STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF: *

NANCY L. KNIGHT, DVM * DOCKET NO. 16-22

LICENSE NO. 4067 *

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CIVIL PENALTY FINAL ORDER

This Civil Penalty Order (Order), dated this 7th day of June, 2016, is issued by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Board) against Nancy L. Knight, DVM, (Dr. Knight), License No. 4067, a responsible veterinarian for Well Pet Clinic, Hospital License No. 18-008, located at 21800 N. Shangri-La Drive, Unit 16, in Lexington Park, Maryland 20653. This Order confirms the intention of Dr. Knight to waive the right to contest the charge filed by the Board on May 18, 2016 in Docket No. 16-22, alleging that Dr. Knight violated Code of Maryland Regulation (COMAR) 15.14.01.12-1 Prescriptions, at A, on or about September 29, 2015, by dispensing prescription medication without a current valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship to Donna Bussard. By payment to the Board on June 3, 2016, of the $350 civil penalty imposed by the Board in this matter, Dr. Knight voluntarily waived the right to a hearing and appeal on the charge in Docket No. 16-22.

Under State law, the Board is the licensing authority responsible for regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in this State, which includes filing disciplinary actions against veterinarians charged with violating provisions of the Veterinary Practice Act, Agriculture Article Sections 2-301 through 2-316, Annotated Code of Maryland and related COMAR regulations. As part of its authority, the Board "may refuse, suspend, or revoke any application or license, and censure or place on probation any licensee . . . if the veterinarian or veterinary practitioner . . . [f]ails to comply with Board rules and regulations after receiving a license[.]" Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art., Section 2-310(8). In addition, the Board may impose a civil penalty of not more than $5,000 for a first offense, or $10,000 for a second or subsequent offense in lieu of or in addition to suspending, or revoking a veterinarian's license, respectively. Md. Code Ann., Agric. Art. Section 2-310.1. In setting the amount of a civil penalty, the Board shall consider the severity of the violation, the good faith of the violator, and the history of prior violations as well as the

Board's regulatory civil penalty standards. Md. Code Ann., State Gov't Art. Section 10-1001(b); COMAR 15.14.11 Civil Penalty Standards for Veterinarians.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Nancy L. Knight, DVM, License No. 4067, a responsible veterinarian for Well Pet Clinic, has submitted payment of the $350 civil penalty assessed by the Board in Docket No. 16-22, and waived the right to a hearing or appeal of the charge issued on May 18, 2016. After having the opportunity to seek advice of legal counsel, Dr. Knight acknowledges that the Board has sufficient evidence to find, as fact, and conclude as a matter of law that she violated COMAR 15.14.01.12-1 Prescriptions, at A, by dispensing medication at a veterinary hospital, Well Pet Clinic, Hospital License No. 18-008, at 21800 N. Shangri-La Drive, Unit 16, in Lexington Park, Maryland 20653, on or about September 29, 2015 without a current valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship with Donna Bussard and her six-year-old spayed female Shepherd-Chow Mix, "Harley."

Taking all the facts and circumstances into consideration, including the nature of the violation, Dr. Knight's lack of disciplinary history with the Board, and her good faith effort to resolve this matter promptly, the Board concluded that the most reasonable and appropriate resolution in this matter was a civil penalty only.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is this 7th day of June, 2016, by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, **ORDERED** that for the violation of COMAR 15.14.01.12-1 Prescriptions, at A, Nancy L. Knight, DVM, License No. 4067, is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of $350. Payment was received by the Board on June 3, 2016.

David L. Handel, DVM
President
Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners