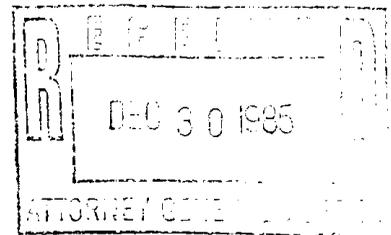


Lic # 001159

1984 0829 047 021



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

BOARD OF VETERINARY REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION

In the Matter of: AMR A. WASFI

1. The Connecticut Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination ("Board") held a hearing pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-166 et seq. in the matter captioned above on May 22, 1985.

2. The Board issued a decision dated November 13, 1985, in the matter captioned above.

3. By letter dated December 11, 1985, the Respondent's attorney requested a rehearing in this matter.

Ruling: The Connecticut Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination hereby denies the request for a rehearing made by the Respondent's attorney.

CONNECTICUT BOARD OF VETERINARY
REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION

December 26, 1985
Date

BY: David B. Bender, DVM
David B. Bender, D.V.M.
Acting Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF VETERINARY REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION

In the Matter of:

AMR A. WASFI

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The Department of Health Services presented the Connecticut Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination with a Statement of Charges, dated September 26, 1985, brought against Amr A. Wasfi, D.V.M, the Respondent. The Statement of Charges alleged violations of § 20-202(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes committed by the Respondent during April of 1984.

A Notice of Hearing, dated April 29, 1985, was issued to the Respondent by the Connecticut Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination. The Department's Statement of Charges

was attached to the Notice. The hearing was held on May 22, 1985 at the Office of the State of Connecticut's Department of Health Services, 150 Washington Street, Hartford.

The Respondent was represented by counsel and had full opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

All members of the Board involved in this decision attest that they have read and reviewed all transcripts of the proceedings and all evidence submitted. The decision is thus based entirely on the record presented and the specialized professional knowledge of the Board members in evaluating the evidence.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Amr A. Wasfi, D.V.M., was at all pertinent times licensed to practice veterinary medicine by the State of Connecticut Department of Health Services. Hearing Transcript, ("H. Tr.") at 83.

2. Pursuant to § 4-132(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, Respondent was provided a full opportunity prior to the institution of agency action to show compliance with all the terms for the retention of his license. Dept. Ex. 1.; Resp. Ex. B; H. Tr. at 16-17, 134-140.

3. On the morning of April 10, 1984, Francis Pelle visited the Respondent's Bridgeport office with her two cats, and entered into an agreement with Respondent to have both cats neutered that same day. Payment, under the PAWS program, was to be \$14.00 per cat for the surgical procedure. H. Tr. at 19, 35-36, 85-86, 104.

4. Respondent performed the surgery to neuter both cats. H. Tr. at 86.

5. The Respondent failed to wrap the cats, to provide a heating pad, or to take adequate measures to preserve the animals' body heat, both during the surgery and during the four to five hours that the animals spent in his office recovering from the surgery. H.R. Tr. at 113, 118-19.

6. Both cats, a one-and-one-half year male and a two-and-one-half year male, suffered adverse symptoms following surgery. Dept. Ex. 4; H. Tr. at 20-22, 37-38, 44, 48.

7. At the time the animals were released from the office, Respondent failed to take their temperatures, wrap the animals, or put heat on them. H. Tr. at 117-119.

8. At the time the animals were released from the office, Respondent did not provide Francis Pelle with instructions on post-surgical care for the cats; nor did he describe the normal post-surgical recovery process. Dept. Ex. 4; H. Tr. at 21-22, 37-38, 41-42.

9. The one-and-a-half year old male cat died on the morning of April 11, 1984. No autopsy was performed. Dept. Ex. 4; H. Tr. at 23-24, 51-53.

10. Respondent kept inadequate records regarding the weights and dosages of anesthetic given to the cats. Further, Respondent improperly estimated the cats' weights, and used these inaccurate estimates to determine the dosages of anesthetic. Resp. Ex. C-1 and C-2; H. Tr. at 110-112, 114.

11. Respondent gave confused and conflicting testimony as at the mixture, dosage, and recommended norms for the anesthetic administered to the cats prior to surgery. H. Tr. at 100-101, 111-12, 114-115.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

First Count

The Respondent is charged with releasing the two cats owned by Francis Pelle from his office prior to the animals' full recovery from the anesthetic administered prior to the surgery performed on April 10, 1984. The Respondent denies having released the animals before they were fully recovered (H.Tr. at 101-102). He testified that both cats recovered quickly (H.Tr. at 104-5), and that they exhibited no adverse effects at the time he released them from his office. (H.Tr. at 86-100). The complaining witness both testified, and submitted a written sworn statement, to the effect that the animals behaved strangely at home on the evening following the surgery. The complaining

witness also testified, and stated in her sworn statement, that the younger cat died. (See Finding 6 above and references contained therein.)

The Board finds, after reviewing all the evidence, that the facts as alleged in the Statement of Charges are proven. The Respondent has therefore violated § 20-202(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as charged.

Second Count

The Respondent is also charged with failing to provide adequate aftercare instruction to Frances Pelle when she picked up her animals following surgery on April 10, 1984. The Respondent has testified that he informed the complaining witness of certain after-effects caused by the anesthesia and specifically instructed her to give the animals no food or water until eleven o'clock in the evening after the operation. (H.Tr. at 87, 102.) The complaining witness denies having received such information or any instructions. (See Finding 8 above and references contained therein.)

The Board finds, after reviewing all the evidence, that the facts as alleged in the Statement of Charges are proven. The Respondent has therefore violated § 20-202(2) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as charged.

ORDER

Pursuant to its authority under § 19a-17 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination hereby orders the following:

1) That Amr A. Wasfi, D.V.M., Respondent, be placed on probationary status for a period of two years beginning at 9 A.M. on January 1, 1986.

2) During that probationary period, Respondent will report to the Board of Veterinary Registration and Examination at a semi-annual meeting. One month prior to each such meeting, the Board shall provide Respondent with written notice of the time, place, and date of the meeting. At each semi-annual meeting,

Respondent shall bring with him all necessary records in order to demonstrate:

(a) Significantly improved record-keeping, i.e., detailed weight, dosage, and after-care notations on all surgical clients; and

b) Appropriate veterinary decision-making for all surgical clients.

Connecticut Board of Veterinary
Registration and Examination

By:


David B. Bender, D.V.M.
Acting Chairman

11/13/85
Date