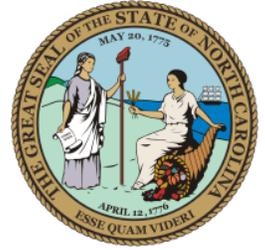


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NC Veterinary Medical Board



December, 2015

Special points of interest:

- New Facilities Inspector
- Deputy Director position added to Board office
- Disposal of expired controlled substances
- NCVHP
- Practice Act changes

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Renewal Time!!

Renewal time is, once again, upon us. The renewal process has not changed from last year and can once again be completed online through the Board's website, www.ncvmb.org. Once on the website, click on "Login Access" and log into the system with your User ID and Password, then choose "Renew Now".

If you hold a veterinary license, your User ID is "V" followed by your license number. For example, V0001. If you hold a registration as a veterinary technician, your User ID is "T" followed by your registration number. For example, T0002. Corporation User IDs are "C" followed by your corporation number. For example, C0003.

If you have forgotten your password, click on "Forgot your Password?" on the log in screen and follow the directions provided. Your password will be emailed to the email address on file. Please be sure to check your spam box if you do not see the password email in your inbox.

You will navigate several screens during the online renewal process. When you arrive at the Payment Screen, click on "Payment Options" and choose either credit/debit card or e-check. Complete the payment information and then select "Authorize Payment". Remember to print out the last page to serve as a receipt for your records. In addition, click "View/Print Certificate Now" to print your wallet card and display certificate with the new expiration date.

Before leaving the site, you may choose to change your password. The button to do so is located in the upper right corner of the "My Account" screen.

We Are You...

Dr. Kim D. Gemeinhardt, DVM



In the past few months I have been on Committees for Investigation that have had an opportunity to interview various people regarding complaints that have been filed with the board. Several times during this process I have heard witnesses and experts express feelings of trepidation about being called to testify. More than once a witness has said something like "I feel like I've been called to the Principal's office".

While I can appreciate the emotion of the experience, I have been thinking about it a lot and want to tell you that **we are you!**

There are eight board members.

The Governor appoints five; 4 veterinarians and one member of the public.

The President Pro Tempore of the Senate appoints one veterinarian.

The Speaker of the House appoints one registered technician.

The Commissioner of Agriculture appoints the State Veterinarian or another veterinarian from a staff of a North Carolina department or institution.

We are you!

We have owned veterinary practices. Currently four board members own their own practice.

We have been employers. Board members have worked in industry and government as well as in private practice.

We have been employees. Currently there is one board member who is a long time employee of a veterinary practice.

We have had to make payroll. Sometimes that means that we have not been able to draw our own check – but the help gets their wages.

We have had to fire employees. Nothing is harder.

We have had to fire clients. No other decision brings so much relief and regret.

We have been inspected by the board. Surprise! I'm here from the board and I'm here to help.

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Deputy Director Added to NCVMB Staff

Mr. Jonathan Loftis, RVT joined the Board staff as the Deputy Director in October. He graduated from Central Carolina Community College's Veterinary Medical Technology program in 2001 and became an RVT the same year. Prior to attending CCCC, Mr. Loftis worked over 10 years in small animal private practice. Upon completion of coursework at CCCC, he acquired his externship requirement at NC State University in the Large Animal Hospital.



Jonathan Loftis, RVT
Deputy Director, NCVMB

In 2003, he joined the faculty at CCCC as the Animal Facilities Manager where he oversaw all animal care related activities, regulatory compliance, purchasing, inventory, and taught various subjects over a period of more than 12 years.

He was selected as the Employee of the Year for CCCC in 2008 and was named Veterinary Technician of the Year in 2006 by the North Carolina Association of Veterinary Technicians. He has served on the Board of the NCAVT a number of times over the past 12 years filling roles as President, President-Elect, Information Officer, and Member at Large.

Mr. Loftis earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Veterinary Medical Technology from St. Petersburg College in 2010, his Master of Science degree in Agriculture Education from NC A&T State University in 2012, and became an OSHA Authorized Trainer for General Industry in 2013.

He joined the office staff with a mission of bringing the NC Practice Act up to modern day standards. He will work with the Board to develop a prioritized list of specific changes needed and begin drafting legislative language to be presented to law makers each time they are in session.

Long Time Facilities Inspector to Retire

Having served the veterinary community for more than 30 years, Dr. Ben Turner is retiring. Dr. Turner was appointed to the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board in 1990 and served until 1994. He was elected President of the Board in 1991 and filled this position until 1993. In 2000, Dr. Turner took the reins as the Board's Practice Facilities Inspector. Since that time, he has inspected more than 300 facilities per year bringing his total number of facilities inspections to more than 4,500. During his tenure, Dr. Turner was known as a thorough and fair inspector who garnered the respect of veterinarians across the state. Dr. Turner will be missed by all those who have had the opportunity to work with him. We, the Board staff, wish Dr. Turner the absolute best in retirement.



Dr. Ben Turner

Facilities Inspector Hired

Dr. David Marshall is well known in the veterinary profession in North Carolina. He retired in 2014 from his position as the State Veterinarian with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Dr. Marshall's experience includes eight years in private practice and 26 years with the NCDA&CS. The first 12 years with NCDA&CS were spent in various forms of facilities inspections. The last 14 were as the State Veterinarian. In addition to his responsibilities as State Veterinarian, Dr. Marshall also served on the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board for 14 years. The Board feels that Dr. Marshall's combination of private practice, regulatory inspections, and years on the Board make him uniquely qualified as the new Facilities Inspector. His areas of responsibility will include all veterinary facilities in the Eastern half of the state.



Dr. David Marshall
Facilities Inspector

Executive Committee Elections

The Board's 2015-2016 Executive Committee was elected in June. After a very successful year as Board President, Dr. Kim Gemeinhardt, DVM will serve another year as Board President. She is looking forward to the upcoming challenges and truly enjoys the work the Board is doing.

Dr. Kent Dean, DVM was elected as Board Vice President. Last year, Dr. Dean served as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Board.

Mr. Jonathan Loftis, RVT was elected Secretary/Treasurer this year. However, due to being hired as the Deputy Director of the Board, he resigned his position as a Board member in October. Upon his resignation from the Board, Dr. Gemeinhardt appointed Dr. Dwight Cochran to finish the term for Secretary/Treasurer. Dr. Cochran served last year as the Board Vice-President.



Dr. Gemeinhardt, President



Dr. Dean, Vice President



Dr. Cochran, Secretary/Treasurer

Registration of Corporations

Do you operate a veterinary corporation? If so, do you have that corporation registered with the NCVMB? Do you have that corporation registered as a Professional corporation with the NC Secretary of State?

Board rule .0209 states that prior to filing articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State (SOS), the organizing members shall submit to the Board:

- 1.the registration fee
- 2.a certificate certified by all organizing members setting forth the names and addresses of each person who will be employed by the corporation to practice veterinary medicine stating that all such persons are

licensed to practice veterinary medicine in North Carolina and that the corporation will be operated in compliance with the NC Limited Liability Corporation Act (G.S. 57C), NCAC Chapter 66, Article 11, G.S. 90, and the rules of the Board.

The NC Secretary of State's office states corporations offering professional services cannot register as a Limited Liability Corporation. Rather, such a corporation must register as a Professional Limited Liability Corporation (PLLC). SOS has been known to take steps to dissolve LLCs that are found to be providing professional services. Such action is preceded by written notification of the

action to the LLC.

If your veterinary corporation is registered as a LLC, you need to take steps now to re-register the corporation with the SOS as a PLLC in order to prevent any future problems.

If you are planning to start a veterinary corporation, please be sure to follow all steps listed in Board rules prior to registering with the SOS.

***Is your business
a corporation?
Is it registered
with the
Secretary of
State as a
PLLC?***

Corporate Fees to Increase

In 2014, the Governor signed a law increasing the caps on fees the Board charges for applications, licensing veterinarians, registration of veterinary technicians, state exams,

facilities inspections, and registration of corporations. This marked the first raise in these caps in more than 10 years.

Board rules are due to be amended this year to raise the

corporation registration fee. The current fee is set at \$150 per year. The new fee will be \$160.00.

Disposal of Expired Controlled Substances

How does your facility go about the task of disposing of expired controlled substances? Are you using a reverse distributor? Are you using local law enforcement drug drops? Are you contacting NCDHHS for a disposal?

In 2014, DEA amended their rule related to disposal of controlled substances by Registrants. CFR Title 21 Part 1317 provides the specifics related to disposal of controlled substances by registrants. Subsection (a) states the following as one of the permitted means of disposal:

1. Promptly destroy that controlled substance in accordance with subpart C of this part using an on-site method of destruction

Subpart C states the following in regards to the destruction of controlled substances within the registrant's registered location:

1. Two employees of the registrant shall handle or observe the handling of any controlled substance until the substance is rendered non-retrievable; and

2. Two employees of the registrant shall personally witness the destruction of the controlled substance until it is rendered non-retrievable.

In addition to these changes, DEA has revised Form 41 and is now requiring the updated form to be used for documentation of all controlled substance destructions/disposals. The updated form may be downloaded here:

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21_cfr_reports/surrend/41_form.pdf

These changes greatly expedite the ability of the registrant to rid themselves of expired controlled substances while also minimizing costs associated with such destruction and disposal. Registrants may, of course, continue to utilize reverse distributors or request assistance with disposal from the Special Agent in Charge of the Administration office in their area.

The key specification in the destruction of controlled substances is to render them non-

retrievable. An approved method of ensuring this is through use of activated carbon.

Approximately six ounces of activated carbon should deactivate 45 pills OR six ounces of liquid OR six transdermal patches.

Add one cup of warm or hot tap water to activated carbon, mix in medications, and let stand to dissolve the medications. The mixture can then be added to cat litter or coffee grounds and discarded in the trash.

