

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

STATE BOARD OF

# Veterinary Medicine

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2005/2006



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Edward G. Rendell  
*Governor*

Pedro A. Cortés  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth*

Basil L. Merenda  
*Commissioner,  
Bureau of Professional  
and Occupational Affairs*

Peter V. Marks, Sr.  
*Deputy Commissioner,  
Bureau of Professional  
and Occupational Affairs*

For more information, visit us  
through the Pennsylvania  
homepage at  
[www.state.pa.us](http://www.state.pa.us)  
or visit the

Department of State directly at  
[www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us)

*Inside:*

Chairman's Message 2

Case of the Year 3

Volunteer Recovery Program 4

Know Your Practice Act  
and Regulations 5

Disciplinary Actions 6-7

Board telephone: (717) 783-7134  
E-mail: [ST-VETERINARY@state.pa.us](mailto:ST-VETERINARY@state.pa.us)  
[www.dos.state.pa.us/vet](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/vet)

## Chairman's Message

by Brian V. Harpster, VMD, MS

The Pennsylvania State Board of Veterinary Medicine is pleased to be able to communicate with all of our Commonwealth's professional licensees with this newsletter. The Board sincerely hopes that all licensees realize the challenges, responsibilities, and concerns which confront the Board annually, through its mission to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this Commonwealth.

The Board has been working diligently in preparing a number of proposed regulations for subsequent final rulemaking. Regulation and rulemaking changes continue to be one of the Board's priorities. The Board has also experienced a significantly increased complaint caseload in the past year.

A regulation pertaining to Certified Veterinary Technician Specialist (16A-5716) is currently under Department of State review. This regulation provides recognition for technician specialties. Defining acceptable dental practices of certified/noncertified veterinary technicians (16A-5718) is another regulation in early stages of development. Substandard quality of medical records frequently seen by the Board has necessitated the consideration of a regulation (16A-5719) governing veterinary medical records. The Board has determined that it is necessary to create minimal standards for records; however, small and large animal differences will be addressed. Regulation 16A-5721 elaborates on standards of conduct/behavior of veterinarians, unprofessional and immoral conduct, and professional responsibility. Along those same lines, a recent Board ruling determined that a pet cannot be held for payment when veterinary medical care is no longer required. Finally, a regulation which is currently in the early preparation stage is veterinary facility registration and inspection (16A-5720).

In having the privilege to serve the licensees and citizens of the Commonwealth, the Board continues in its determination to safeguard our professional standards and integrity, so that we may protect Pennsylvania's consumers. Board members continue to encourage as much input from our colleagues as possible, and strive to maintain our accessibility to both the profession and the consumer. With this in mind, I encourage continued dialogue and open communication between Pennsylvania's licensees and all members of the Board.

### Biennial Renewal Fees

The Bureau of Finance and Operations/Fiscal Management Division met with the State Board of Veterinary Medicine on March 17, 2005, to discuss the current financial status of fees as they relate to the Commonwealth's licensees. The significant increase in legal and Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation expenses, increased number of serious complaints (partially due to easier access to on-line access to file complaints) and increased hearings have necessitated a **proposed** fee increase to the biennial renewal fees for both veterinarians and technicians. Effective with the December 2006 – November 2008 renewal period, renewal fees would increase to \$300 for veterinarians and to \$75 for technicians. It is estimated that this increase should enable the Board to carry a balanced budget for the next several renewal periods, which has been estimated to be past the 2010 renewal period.

### Barbara Pinker, C.V.T. Resigns Board Position

Barbara Pinker, the Board's certified veterinary technician member, has submitted her resignation effective September 1, 2005. Barbara has decided to pursue other personal interests with her husband, which will take her away from the Commonwealth for an extended period of time. Barbara's dedication, consistent preparation, and sincere concern for not only the state of the profession, but also the consumers of Pennsylvania, was certainly commendable, and will be greatly missed by all. The Board wishes her well and continued happiness with her new endeavors.

### Governor's Newsletter

**Did you know that Governor Rendell sends out an e-newsletter to the Commonwealth each week? Sign up now at [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us) to receive the weekly personal message from the governor on important issues facing the commonwealth, its citizens, businesses and communities.**

## “Case of the Year”

In a 2005 case, docket number 1160-57-03, the Board found that the standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice requires a veterinarian to discharge a companion animal when the animal no longer requires veterinary medical services. The duty to discharge an animal when medically appropriate is not related to the owner's ability or willingness to pay for veterinary services.

