



D.C. Board of Veterinary Examiners

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YOUR MAILING ADDRESS

Changing your mailing address? Send your name, mailing address, and license number to:

DC Board of Veterinary Examiners
Processing Department
Address/Name Change
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005



District of Columbia
Department of Health
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



Summer 2010

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

We're heading into the middle of the 3rd year of the newly reorganized DC Board of Veterinary Examiners (Vet Board). In that time, we've become a professional Board, working hard to change the way veterinary medicine is supported and administered in the nation's capital. Specifically, we've changed the way licenses are administered, dropped an archaic licensing exam, investigated numerous practice complaints issued by the public, and are going to be launching a new, more practitioner- and consumer-friendly website. Most importantly, and right in front of you, is our first e-newsletter. To me, there is nothing more important than communication; whether in the exam room or from the 10th floor of 717 14th Street, where the Board meets. This newsletter is the first of what will be a regular quarterly communication to our professional community.

In this issue of the e-news, you'll read new and clarified information about licensing and controlled substances, about feral sterilization clinics, a need for peer reviewers, and veterinary continuing education (CE) meeting opportunities. And, of course, more about the Board itself. In addition, we have a new Executive Director, Dr. Vito DelVento, who will be introducing himself to you.

Last year was a busy year for all of us. Between the declining economy in which all of our practices were vulnerable (mine included, as not-for-profit organizations were not immune to the pressures of the economy), and revising legislation to get the Board under the same Mayoral authority that the other health professions have, we had our hands full. We finished working on the facility regulations which dated back to 1971, investigated several practice complaints, sanctioned one practitioner, issued several letters of concern, closed one facility which had ongoing issues for years, and we are in the process of tackling the veterinary practice regulations. The Board also clarified a regulatory issue for practitioners regarding emergency treatment of abandoned pets.

So, in the next few months, you should expect to see veterinary news alerts, license updates, disciplinary issue dispositions, timely animal health information, and updates about your Board. Because it's your Board, and we want to be sure you know that.



Gary Weitzman, DVM, MPH

Sincerely,

Gary Weitzman, DVM, MPH
Chairperson
Board of Veterinary Examiners

Upcoming Board Meetings

THE BOARD MEETS ON THE
"THIRD THURSDAY"
OF EVERY MONTH

at 717 14th St., NW, 10th Floor,
Washington, DC 20005

Open Session is at 10:00 am.

Verification of Licensure

Licensing authorities and some health facilities often require a letter of verification of the current or previously held licenses. These letters of verification are sometimes called "letters of good standing," even though the DC license may have expired.

To receive a letter of good standing:

If the jurisdiction or institution provides a form, forward the form, with a check or money order payable to "DC Treasurer" in the amount of twenty-six dollars (\$26.00) to:

DC Board of
Veterinary Examiners
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Be sure to include name and address where the form is to be sent.

If the jurisdiction or institution does not provide a form, please send a note requesting a letter of verification. The note should include both the name of the person requesting the verification and the name and address of the recipient. Please enclose a check or money order (for \$26.00) payable to "DC Treasurer."

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES REQUIREMENTS IN THE DISTRICT

Every person who manufactures, distributes or dispenses controlled substances within the District of Columbia must register with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Pharmaceutical Control Division. This permits one to prescribe and dispense controlled substances in the District of Columbia in accordance with the appropriate schedules.

In summary, if a licensed veterinarian dispenses or intends to dispense controlled drugs in the District of Columbia, he or she must register on the federal level (DEA registration and license) and on the local level (DC Government Controlled Substance registration and license). A current professional license and these two valid registrations permit a person to dispense controlled drugs and substances in the District of Columbia. You may apply and register through your professional license renewal via DC Department of Health HPLA's Online Licensing Renewal system (www.hpla.doh.dc.gov).

For more information or questions, email the Pharmaceutical Control Division Program Manager, Patricia D'Antonio at patricia.dantonio@dc.gov.

