see polysulfated glycosaminoglycan.

64. *Polysulfated glycosaminoglycan*, sold under the brand name Adequan, is used for the intramuscular treatment of non-infectious degenerative and/or traumatic joint dysfunction and associated lameness of the carpal and hock joints in horses. Polysulfated glycosaminoglycan is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

65. *Robaxin*, see methocarbamol.

66. *SAA, Serum Amyloid A*, is a blood test used as a marker of non-specific inflammatory condition of the horse. Normal values 0-20 with most normal horses < 12.

67. *Sarapin* is a prescription medication designed to reduce joint pain and inflammation in horses. Derived from extracts of the Pitcher Plant. No commercial FDA approved injectable products exist. Sarapin in a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

68. *Sodium cacodylate* is a compounded product only, therefore not FDA approved.

69. *Tetracycline* is an antibiotic and a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

70. *Thiamine*, also known as Vitamin B1, is an essential B vitamin used in horses for carbohydrate metabolism. If given by injection is it a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

71. *Throat Flush*. Variable formulations exist, all are compounded; usually by the practicing veterinarian. None are FDA approved.

72. *Trichlormethiazide* is a compounded product only, therefore not FDA approved. Trichlormethiazide is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

73. *TPR WNL* is an abbreviation for temperature, pulse, and respiration within normal limits.

74. *Trichlormethiazide/dexamethasone*, commonly known as Tri Dex and Naquasone, is a diuretic and corticosteroid combination used for mild swellings of the distal limbs in horses. It is not commercially available and is a compounded product only, therefore not FDA approved. Trichlormethiazide/dexamethasone is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022.

75. *Thyro-L Thyroxine*, also known as levothyroxine, is sold under the trade name of Thyro-L (levothyroxine sodium powder USP). Thyro-L is not approved by the FDA. The label of Thyro-L shows indications for treatment of specific disease, supplies doses, contraindications,
and bears the federal legend, “Federal law restricts this product to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian”. In as much it is a misbranded drug under federal [21 USC § 331 and 21 USC § 352(w)] and California State law [BPC § 4169]. Other commercially available forms of levothyroxine powder for equine use are marketed as branded or generic products. None of the marketed levothyroxine powder products are FDA approved. Thyro-L, levothyroxine, and branded levothyroxines are dangerous drugs as defined under section 4022.

76. Torb, see butorphanol.

77. Torbugsic, also called Torb is a trade name for butorphanol. See butorphanol.

78. Vitamin B1, see thiamine.

79. Vitamin B12, see cyanocobalamin.

80. Vitamin B Complex, a mix of B vitamins. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 if administered by parenteral route.

81. Vitamin C, also known as ascorbic acid. It is a dangerous drug pursuant to section 4022 if administered by parenteral route.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

82. The Board received an anonymous complaint in February 2021 alleging that Respondent Blea and other veterinarians prescribed and administered medications, including Thyroxine, to equine patients without an examination or medical necessity. The Board investigated the complaint and obtained information that Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed and administered Thyroxine and other medications to racehorses without an examination or medical necessity. The Board also requested and received medical records from Respondent Blea, which revealed other violations of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

83. During its investigation, the Board received Veterinarian Confidential Reports from the CHRB documenting the equine patients treated by Respondent Blea from January 2021 to March 2021. Veterinarians are required to submit Veterinarian Confidential Reports for horses treated at any CHRB-regulated location. The reports revealed that Respondent Blea treated approximately 3,225 equine patients over 67 work days (average of 48 horses per day), as follows:
a. Approximately 1,060 patients over 21 work days in January 2021;
b. Approximately 843 patients over 19 work days in February 2021; and
c. Approximately 1,322 patients over 27 work days in March 2021.

84. The Veterinarian Confidential Reports for Respondent Blea revealed that clusters of equine patients were administered identical medications and treatments, at the same time, at the request of their trainers without medical necessity. The following chart provides an example of the medications or treatments that Respondent Blea administered to clusters of equine patients with the same trainers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Trainer Initials</th>
<th>Number of patients</th>
<th>Medication or Treatment received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/13/21</td>
<td>M. P.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/14/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>GastroGard (omeprazole)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/18/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>GastroGard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/22/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>GastroGard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/23/21</td>
<td>M. P.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/23/21</td>
<td>M. P.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Aspirin powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/25/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/26/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>GastroGard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/26/21</td>
<td>P. E.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Acepromazine pills 25 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/8/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/15/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/22/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/21</td>
<td>K. D.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Uniprim 2,000 grams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/21</td>
<td>M. P.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Acepromazine pills 25 mg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Otomax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1/21</td>
<td>R. M.</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Adequan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4/21</td>
<td>M. P.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Aspirin powder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
(Negligence)

85. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action under section 4883, subdivision (i), for negligence in the practice of veterinary medicine. Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered a drug, medication, appliance, application, or treatment to animal patients without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, as follows:

86. Between September 3, 2020, and January 26, 2021, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient S.C.:

   a. Acepromazine;
   b. Lasix;
   c. Aspirin powder; and

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1 Initials are used to protect the identities of the equine patients.
d. Thyroxine L powder.

87. Between February 17, 2020, and April 30, 2020, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient W.M.:

a. Lasix;
b. Furosemide;
c. Phenylbutazone injection and tablets;
d. Adequan IM injection;
e. Entrolyte H.E. powder;
f. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder;
g. Oxibendazole paste;
h. Vitamin B Complex injection;
i. Vitamin B 12 injection;
j. Vitamin C injection;
k. Robaxin injection;
l. Glycopyrrolate injection; and
m. Hemo-Flo Powder.

88. Between February 7, 2020, and April 29, 2020, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient S.G.:

a. Acepromazine;
b. Aspirin powder;
c. Adequan IM injection;
d. Lasix; and
e. Furosemide.

89. Between February 1, 2020, and April 21, 2020, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient D.R.:
a. Medicated spray;
b. Aspirin powder;
c. Calcium Phosphorus Vitamin Powder;
d. Phenylbutazone injection; and
e. Adequan IM injection.

90. Between February 2, 2020, and April 25, 2020, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient S.Q.:
   a. Lasix;
b. Aspirin powder;
c. Furosemide;
d. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone Powder;
e. Phenylbutazone injection;
f. Tetracycline injection;
g. Oxytetracycline injection;
h. Calcium Phosphorus Vitamin Powder; and
i. Adequan IM injection.

91. Between February 2, 2020, and April 25, 2020, without performing an examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered the following medications to equine patient S.Ch.:
   a. Hyvisc injection;
b. Aspirin powder;
c. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone Powder;
d. IRAP;
e. Legend injection;
f. Dormosedan and Torbugesic injection;
g. Butorphanol injection;
h. Detomodine injection;
i. Calcium Phosphorus Vitamin Powder; and
j. Adequan IM injection.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
(Unprofessional Conduct – Dispensing Dangerous Drugs Without Medical Necessity)

92. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under
section 4883, subdivision (g)(3), for violating section 4170, subdivision (a)(2), in that Respondent
Blea dispensed unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patients as follows:
93. Between September 3, 2020 and January 26, 2021, without performing an appropriate
examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea
dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient S.C.:
   a. Acepromazine;
   b. Lasix; and
   c. Thyroxine L powder.
94. Between February 17, 2020, and April 30, 2020, without performing an appropriate
examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea
dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient W.M.:
   a. Lasix;
   b. Furosemide;
   c. Phenylbutazone injection;
   d. Adequan IM injection;
   e. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder;
   f. Vitamin B Complex injection;
   g. Vitamin B 12 injection;
   h. Vitamin C injection;
   i. Robaxin injection; and
   j. Glycopyrrolate injection.
///
///
95. Between February 7, 2020, and April 29, 2020, without performing an appropriate examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient S.G.:
   a. Acepromazine;
   b. Adequan IM injection;
   c. Lasix; and
   d. Furosemide.

96. Between February 1, 2020, and April 21, 2020, without performing an appropriate examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient D.R.:
   a. Medicated spray;
   b. Phenylbutazone injection; and
   c. Adequan IM injection.

97. Between February 2, 2020, and April 25, 2020, without performing an appropriate examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient S.Q.:
   a. Lasix;
   b. Furosemide;
   c. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone Powder;
   d. Phenylbutazone injection;
   e. Tetracycline injection;
   f. Oxytetracycline injection; and
   g. Adequan IM injection.