In this case, a client brought her cat to the veterinarian for a blocked urethra. The blockage was relieved and the veterinarian accepted a partial payment for the service. A few days later, the cat experienced another blockage, which was again relieved. The veterinarian recommended surgery should the condition recur. Several days later, the cat again experienced a blockage. The veterinarian provided an estimated cost for surgery. The owner told the veterinarian that she would not be able to pay for the surgery all at once and consented to the surgery. When the cat was due to be discharged, the veterinarian's receptionist presented the owner with a bill; the owner offered a partial payment of \$400, with a promise to pay the \$250 balance as soon as possible. The receptionist refused to release the cat.

Three or four days later, the veterinarian sent the owner a letter stating that he considered her cat abandoned and warning that if full payment was not received within 10 days, he would place her pet in another home. The owner called and told the receptionist not to give her cat away. The owner continued to call the clinic to check on the cat one to two times per week for the next three weeks. The owner then made full payment and the veterinarian released the cat.

The Board determined that the veterinarian did not fully advise the client of his office policy regarding payment for veterinary services because he did not tell the owner that if she could not make full payment, the animal would be considered abandoned and given away or that the veterinarian would hold the animal until the owner could pay (all the while accumulating boarding fees). Moreover, the veterinarian had already accepted a partial payment for earlier services and the veterinarian performed the surgery even after the owner told the veterinarian that she could not pay for all of the surgery at once.

The Board rejected the veterinarian's argument that the owner's failure to pay the bill in its entirety on the date the cat was scheduled to be discharged constituted abandonment under the Dog Law. The Board found that the owner's offer to pay most of the bill, promise to pay the balance as soon as she was able, and continued contact with the veterinarian's office indicated the cat had not been abandoned.

The appropriate course of action for a veterinarian in this situation is to release the animal to the animal's owner. If the owner refuses to pay for the veterinarian's services, the veterinarian may file a civil suit, usually before the local district justice, to recover for the veterinarian's services.

### UNETHICAL OR UNLICENSED ACTIVITY

If you believe the practice or service provided by a licensed professional to be unethical, below an acceptable standard or out of the scope of the profession; or if you are aware of unlicensed practice, please call the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs complaints hotline at:

**In Pennsylvania:**  
**1-800-822-2113**

**Out of State: 1-717-783-4854**

A complaint form is available on the  
Department of State's website at  
**[www.dos.state.pa.us](http://www.dos.state.pa.us)**

## Voluntary Recovery Program

Veterinarians, like many other health care professionals, have readily available access to a large number of drugs and controlled substances that can be abused. Drugs and controlled substances may drastically interfere with normal life and occupational duties.

In order for Pennsylvania's licensees to deal with such issues, veterinarians should be aware of the Department of State's Voluntary Recovery Program (VRP). The VRP is a confidential monitoring and treatment program that assists licensees dealing with alcohol, drug or substance abuse. The individual voluntarily enrolls in the program for a minimum of three years. During the current fiscal year, one veterinarian was enrolled in the VRP.

Should any of our Commonwealth's veterinarians have abuse or dependency issues, or know of a veterinarian with an abuse or dependency concern, the Voluntary Recovery Program is there to be utilized with the utmost confidentiality.

### Right-to-Know Act and Home Addresses

The Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs is sensitive to its licensees' concerns about personal privacy. However, the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Act, 65 P.S. § 66.1, mandates release of information contained in a "public record" stored by that agency if a member of the public requests it.

The Bureau will take all reasonable steps to safeguard personal information contained in your licensure records. We realize that many of you use your home address on the licensure records maintained by the Bureau. However, given the uncertainty over what the Right-to-Know Act requires, neither the Bureau nor the board that issues your license can guarantee the confidentiality of the address shown on your licensing record. Therefore, we recommend that if you have a personal security concern, you might want to consider what many of our licensees have already done: use a business address or box number as the official address on licensure records.

Also, with the arrival of the License 2000 computer system, you may indicate to the Board an address for release to the public that may be different from your home address.

To further protect your privacy and identity, the Bureau will only accept a request to change a licensee's address if it is submitted in writing and includes the licensee's social security number, license number and the old and new addresses.

# Know Your Practice Act and Regulations

How familiar are you with the provisions of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (63 P.S. §485.1 *et seq.*) and regulations of the State Board of Veterinary Medicine (49 Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 31)? The **practice act** and **regulations** can be accessed through the Board's website ..... [www.dos.state.pa.us/vet](http://www.dos.state.pa.us/vet).

**Following is a partial representation of subjects from the practice act and the section where each is found:**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Definition of the practice of veterinary medicine, in part includes:  | Section 3 (10)      |
| a. Cosmetic surgery upon any animal   |                     |
| b. Prescribe for the physical condition of any animal   |                     |
| c. Implanting electronic identification upon any animal   |                     |
| d. Embryo transfer between animals  |                     |
| The NEW definition of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship.   | Section 3 (15)      |
| Continuing education requirement for veterinarians and technicians.   | Section 18          |
| Grounds for disciplinary proceedings, in part includes:   | Section 21          |
| a. Failure to keep equipment in a clean and sanitary condition  |                     |
| b. Failure to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice                       |                     |
| c. Failure to maintain required veterinary medical records  |                     |
| Board inspection of equipment <b>and drugs</b> within a veterinary practice.  | Section 27.1 (b)(2) |
| Assessment of a civil penalty for violation of the Act.   | Section 28 (c)      |
| Licensure not required for a person or person's employee/agent practicing veterinary medicine on his/her own animals. | Section 32 (4)      |

**Following is a partial representation of subjects from the regulations and the section where each is found:**

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| A maximum of 25% of the required continuing education hours being from individual study or correspondence courses.                 | Section 31.15                 |
| Fees for professional services being clearly explained to the client in advance of billing. ...                                    | Section 31.21 Principle 4 (a) |
| Advertising for emergency veterinary services.   | Section 31.21 Principle 5 (c) |
| Veterinary treatment being provided by a chiropractor, dentist or physical therapist. ....   | Section 31.21 Principle 6 (b) |
| Minimum retention period of veterinary medical records.  | Section 31.22 (1)             |
| Proper information for identification of a radiograph and ownership of same.   | Section 31.22 (3)             |
| Duties of a certified veterinary technician and noncertified employee under direct, indirect and immediate veterinary supervision. | Section 31.31 (a-b)           |
| Prohibited acts for a certified veterinary technician or a noncertified employee.  | Section 31.31 (c)             |

# Disciplinary Actions

*The following is a chronological listing of disciplinary actions taken by the Board from July 2004, through September 2005. Each entry includes the name, certificate or registration number (if any), and last known address of the respondent; the disciplinary sanction imposed; a brief description of the basis of the disciplinary sanction and the effective date of the disciplinary sanction.*

*Every effort has been made to ensure that the following information is correct. However, this information should not be relied on without verification from the Prothonotary's Office of the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs. One may obtain verification of individual disciplinary action by writing or telephoning the Prothonotary's Office at P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649; (717) 772-2686. Please note that the names of persons listed below may be similar to the names of persons who have not been disciplined by the Board.*

**Joseph A. Consigli**, license no. **BV-009067-L**, of Macungie, Lehigh County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$150, because Consigli failed to complete 8 clock hours of Board approved continuing education as required by the Act. (07-15-04)

**Elizabeth E. Hart**, license no. **VT-000175-L**, of Honey Brook, Chester County, was assessed a \$100 civil penalty, because Hart failed to complete 8 clock hours of Board approved continuing education as required by the Act. Respondent shall complete the 4 hours of continuing education credits for the December 1, 2000 through November 30, 2002 period within six months from the effective date of the Board Order. (07-15-04)

**Stephen J. Mahnken**, license no. **BV-006800-L**, of South Charleston, WV, voluntarily surrendered his license to practice veterinary medicine, because Mahnken practiced under a suspended veterinary medical license. (07-15-04)

**Peggy A. Morris**, license no. **VT-000056-L**, of Oil City, Venango County, was assessed a \$100 civil penalty, because Morris failed to complete 8 clock hours of Board approved continuing education as required by the Act. Respondent was ordered to complete 4 hours of continuing education credits to meet the December 1, 2000 through November 30, 2002 requirements within six months from the effective date of the Board Order. (07-15-04)

**Mary Wynn Wolf**, license no. **VT-000590-L**, of Boyertown, Berks County, was assessed a \$200 civil penalty, because Wolf failed to complete 8 clock hours of Board approved continuing education as required by the Act (07-15-04)

**Jerry Godfrey**, license no. **BV-004571-L**, of Frazer, Chester County, was suspended for six months, followed by two years of probation and assessed a civil penalty of \$3,000 upon Respondent based on he failed to conform to the acceptable and prevailing standard of veterinary medical practice in the care and treatment of Dutchess, he failed to obtain permission to insert drains in Dutchess' paws, and he failed to maintain veterinary medical records for Dutchess in a manner such that any veterinarian could, by reviewing the records, be able to proceed with the proper care and treatment of Dutchess. This matter is currently on appeal in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. (07-16-04)

**Kyu Son Yi**, license no. **BV-004277-L**, of Philadelphia, was suspended for up to 18 months and assessed a civil penalty of \$4,000 based on he failed to conform to the acceptable and prevailing standard of veterinary medical practice in the care and treatment of the cat Kitty. Respondent may petition for reinstatement to probationary status when he has completed 32 hours of continuing education. (07-16-04)

**Andrew Karl**, unlicensed, of Erie, Erie County, was granted his application for certification to practice as a veterinary technician, subject to two years of probation based on findings he was convicted of a felony or a crime of moral turpitude. (07-16-04)

**Brian T. Donohue**, license no. **BV-004257-L**, of Stafford, VA, will voluntarily surrender his license and agrees to never seek reinstatement of his license to practice veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, because Donohue had disciplinary action taken against his license to practice veterinary medicine by the proper licensing authority of another state. (08-24-04)

**Andrew H. Wagner**, license no. **BV-005928-E**, of Dillsburg, York County, was suspended for a period of one year, with one month of active suspension and the remaining eleven months stayed in favor of probation and assessed a \$5,000 civil penalty based on findings he knowingly employed an unlicensed person to practice veterinary medicine on 22 different occasions. (08-25-04)

**Burleigh P. Anderson**, license no. **BV-002739-L**, of Landisburg, Perry County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000 and a public reprimand will be placed on his permanent Board record, because Anderson engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through two biennial registration periods when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (09-02-04)

**Kimberly A. Bowers**, license no. **BV-008680-L**, of Essington, Delaware County, received a public reprimand and was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500, because Bowers engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (09-02-04)

**Mark W. Harris**, license no. **BV-008577-L**, of Chandler, AZ, was revoked based on findings that his Arizona license was revoked by the Arizona Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. (10-22-04)

**Carlton D. Huitt**, of Lindenhurt, NY, was granted his application for licensure as a veterinarian and placed on probation based on findings he was convicted of a felony or a crime of moral turpitude. (10-22-04)

**Craig A. Davidson**, license no. **BV-008932-L**, of Lincoln University, Chester County, was publicly reprimanded and received a civil penalty of \$500, because Davidson engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (12-9-04)

**Dwight W. Rude**, license no. **BV-004748-L**, of Pottstown, Montgomery County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and had a public reprimand placed on his permanent Board record, because he engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (12-9-04)

**Christie A. Englehart**, license no. **VT-001296-L**, of Hamburg, Berks County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$100, because Englehart failed to complete 8 clock hours of Board approved continuing education. (12-9-04)

**Rodney L. Bachtell**, license no. **BV-006272-L**, of Greencastle, Franklin County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and a public reprimand was placed on his permanent Board record, because Bachtell engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (12-9-04)

**Elsayed Ghanim**, license no. **BV-003968-L**, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$250, because Ghanim failed to maintain proper records on a surgery. (12-9-04)

**Amy Schaffer**, unlicensed, of Bethlehem, Northampton and Lehigh Counties, was ordered to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty based on findings she engaged in the practice and held herself out to her employer as a certified animal health technician when she was not certified to do so. (12-15-04)

**Conrado Roblejo**, license no. **BV-003832-L**, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was suspended for a period of 18 months and assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000 based on findings he failed to conform to the acceptable and prevailing standard of veterinary medical practice. Respondent shall complete 8 hours of continuing education in urogenital medicine and 8 hours of continuing education in recognizing emergency medical conditions in companion animals. The 16 hours of continuing education required as a condition of this order shall not be used to meet the continuing education requirement for this biennial renewal period. (01-05)