APPLY TO SERVE! CALLING FOR POTENTIAL BOARD MEMBERS

The Vet Board continues to seek applicants to serve on the Board as Veterinary Members. If you are licensed in DC, are a DC resident, your license has been in good standing for a minimum of 3 years, and you have at least 3 years of practice experience, consider making yourself available to serve as a **Veterinary Member** on the Board. Potential **Consumer Members** may apply if they are DC residents.

The Board meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. The Board evaluates license applicants' qualifications and recommends regulations, standards and procedures relative to the practice of Veterinary Medicine. In addition, it issues licenses, reviews complaints and requests investigations when indicated. The Board conducts hearings, implements disciplinary and/or remedial action when appropriate and prepares an annual report for the Mayor. The Board encourages individuals who qualify to consider participating in this vital effort. Please contact Ms. Karin Barron at (202) 724-8938 in order to begin the application process.

VETERINARIAN PEER REVIEWERS SOUGHT

It is critical to our profession that clients are confident that their pets are being cared for by competent individuals who provide a proper standard of care to their pets. Thus, when the Board receives a complaint from a citizen about a DC veterinarian, we must investigate and evaluate the standard of care provided. This may involve seeking a peer review—obtaining the opinion of a "reviewing" veterinarian in good standing who, after analyzing the facts of the case, issues an opinion regarding whether the veterinarian against whom the complaint was brought met the standard of care expected by our profession.

The Board is seeking **licensed veterinarians with at least five years of clinical experience** who would be interested in providing peer review services when requested by the Board. If you are qualified and interested in providing such services, please contact Vet Board Executive Director Vito DelVento at vito.delvento@dc.gov.

WNV VETERINARIANS ALERT

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Bureau of Community Hygiene
Animal Disease Prevention Division

MEMORANDUM

TO: District of Columbia Practicing Veterinarians
SUBJECT: West Nile Virus (WNV) Update
DATE: May 31, 2010

In anticipation of the upcoming West Nile Virus (WNV) season in our area, we are updating the following information to assist you in identifying, testing and reporting West Nile Virus cases.

Surveillance and control plans: The District of Columbia Department of Health has developed an Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan for the year 2010. This plan outlines WNV surveillance for humans, birds, mammals and mosquitoes. The plan also provides a prevention, control and response program for WNV for the District of Columbia. The plan, as well as prevention and control measures and periodic health alerts and weekly surveillance reports, are available on the Department of Health website at www.doh.dc.gov. Clients should be advised to apply the same general guidelines proposed for people to their pets to reduce the chance of their pet's exposure to West Nile Virus.

Reporting and testing of ill animals: If you encounter animals exhibiting signs of encephalitis, a diagnosis of rabies is more likely than WNV. Rabies is a more critical diagnosis in regards to rapid provision of preventive treatment to persons exposed. If rabies is suspected and exposure has occurred, such as a bite or contact with the animal's saliva, the animal must be euthanized and submitted for rabies testing. That submission should be coordinated with the Department of Health. Horses from a WNV-affected area that test negative for rabies, the laboratory will subsequently test the brain specimens for WNV. Routine WNV testing of the brains of additional rabies-negative animals may be arranged depending on resources and priorities.

Clinical disease and transmission caused by WNV infection in dogs and cats was documented in 2002. Clinical case criteria that have been helpful in narrowing down human encephalitis cases for WNV testing include fever, altered mental status, muscle weakness and abnormal CSF (increased protein, pleiocytosis, and lymphocytosis). Animals exhibiting signs of encephalitis that do not require euthanasia and rabies testing and are from WNV-affected areas may be tested for WNV. The District of Columbia Public Health Laboratory will conduct serologic and virus isolation testing for WNV. Because animals and pets are unlikely to demonstrate clinical signs of WNV, please consult with Department of Health Animal Disease Control Division if you have questions regarding sample submission criteria.

For encephalitis cases in domestic animals/livestock, Department of Health, Animal Disease Prevention Division must be consulted before submitting samples. Samples collected for antibody detection should be collected in red top (clot) tubes and should be paired samples. Virus isolation has, to date, been successful with brain, spinal cord, and kidney.

Prevention: Efforts should be directed to minimize exposure to mosquitoes. The single most important control effort should be to eliminate or minimize mosquito breeding habitats near dwellings or stable areas. Clients should be directed to monitor their surrounding areas for cans, tires, clogged gutters or other items which hold standing water. These areas promote and harbor breeding sites for mosquitoes. This includes swimming pools that are not opened and not maintained in good condition. Water troughs and water dishes should be kept in clean. The water in these receptacles should be refreshed/changed every three days and maintained so that they do not become breeding sites for mosquitoes. By minimizing breeding sites of the WNV carrier, mosquito, the number of adult mosquitoes and potentially virus positive mosquitoes that interact with mammalian hosts can be decreased.

In addition to decreasing the number of breeding sites for the vector, keeping animals in during dawn and dusk when the *Culex* spp. is most active may decrease exposure to this mosquito species. Insect spray may be effective for short periods of time, but will not have a lasting effect.

Summary: The risk of acquiring WNV infection from horses or other mammals as a clinician examining these animals is undocumented. WNV is vector-borne, however it is prudent to practice universal precautions when handling animals with neurologic signs, especially since rabies, a differential rule-out, can be transmitted directly from an infected animal.

**For further questions and submission criteria, please call the District of Columbia
Department of Health, Animal Disease Prevention Division, 202-535-2323**

Health Professional Licensing Administration

The Health Professional Licensing Administration (HPLA) serves as the agency that administers the licensure of almost 50,000 health professionals in the District of Columbia. HPLA staff support 18 health occupation boards and 4 registration programs that regulate the practice of their respective health profession. HPLA also responds to consumer and incidents and/or complaints against health professionals, and conducts investigations if indicated. If necessary, HPLA can take enforcement actions to compel health professionals to come into compliance with District and Federal law. HPLA advises the health occupation boards and Department of Health in matters pertaining to the development of rules and regulations for health professionals. HPLA also provides additional services including licensure verification services, and licensure examinations. Health professionals include: Acupuncturists, Addiction Counselors, Chiropractors, Dance Therapists, Dental Assistants, Dentists, Dieticians, Massage Therapists, Naturopaths, Nurses, Nursing Home Administrators, Occupational Therapists, Optometrists, Pharmacists, Physician Assistants, Physicians, Podiatrists, Psychologists, Respiratory Care Practitioners, Social Workers, and Veterinarians.

SPAY & NEUTER

A CRITICAL KEY TO ENDING COMPANION ANIMAL HOMELESSNESS

Most all veterinarians and humane advocates agree that an essential ingredient to addressing the increasing dog and cat homeless population is to have all animals spayed or neutered. Shelters in the metropolitan DC area are working to reach a 100% pre-adoption spay/neuter level for all their shelter animals. Many humane organizations are reaching out to educate pet owners about the importance of spaying/neutering. In addition, Washington DC, as so many urban communities, has a large feral cat population. An efficient, effective and non-lethal humane approach to addressing the free-roaming and feral cat population is a strategy called trap-neuter-return (TNR). TNR involves trapping free-roaming cats using humane live traps; sterilizing, vaccinating and ear-tipping the cats; and after recovery, returning the cats to their original location/colony, often to be fed and cared for by a feral cat caretaker. In Washington DC, two facilities are providing needed services to help increase the number of sterilized animals and thus reduce the number of unwanted animals in our neighborhoods.



The **National Capital Area Spay and Neuter Center** focuses exclusively on spay/neuter services (although vaccinations and other, basic ancillary treatments are also provided). Thus, the Center is able to provide low-cost, high-volume, and safe spay/neuter surgeries to the public and local shelters, including the Washington Humane Society, Alexandria Animal Rescue League, Arlington Animal Rescue League, Fairfax County Animal Shelter, Prince George's County Animal Shelter and SPCA, and Prince William County SPCA. In addition, the Center offers a feral cat clinic monthly. The **Washington Animal Rescue League Medical Center** offers free spay/neuter services to income-qualifying individuals in the DC area as well as monthly free feral cat spay/neuter clinics, monthly free pit bull spay/neuter clinics, and monthly free male cat neuter clinics. Together, these clinics help reduce the number of unwanted litters of dogs and cats which, in turn, helps reduce the number of homeless animals killed in our shelters every day.

As veterinarians, you can help enhance these services. While many of you likely are already helping out, here are a few suggestions to consider:

- (1) Promote adoptions from shelters,
- (2) Educate your clients about the importance of spaying and neutering,
- (3) Offer low-cost spay/neuter services in your practice, and/or
- (4) Volunteer at the free feral cat, male cat, and/or pit bull spay/neuter clinics.

For information about volunteering, please go online at:

National Capital Area Spay and Neuter Center
Washington Animal Rescue League Medical Center

www.washhumane.org
www.warl.org

WE WELCOME NEW BOARD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INTERVIEW WITH VITO DELVENTO, DVM, MS

What are your primary responsibilities in your new position?

I have two roles at the DC Department of Health: In my role as **CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER**, my top priority is to inspect all of the animal facilities in the District and establish a higher standard for animal facilities—a standard closer to that of human medical facilities. We will be inspecting all veterinary practice offices, humane societies, and animal shelters. Another significant priority is starting the process for the establishment of a new animal shelter for the District. The one in place is antiquated and the District is in need of a new one.

In my role as **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** of the Board of Veterinary Examiners, my primary responsibility is to oversee the Board in its efforts to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine within the District; to continue to improve and raise the standard of practice in the veterinary medical profession; and to protect the health, safety and welfare of both animals and citizens within the District.

Are there currently any controversies regarding the regulation of veterinary medicine in the District?

With the increased technology now available in veterinary medicine, there is a new level for the “standard of practice,” and veterinarians need to be conscious of that. We need to ensure that all practices within the District are conscious of this new level and we need to make sure that all practices are meeting the new standards for the safety and well-being of animals.



Vito R. DeIvento, DVM, MS

As a practicing veterinarian, do you have any insights to share about veterinary medicine today?

One of the most outstanding aspects of veterinary practice today is that people are concerned about their animals as part of the family, as a companion. Animals used to be looked upon as property, but now are looked upon as family members. The health of the animals is as important to the family as the health of the other family members. This adds significance to our role as vets, to provide the best possible health care that we can.

Do veterinarians at small practices and large practices have different regulatory concerns?

The major difference is when a veterinary practice deals with animals that are food-producing animals (beef, swine, poultry, lamb). There are more regulations in that circumstance, to ensure the safety of our food supply.

Within the District of Columbia, veterinary practices treat primarily companion animals.

Is there anything that all or most practicing veterinarians are experiencing that government regulatory bodies should know about?

There are always issues about animal rights and animal welfare; this concern is becoming more and more prevalent, especially regarding the food-producing animals. Another issue that impacts vets today is the current economic environment. Some people don't have the funds to properly care for their pets, and as vets we must continue to offer the best care possible for families experiencing economic hardships.

What is your highest priority in veterinary medicine regulation in the District?

We need to elevate the standards for veterinary practice in the District.

Are there any veterinary medicine regulatory concerns specific to Washington, DC?

There are always concerns when you have animals in a dense urban population, to assure that we maintain good health for animals, and the public health. Those who care for animals must know how to house and properly care for animals in a densely-populated area. The nice thing about DC is the current movement for increasing dog parks, and that certainly helps for quality of life for animals and pet owners.

(Continued...VITO DELVENTO's bio is on the bottom of page 6)

PLEASE NOTE! WHEN YOU MOVE...OR CHANGE YOUR NAME

Licensees sometimes forget to inform the Board of Veterinary Examiners of a move or name change. If the correct address is not on file, the renewal form may not be received.

All name and address changes must be submitted in writing to our office within 30 days of the change. Please include name, address, Social Security number, and license number, if known. For a name change, please enclose a copy of the certificate of marriage, divorce decree, or court order that authorizes the change.

Fax the request to (202) 727-8471, or mail the request to:

DC Board of Veterinary Examiners
Attn: Address/Name Change
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

(Continued from page 5)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S BIO

VITO R. DELVENTO, DVM, MS is a licensed and practicing veterinarian in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Florida. A native of Westport, Connecticut, his primary interest all through grade school was the raising, care and health of animals. Dr. DelVento attended Colorado State University (CSU) where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science (1988), a Masters of Reproductive Physiology (1991) and a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine (1995). Upon completion of academics at CSU, Dr. DelVento continued on in an internship program where he focused on Equine Surgery and Medicine at the prestigious Peterson and Smith Equine Hospital in Ocala, Florida.

In 1996, Dr. DelVento moved to the DC area where he began his private equine practice in Northern Virginia focusing primarily on equine reproduction, herd health, preventive medicine and emergency medicine. His private practice, Apex Equine, has been servicing the local equine community for the past 15 years. During that time, Dr. DelVento has also spent time working in a number of small animal practices located in Virginia, Maryland and Florida. Throughout the time spent in small animal practice, Dr. DelVento gained valuable skills and competence in small animal medicine and surgery. Private practice in both large and small animal medicine has provided him with tremendous experience in general veterinary business, practice development and communications.

In 2009, Dr. DelVento transitioned into a government career pathway where he began as a pharmaceutical safety reviewer. He currently works at the US Food and Drug Administration/Center for Veterinary Medicine (FDA/CVM) in the Division of Surveillance. There he has gained insight into the policy and regulatory issues as they relate to the animal pharmaceutical industry. The FDA has provided him with an introspective evaluation and experience in the processes required to effectively monitor the safety and effectiveness of animal drugs and devices as they relate to the health of animals.

Dr. DelVento has just recently accepted the additional role as Chief Public Health Veterinary Medical Officer for the District of Columbia. In this position, he provides support to the Animal Disease Prevention Division. In addition, he serves as the Executive Director for the DC Board of Veterinary Examiners.

Dr. DelVento's professional objectives are to become actively involved in the many facets of veterinary medicine as it relates to legislative policy and regulatory issues currently affecting public health and animal health. As a public service veterinarian, he understands the value in building strong sustainable relationships between agencies, organizations and associations as the vehicle to direct the future of the veterinary profession. Dr. DelVento feels that through communications and networking, public service veterinarians act as liaisons and have the distinct role of being stewards for the veterinary profession. In public service, veterinarians have the extraordinary opportunity to shepherd important issues regarding animal health and animal welfare while maintaining the responsibility to serve as guardians for wildlife and aquatic species as they relate to the present climate and environmental issues.

Outside of work, Dr. DelVento is also involved in a number service related activities. He currently acts as the treasurer for the One Health Academy in Washington DC, is a member of the DC Veterinary Medical Association and sits on the Equine Academic Advisory Committee at Colorado State University.

Currently, Dr. DelVento lives on a farm in Loudoun County, Virginia where he is surrounded by his animals including dogs, cats, chickens, goats and horses. He is an avid equestrian and enjoys pleasure riding as well as show jumping competition. He loves to travel and has a great interest in real estate investing.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS

WE CORDIALLY ENCOURAGE VETERINARIANS
TO COME TO OUR MONTHLY VET BOARD MEETINGS,
AND PARTICIPATE IN OPEN SESSION!

THE BOARD MEETS ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH,
AT 10:00 AM, ON THE 10TH FLOOR OF 717 14TH ST, NW.

(1 AND 1/2 BLOCKS FROM METRO CENTER)

NEED FURTHER INFORMATION? CALL KARIN AT (202) 724-8938.

EXPEDITE YOUR LICENSE

Please be sure to have your entire application is filled out and signed. You must provide "official" supporting documentation to any and all application questions and/or statements that require a detailed explanation.

- Official court documents of final case dispositions for any felonies or misdemeanors that you incurred (i.e., a defendant, in any state or country)
- Malpractice case dispositions should include a case number, jurisdiction, year, all the defendant names, all plaintiff names, a brief summary of the case, and final disposition, such as judgment dollar amount, dismissed with or without prejudice, or settlement dollar amount—this information must be sent with your application.
- To use HPLA's website to check and verify a license, go to: www.hpla.doh.dc.gov

DOG LICENSING

VETERINARIANS TO ISSUE LICENSES

Recent legislation allows DC Veterinarians to issue DC Dog Licenses through their clinics. The new law allows licenses to be issued by any DC licensed veterinarian, and allows the veterinarian to charge an additional \$2 to cover their administrative costs.

By law, every dog over four months of age is required to be vaccinated against rabies and distemper and licensed. DOH can issue citations and fines to dog owners who do not license their dogs.

Help your clients comply with the licensing law by issuing licenses during wellness check-ups. For more information, please call Molly Lunaric at:

(202) 535-2508.

BOARD-RELATED TERMS THAT VET BOARD LICENSEES SHOULD KNOW

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OR CONSENT DECREE: A voluntary agreement entered into by the board and a respondent (person disciplined).

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION: A document requested by the board and prepared by the Office of the Attorney General which places a licensee on notice that he or she is being charged with violating one of the District of Columbia's laws or regulations. It will give a summary of the evidence which justifies taking the proposed action. The document also contains information about how to request a hearing.

VET BOARD CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

The DC Vet Board requires all licensed veterinarians to complete a minimum of **36 hours of approved continuing education (CE) every two years**. Ten hours can be approved through on-line CE courses. The Veterinary Practice Statutes require that continuing education hours must be earned by attending courses sponsored by approved organizations. Applicants must maintain records of completion of this coursework for a period of 4 years. **APPROVED SOURCES OF CE INCLUDE:** the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), DC Academy, Specialty Board Conferences, and other RACE and American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) -approved organizations. RACE, or Registry of Approved Continuing Education, is the national clearinghouse for approval of CE providers and their programs. All RACE-approved providers and programs are listed on the website (www.aavsb.org/RACE/RACEHome).

Looking for CE in the DC metro area? Check out these great sources for approved forms of CE in the area:

- **DC Academy** (www.dcavm.org/index.htm)
- **VMA.CE - Online, American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives** (www.vmaexecs.org)
- **VIN - Veterinary Information Network** (CEonVIN@vin.com)

Other resources for continuing education:

- Local Veterinary Boards
Maryland: http://www.mda.state.md.us/animal_health/vetboard/index.php
Virginia: <http://www.dhp.state.va.us/Vet/>

Questions? Contact the DC Vet Board at (202) 724-8938. Our website: www.hpla.doh.dc.gov.

ONE HEALTH ACADEMY: INTERDISCIPLINARY NETWORKING

The One Health concept is a worldwide strategy that promotes interdisciplinary collaboration among health professionals, industries and policy makers with the goal of promoting public health, as well as environmental, food, agricultural, and economic protection. Initiated here in Washington, DC, initiated by Tom McGinn, DVM, the One Health Academy monthly events serve to unite federal governmental departments, non-governmental organizations, and private industry leaders to promote collaboration through **networking**, discussion following **educational presentations**, and informal **mentoring**. Members of the One Health Academy span across numerous, diverse organizations, including governmental agencies (federal, state, and local), public health, non-profit, and private sector. Veterinarians are crucial to the One Health concept on two levels: First, maintaining public health as it relates to animal health, and second, maintaining the health of animals that are part of the food supply. Their expertise and various job roles contribute to the in-depth and informational discussions that follow the monthly event presentations.

One Health Academy Dinner Meetings are held at the Capital Yacht Club, 1000 Water Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024, the second Thursday of the month. There is parking on the street or under Phillips restaurant.

You can access directions at www.capitalyachtclub.com or Google Maps. The nearest Metro station is L'Enfant Plaza or Waterfront-SEU. Go to <http://www.wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm> to download directions.

The **cost of the evening is \$15 per person and includes dinner, discussion with colleagues, and networking**. Drinks can be purchased with a credit card at the club.