98. Between March 6, 2020, and April 25, 2020, without performing an appropriate examination and forming a diagnosis of any condition that required treatment, Respondent Blea dispensed the following unnecessary dangerous drugs to equine patient S.Ch.:
   a. Hyvisc injection;
   b. Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder;
c. Legend injection;  
d. Dormosedan and Torbugsic injection;  
e. Butorphanol injection;  
f. Detomodine injection; and  
g. Adequan IM injection.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
(Unprofessional Conduct – Failure to Establish Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship)

99. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under  
section 4883, subdivisions (g) and (o), and CCR, title 16, section 2032.1, subsection (a).  
Respondent Blea did not establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR) before  
administering, prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing a drug, medicine, application, or treatment, 
as follows:

100. As set forth in paragraphs 85 through 98 above, incorporated here by reference,  
Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or administered drugs to equine patients, without  
establishing a VCPR with the patients. Respondent Blea did not: (1) perform and/or document an  
examination of the patients; (2) form and/or document a diagnoses of any condition that required  
treatment; or (3) communicate and/or document the appropriate course of treatment with the  
client.

101. On or about April 23, 2020, Respondent Blea performed an endoscopic exam of  
equine patient W.M. Before providing the endoscopic exam, Respondent Blea did not:  
(1) perform and/or document an examination of the patient; (2) form and/or document a  
diagnoses of any condition that required treatment; or (3) communicate and/or document the  
appropriate course of treatment with the client. Accordingly, Respondent Blea failed to establish  
the required VCPR before treating W.M.

///
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///
///
102. On or about March 9, 2020, Respondent Blea provided IRAP treatment to equine patient S.Q. Before providing the treatment, Respondent Blea did not: (1) perform and/or document an examination of the patient; (2) form and/or document a diagnoses of any condition that required treatment; or (3) communicate and/or document the appropriate course of treatment with the client. Accordingly, Respondent Blea failed to establish the required VCPR before treating S.Q.

FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
(Violations of Practice Act and Board Regulations – Recordkeeping)

103. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for violating the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Practice Act) and regulations adopted by the Board, under section 4883, subdivisions (c) and (o), for failing to keep written records containing information required under section 4855 and CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, for equine patients receiving veterinary services, as follows:

104. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient S.C., dated between July 25, 2020, and February 17, 2021, failed to include the following information:

a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);

b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);

c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);

d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);

e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);
f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and

g. Strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use for drugs dispensed, as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(12).

105. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient W.M., dated between February 8, 2020, and April 30, 2020, failed to include the following information:

a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);

b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);

c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);

d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);

e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);

f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and

g. Strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use for drugs dispensed, as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(12).

106. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient S.G., dated between February 7, 2020, and April 29, 2020, failed to include the following information:

a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);
b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);

c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);

d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);

e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);

f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and

g. Strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use for drugs dispensed, as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(12).

107. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient D.R., date between February 1, 2020, and April 21, 2020, failed to include the following information:

a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);

b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);

c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);

d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);
e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);

f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and

g. Strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use for drugs dispensed, as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(12).

108. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient S.Q., dated between February 2, 2020, and April 25, 2020, failed to include the following information:

a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);

b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);

c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);

d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);

e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);

f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and

...
109. Respondent Blea’s medical records for equine patient S.Ch., dated between February 12, 2020, and April 22, 2020, failed to include the following information:
   a. The age, sex, breed, and color of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(4);
   b. A history or pertinent information as it pertains to the equine patient’s medical status as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(6);
   c. Data, including that obtained by instrumentation, from the physical examination of the equine patient as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(7);
   d. Treatment and intended treatment plan, including medication dosages as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(8);
   e. Diagnosis or assessment prior to performing a treatment or procedure as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(10);
   f. A prognosis of the equine patient’s condition as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(11); and
   g. Strength, dosage, route of administration, quantity, and frequency of use for drugs dispensed, as required under CCR, title 16, section 2032.3, subsection (a)(12).

**FIFTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

*(Unprofessional Conduct – Misbranded Drugs)*

110. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 4883, subdivision (g)(3), for violations of section 4169, subdivision (a)(3), and Health and Safety Code sections 111440 and 111450, for selling, delivering, holding, or offering for sale drugs that are misbranded.

111. On or about November 5, 2020, Respondent Blea sold, delivered, held or offered Thyroxine L powder to equine patient S.C.
SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE
(Unprofessional Conduct – Possession or Use of Prohibited Drugs)

112. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 4883, subdivision (g)(3), for violating CCR, title 4, section 1867, subsection (b). Respondent Blea possessed or used a drug, substance, or medication that has not been approved by the FDA for use in the United States on the premises of a facility under the jurisdiction of the CHRB, as follows:

113. On or about November 5, 2020, Respondent Blea used Thyroxine L powder to treat equine patient S.C.;

114. On or about November 18, 2020, Respondent Blea used Aspirin powder to treat equine patient S.C.;

115. On or about March 4, 2020, Respondent Blea used Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder to treat equine patient W.M.;

116. On or about February 10, 2020, February 24, 2020, March 17, 2020, April 4, 2020, and April 21, 2020, Respondent Blea used Aspirin powder to treat equine patient S.G.;

117. On or about February 1, 2020, Respondent Blea used Medicated Spray to treat equine patient D.R.;

118. On or about February 10, 2020, February 25, 2020, March 17, 2020, April 4, 2020, and April 21, 2020, Respondent Blea used Aspirin powder to treat equine patient D.R.;

119. On or about February 3, 2020, February 8, 2020, March 16, 2020, and March 25, 2020, Respondent Blea used Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder to treat equine patient S.Q.;

120. On or about February 10, 2020, March 17, 2020, April 4, 2020, and April 21, 2020, Respondent Blea used Aspirin powder to treat equine patient S.Q.;

121. On or about March 6, 2020, and April 17, 2020, Respondent Blea used Trichlormethiazide/ Dexamethasone powder to treat equine patient S.Ch.;

122. On or about February 11, 2020, March 17, 2020, March 18, 2020, April 4, 2020, and April 22, 2020, Respondent Blea used Aspirin powder to treat equine patient S.Ch.;
123. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used Dantrolene paste to treat equine patients on at least 21 occasions;

124. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used acetylsalicylic acid to treat equine patients on at least five occasions;

125. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used trichlormethiazide to treat equine patients on at least 11 occasions;

126. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used sodium cacodylate to treat equine patients on at least three occasions;

127. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used ferric chloride to treat equine patients on at least three occasions;

128. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used copper gluconate to treat equine patients on at least three occasions;

129. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used trichlormethiazide/dexamethasone, also known as Naquasone, to treat equine patients on at least 59 occasions;

130. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used DMSO to treat equine patients on at least 24 occasions;

131. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used Throat Flush to treat equine patients on at least 27 occasions;

132. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used doxycycline paste to treat equine patients on at least four occasions;

133. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used aspirin powder to treat equine patients on at least 76 occasions;

134. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used Fulvicin paste to treat equine patients on at least eight occasions; and

135. Between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea used Sarapin to treat an equine patient on at least one occasion.

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SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Violation of Practice Act – Failure to Provide Required Drug Consultation)

136. Respondent Blea is subject to disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct under section 4883, subdivision (c), for failing to offer to provide, and note in the medical record the required drug consultation for prescribed, dispensed, or furnished dangerous drugs as required under section 4829.5, subdivisions (a) and (d), as follows:

137. On or about March 4, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder for equine patient W.M. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record;

138. On or about April 2, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Phenylbutazone for equine patient W.M. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record;

139. On or about February 7, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Acepromazine for equine patient S.G. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record;

140. On or about February 1, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Medicated Spray for equine patient D.R. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record;

141. On or about February 3, 2020, February 8, 2020, March 16, 2020, and March 25, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder for equine patient S.Q. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record; and

142. On or about March 6, 2020, and April 17, 2020, Respondent Blea prescribed, dispensed, or furnished Trichlormethiazide/Dexamethasone powder for equine patient S.Ch. without offering to provide, or noting the required drug consultation in the medical record.

DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATION

143. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Blea, Complainant alleges that between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent Blea treated
approximately 3,225 equine patients over 67 work days (average of 48 horses per day), as
follows:

a. Approximately 1,060 patients over 21 work days in January 2021;
b. Approximately 843 patients over 19 work days in February 2021; and
c. Approximately 1,322 patients over 27 work days in March 2021.

144. Complainant further alleges that between January 2021 and March 2021, Respondent
Blea administered identical medications and treatments to clusters of equine patients, at the same
time, at the request of their trainers without medical necessity. Paragraphs 83 to 84 are re-alleged
as if fully set forth herein.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters alleged in this
First Amended Accusation, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:
1. Revoking or suspending Veterinarian License Number VET 11928, issued to Jeff A.
   Blea;
2. Ordering Jeff A. Blea to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and
   enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
3. Assessing a fine against Jeff A. Blea not in excess of $5,000 for any of the causes
   specified in Business and Professions Code section 4883; and
4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: February 11, 2022

Signature On File

JESSICA SIEFERMAN
Executive Officer
Veterinary Medical Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

Complainant

LA2021604910