A commercially available product providing similar disposal option is the Medsaway pack.

Regardless of the option chosen, the registrant must be present, with at least one witness, during the destruction and DEA Form 41 must be filled out and kept with the narcotic records and log book for the registrant.

For information pertaining to drug disposal laws specific to North Carolina, contact the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Drug Control Unit at 919-733-7011.



**Save your
facility the time
and money
associated with
controlled
substance
disposal by
destroying and
disposing of
them yourself.**

We Are You...Continued from page 1

We have had people steal from us. This shakes one's faith in humans.

And we have the privilege of practicing veterinary medicine in North Carolina. In my opinion there is no better job on earth!

The board is charged with promoting "...the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of this State against unqualified or incompetent practitioners of veterinary medicine...". That quote is from the first paragraph of the Practice Act.

We do this job within the constraints and boundaries of the North Carolina Veterinary Practice Act. That's the book you read before you took the State exam. We all read it too. And took the test.-- **We are you.**

Serving on the board is a wonderful, enlightening, humbling, and frightening experience. The responsibility is enormous. The education is remarkable. I tell everyone that doing this has made me a better practitioner. I've heard other board members say similar things. We all take this work very seriously with the goal being the betterment of our industry to better serve the people of North Carolina.

This is not a case of us versus them – or you. We want you to tell us your thoughts and concerns. As frustrating as it is, the system will work. It takes time, energy, stamina and consideration of all aspects of an issue. This is not just us making decisions that will affect you. This is us and **we are you.**

We just want to get it right so that we can all continue to practice our profession with high standards and fairness.

Addiction in the Workplace—Your Vet Board Cares by Dr. Joe Jordan, NCVHP



Due to the support of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board and the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians in North Carolina have access to the North Carolina Veterinary Health Program (NCVHP). NCVHP is a program of the NCVMB for licensed veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians potentially dealing with substance use disorders such as alcohol or opiate addiction. Now more than ever, substance use disorders are a major public health problems in America, and in 2013 opiate overdoses caused more deaths than motor vehicle accidents. So what is the North Carolina Veterinary Health Program (NCVHP)? For over ten years, the NCVMB has supported a free program of identification, intervention and rehabilitation that is non-disciplinary and confidential in practice. The NCVHP is different from most intervention programs in some particularly important ways:

- Confidentiality is assured and the practitioner's identity is protected (if animal care has not been compromised).
 - NCVHP advocates for successful participants with the NC Veterinary Medical Board, insurance companies, employers, families, and others
 - The monitoring process contributes to well-above the average recovery rate, with studies showing success in 75-80% of cases. Financial assistance is available, due to the support of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association
- If you are concerned about your use of alcohol or drugs, or concerned about one of your colleagues or employees, NCVHP can help. That may mean figuring out how you can stop using alcohol or drugs, how to assist one of your employees with a substance use disorder, learning to recognize substance use disorders in the workplace, or even ways to set up a drug-free workplace.

NCVHP can help with all of these concerns. Unfortunately, all of us probably know someone negatively affected by drugs or alcohol. Fortunately, help is available and it only takes a phone call to NCVHP at 877-588-8089.



Have you moved, changed jobs, had a name change?



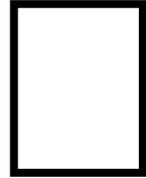
Licenses and registrants may update their personal information through the Board's online portal located on the website, <http://www.ncvmb.org>. The Practice Act specifies all changes in personal information be reported to the Board within 60 days of the change taking place.

If you have moved, update your address to the new one as soon as possible to ensure you do not miss any correspondence from the Board office.

If you have changed jobs, update this information as well. The Board needs to know where you are employed.

If your name has changed, you must update this information by providing the Board with legal documentation showing the name change. Please contact our office for additional information. If your license or registration certificate does not match your legal name, this could create confusion.

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RENEWAL NOTICE!!

Quick Resource Guide

- ⇒ Rabies and Contagious Diseases—Department of Health and Human Services; <http://www.hhs.gov>
- ⇒ Shelters, Kennels, Boarding Facilities, Interstate Health Certificates, Livestock, Poultry, and Exotic Animals—North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; <http://www.ncagr.gov>
- ⇒ International Health Certificates—United States Department of Agriculture; <http://www.usda.gov>
- ⇒ Drug Relations—Drug Enforcement Administration; <http://www.dea.gov>
- ⇒ Controlled Substances Act—North Carolina Controlled Substances Act; http://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/ByArticle/Chapter_90/Article_5.html
- ⇒ Radiation Protection—North Carolina Radiation Protection; <http://www.ncradiation.net>
- ⇒ Workplace injuries —Occupational Safety & Health Administration; <http://www.osha.gov>
- ⇒ Workplace safety—North Carolina Department of Labor; <http://www.nclabor.com/osha/osh.htm>
- ⇒ Privilege Licenses & Tax Information—North Carolina Department of Revenue; <http://www.dornrc.com/>