

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS BRANCH**

In re: Neil Wolff, D.V.M.

Petition No. 2008-0714-047-023

CONSENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Neil Wolff of Greenwich, Connecticut (hereinafter "respondent") has been issued license number 001295 to practice veterinary medicine by the Department of Public Health (hereinafter "the Department") pursuant to Chapter 384 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, the Department alleges that:

1. On or about April 29, 2008, respondent treated a dog at the Blue Cross Animal Hospital (hereinafter "the Hospital"), Greenwich, CT with a report of a cough and weight loss. Examination and diagnostics were performed. Following this visit, the dog was re-presented to respondent on May 15, 2008, June 3, 2008 and June 26, 2008. Respondent's treatment included steroids, antibiotics and anti-inflammatories.
2. During May 2008, respondent negligently and/or unskillfully provided care and treatment to the dog by treating it with an excessive, immune-suppressive dose of steroids, without a tapering dose schedule, without having documented a diagnosis.
3. The above described facts constitute grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to the General Statutes of Connecticut, §20-202(2).

WHEREAS, respondent, in consideration of this Consent Order, has chosen not to contest the above allegations of wrongdoing but, while admitting no guilt or wrongdoing, agrees that for purposes of this or any future proceedings before the Connecticut Board of Veterinary Medicine (hereinafter "the Board"), this Consent Order shall have the same effect as if proven and ordered after a full hearing held pursuant to §§19a-10, 19a-14 and 20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to §§19a-14, 19a-17 and 20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, respondent hereby stipulates and agrees to the following:

1. Respondent waives his right to a hearing on the merits of this matter.
2. Respondent's license shall be placed on probation for a period of one year under the following terms and conditions:
 - i. Respondent shall obtain at his own expense, the services of a veterinarian pre-approved by the Department (hereinafter "supervisor"), to conduct a quarterly random review of twenty percent (20%) of respondent's patient records. In the event respondent has twenty (20) or fewer patients, the supervisor shall review all of respondent's patient records.
 - (1) Respondent shall provide a copy of this Consent Order to his practice supervisor. Respondent's supervisor shall furnish written confirmation to the Department of his or her engagement in that capacity and receipt of a copy of this Consent Order within fifteen (15) days of the effective date of this Consent Order.
 - (2) Respondent's supervisor shall conduct such review and meet with him not less than once every month for the period of his probationary period.

6. Respondent shall pay all costs necessary to comply with this Consent Order.
7. Any alleged violation of any provision of this Consent Order may result in the following procedures at the discretion of the Department:
 - a. The Department shall notify respondent in writing by first-class mail that the term(s) of this Consent Order have been violated, provided that no prior written consent for deviation from said term(s) has been granted.
 - b. Said notification shall include the acts or omission(s) which violate the term(s) of this Consent Order.
 - c. Respondent shall be allowed fifteen (15) days from the date of the mailing of notification required in paragraph 7a above to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that he has complied with the terms of this Consent Order or, in the alternative, that he has cured the violation in question.
 - d. If respondent does not demonstrate compliance or cure the violation within the fifteen (15) days specified in the notification of violation to the satisfaction of the Department, he shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board which shall make a final determination of the disciplinary action to be taken.
 - e. Evidence presented to the Board by either the Department or respondent in any such hearing shall be limited to the alleged violation(s) of the term(s) of this Consent Order.
8. In the event respondent is not employed as a veterinarian for periods of thirty (30) consecutive days or longer, respondent shall notify the Department in writing. Such periods of times shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order and such terms shall be held in abeyance. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order. In the event respondent resumes practice as a veterinarian, respondent

shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice. Respondent shall not return to the practice as a veterinarian without written pre-approval from the Department. Respondent agrees that the Department, in its complete discretion, may require additional documentation from respondent and/or require respondent to satisfy other conditions or terms as a condition precedent to respondent's return to practice. Respondent understands that any return to practice as a veterinarian without pre-approval from the Department shall constitute a violation of this Consent Order and may subject the respondent to further disciplinary action.

9. If, during the period of probation, respondent practices as a veterinarian outside Connecticut, he shall provide written notice to the Department concerning such employment. During such time period, respondent shall not be responsible for complying with the terms of probation of this Consent Order, and such time period shall not be counted in reducing the probationary period covered by this Consent Order. Respondent may comply with the terms of probation while practicing outside Connecticut if pre-approved by the Department. In the event respondent intends to return to the practice as a veterinarian in Connecticut, respondent shall provide the Department with thirty (30) days prior written notice and agrees to comply with all terms and conditions contained in paragraph 2 above.
10. In the event respondent violates any term of this Consent Order, said violation may also constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of his license before the Board.
11. Legal notice shall be sufficient if sent to respondent's last known address of record reported to the Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the Healthcare Systems Branch of the Department.
12. This Consent Order is effective on the first day of the month immediately following the date this Consent Order is accepted and ordered by the Board.

13. Respondent agrees that this Consent Order shall be deemed a public document, and the Department's allegations as contained in this Consent Order shall be deemed true in any subsequent proceeding before the Board in which his compliance with this Consent Order or with §20-202 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, is at issue.
14. In the event respondent violates a term of this Consent Order, respondent agrees immediately to refrain from practicing as a veterinarian, upon request by the Department, with notice to the Board, for a period not to exceed 45 days. During that time period, respondent further agrees to cooperate with the Department in its investigation of the violation, and to submit to and complete a medical, psychiatric or psychological evaluation, if requested to do so by the Department; and, that the results of the evaluation shall be submitted directly to the Department. Respondent further agrees that failure to cooperate with the Department in its investigation during said 45-day period shall constitute grounds for the Department to seek a summary suspension of respondent's license. In any such summary action, respondent stipulates that failure to cooperate with the Department's investigation shall be considered by the Board and shall, as a matter of law, constitute a clear and immediate danger as required pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, Sections 4-182(c) and 19a-17(c). The Department and respondent understand that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether a summary suspension is ordered.
15. Any extension of time or grace period for reporting granted by the Department shall not be a waiver or preclude the Department from taking action at a later time. The Department shall not be required to grant future extensions of time or grace periods.
16. This Consent Order and terms set forth herein are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review under any form or in any forum. Further, this Order is not subject to appeal or review under the provisions of Chapters 54 or 368a of the General Statutes of

Connecticut, provided that this stipulation shall not deprive respondent of any rights that he may have under the laws of the State of Connecticut or of the United States.

17. This Consent Order is a revocable offer of settlement which may be modified by mutual agreement or withdrawn by the Department at any time prior to its being executed by the last signatory.
18. Respondent permits a representative of the Legal Office of the Healthcare Systems Branch to present this Consent Order and the factual basis for this Consent Order to the Board. Respondent understands that the Board has complete and final discretion as to whether this executed Consent Order is approved or accepted.
19. Respondent understands and agrees that he is responsible for satisfying all of the terms of this Consent Order during vacations and other periods in which he is away from his residence.
20. Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to signing this document.
21. The execution of this document has no bearing on any criminal liability without the written consent of the Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit or the Bureau Chief of the Division of Criminal Justice's Statewide Prosecution Bureau. The purpose of this Consent Order is to resolve the pending administrative license disciplinary petition only, and is not intended to affect any civil or criminal liability or defense.
22. This Consent Order embodies the entire agreement of the parties with respect to this case. All previous communications or agreements regarding the subject matter of this consent order, whether oral or written, between the parties are superseded unless expressly incorporated herein or made a part hereof.

I, Neil Wolff, have read the above Consent Order, and I stipulate and agree to the terms as set forth therein. I further declare the execution of this Consent Order to be my free act and deed.

Neil Wolff, D.V.M.
Neil Wolff

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of October 2010.

Emily M. Newcamp
Notary Public or person authorized
by law to administer an oath or affirmation

EMILY M. NEWCAMP
NOTARY PUBLIC OF CONNECTICUT
My Commission Expires 4/30/2015

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health on the 12th day of October 2010, it is hereby accepted.

Jennifer Filippone
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations
Healthcare Systems Branch

The above Consent Order having been presented to the duly appointed agent of the Connecticut Board of Veterinary Medicine on the 26th day of January 2011, it is hereby ordered and accepted.

Mary Anne O'Neil
Connecticut Board of Veterinary Medicine

July 2010



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

February 24, 2012

Neil Wolff, D.V.M
Blue Cross Animal Hospital
530 East Putnam Avenue
Greenwich, CT 06830

Re: Consent Order
Petition No. 2008-0714-047-023
License No. 001295

Dear Dr. Wolff:

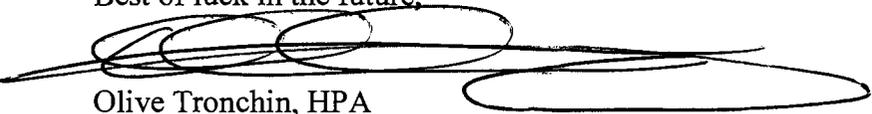
Please accept this letter as notice that you have satisfied the terms of your license probation effective February 23, 2012.

Notice will be sent to the Department's Licensure and Registration section to remove all restrictions from your license related to the above-referenced Consent Order.

Please be certain to retain this letter as documented proof that you have completed your license probation.

Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Best of luck in the future.



Olive Tronchin, HPA
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section



J: Fillippone



Phone: (860) 509-7400
Telephone Device for the Deaf (860) 509-7191
410 Capitol Avenue - MS # 12HSR
P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134
An Equal Opportunity Employer