Please R.S.V.P. by e-mailing OHA coordinator Dr. Annamaria Castiglia at onehealthacademy@gmail.com with your name and the names of any guests attending.

One Health Academy accepts replies on a first come first serve basis. Food is contracted based on the number of RSVPs and One Health guarantees the caterer payment based on this number. Cancellations may be made 5 days before meeting. If you must cancel after this date, please send the \$15 dinner fee to Tom McGinn at 1000 Water Street, SW, #26, Washington, DC 20024.

Otherwise, **payment is due at the door the night of the event**. (Cash, money order, or check only.)

If you have any questions about this event or future events, please contact:

ONE HEALTH ACADEMY@GMAIL.COM

FILING A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD

To file a complaint against a licensed DC Veterinarian submit a letter of complaint that includes copies of the pertinent documents. The letter must also include the complainant's address and other contact information so that the complainant may be contacted as necessary and notified of any findings.

Mail the complaint to:

DC Board of Veterinary Examiners
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

If the complaint alleges unlicensed activity, mail the complaint to:

Supervisory Investigator
Suite 1000
717 14th Street, NW
Washington DC 20005

Or fax the complaint about unlicensed activity to (202) 724-8677.

PLEASE NOTE: THE COMPLAINT FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE AT WWW.HPLA.DOH.DC.GOV

Please be advised that the health professional licensing boards do not have jurisdiction over fee disputes, except for billing for services that were not provided. If there is a fee dispute with a health professional, seek redress through the civil courts.

ACCORDING TO SECTION 3315.1 OF TITLE 17 OF THE DCMR, THE BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS MAY TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS AFTER A LICENSEE IS GIVEN NOTICE AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING:

- Revoke or suspend a license, certification, registration, or privilege
- Reprimand the holder of a license, certificate, registration, or privilege
- Impose a civil fine
- Require a course of remediation
- Require a period of probation
- Refuse to renew a license, certificate, or registration for any cause other than failure to pay the required renewal fee.

VET BOARD

THE DC BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS REGULATES THE PRACTICE OF VETERINARIANS AND VETERINARY ESTABLISHMENTS. THE BOARD EVALUATES APPLICANTS' QUALIFICATIONS, RECOMMENDS REGULATIONS, STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES, AND ISSUES LICENSES. THE BOARD ALSO REQUESTS INVESTIGATIONS, CONDUCTS HEARINGS, IMPLEMENTS DISCIPLINARY AND/OR REMEDIAL ACTION WHERE INDICATED, AND PREPARES AN ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MAYOR.

BOARD ORDERS

JANUARY - JUNE 2010

TO DATE,
THERE HAVE BEEN NO BOARD
PUBLIC ACTIONS
AGAINST
BOARD OF VETERINARY EXAMINERS
LICENSEES.

Board website: www.hpla.doh.dc.gov.

Click on
Professional Licensing Boards/Registrations,
then on Veterinarians.



 Government of the District of Columbia
Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor



Health Professional
Licensing Administration

Address

DC Board of
Veterinary Examiners
717 14th Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

Phone

(202) 724-8938

Fax number

(202) 727-8471

Webpage

www.hpla.doh.dc.gov

DC Government website

www.dc.gov

Current Members
of The District of Columbia
Board of Veterinary Examiners

Gary Weitzman, DVM, MPH
Chairperson

Candace Ashley, DVM

Julie Teresa Garnier, DVM

Joan E. Schaffner, JD
Consumer Member

Director, Department of Health
Pierre N.D. Vigilance, MD, MPH

Board Staff

Board Executive Director/Veterinary Medical Officer
Vito R. DelVento, DVM, MS

Phone: (202) 724-8813

Email: vito.delvento@dc.gov

Health Licensing Specialist

Karin S. Barron

Phone: (202) 724-8938

Email: karin.barron@dc.gov

Assistant Attorney General

Tonia Bair

Investigator

Emilia Moran

Newsletter Editor/Layout

Nancy Kofie