## Board Members and Staff

**Scott Rosenbloom**, license no. **BV-009463-L**, of Newtown, Bucks County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and will have a public reprimand placed on his permanent Board record, because Rosenbloom engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through two biennial registration periods when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (01-27-05)

**Kathy L. Jamison**, license no. **BV-005773-L**, of Milford Square, Bucks County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and will have a public reprimand placed on her permanent Board record, because Jamison engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (02-17-05)

**Melissa M. Lavoie**, license no. **VT-001426-L**, of Boothwyn, Delaware County, was reprimanded and also received a civil penalty of \$250, because Lavoie violated the Act in that Respondent engaged in the practice as a veterinary technician in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (02-17-05)

**Laurie A. Schessler**, license no. **BV-008177-L**, of Gibsonia, Allegheny County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and have a public reprimand placed on her Permanent Board record, because Schessler, had her license to practice veterinary medicine disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state (02-17-05)

**Orville R. Walls**, license no. **BV-003625-L**, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, was publicly reprimanded and received a civil penalty of \$500, because Walls violated the Act in that Respondent engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (02-17-05)

**Morsy A. Alsamadisi**, license no. **BV-008180-L**, of Somerville, NJ, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of 750 and had a public reprimand placed on his permanent Board record, because he had his license to practice veterinary medicine disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state (03-17-05)

**Harry Graham**, of Butler, Butler County, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 and shall cease and desist from holding himself out as being able to treat animal pain or injury by holding himself out as an "equine chiropractor" and shall not hereafter attempt to diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent disease, deformity, injury or other physical condition by performing chiropractic treatments, because he engaged in the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine by 1) holding himself out as being able to treat animal pain or injury by holding himself out as an equine chiropractor, and/or 2) attempting to diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve or prevent disease, deformity, injury or other physical condition by performing chiropractic treatment on a horse. (03-17-05)

**Rebecca R. Hoffmaster**, license no. **VT-002617-L**, of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$250, because Hoffmaster engaged in the practice as a veterinary technician in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (03-17-05)

**Brian F. Silvis**, license no. **BV-008990-L**, of Allison Park, Allegheny County, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$1,000, because Silvis engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (04-12-05)

**Drew F. Sporer**, license no. **BV-006191-L**, of Doylestown, Bucks County, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500 because Sporer engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (04-12-05)

**Christine Bohn**, license no. **BV-010068**, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County was ordered to pay a \$500.00 civil penalty; must complete 12 hours of continuing education no later than 01/31/06 and Respondent is suspended for 3 months immediately stayed in favor of 3 months probation because she failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice. (5-19-05)

**Kendra Ellen Stauffer**, license no. **BV-010791**, of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County was ordered to pay a \$1,000.00 civil penalty; must complete 8 hours of continuing education. Respondent is suspended for 1 year immediately stayed in favor of probation because she failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice. (05-19-05)

**Paul T. Tallamy**, license no. **BV-004753-L**, of Branchville, NJ, was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$250 and had a public reprimand placed on his permanent Board record, because he had his license to practice veterinary medicine disciplined by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-19-05)

**Allanson Hill**, license no. **BV-004147-L**, of Palmyra, ME, was reprimanded and assessed a civil penalty of \$250 based on disciplinary action taken by the proper licensing authority of another state. (05-24-05)

**Craig P. Kryger**, license no. **BV-008905-L**, of Hermitage, Mercer County, was publicly reprimanded and received a civil penalty of \$500, because Kryger engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (07-14-05)

**Jean L. White**, license no. **VT-000581-L**, of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, was publicly reprimanded

and shall pay a civil penalty of \$500, because White engaged in the practice as a certified veterinary technician in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through two biennial registration periods when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (07-14-05)

**Arlen M. Wilbers**, license no. **BV-006316-L**, of Quakertown, Bucks County, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500, because Wilbers engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (07-14-05)

**Stanley A. Cohn**, license no. **BV-006345-E**, of Parkton, MD, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500, because Cohn engaged in the practice as a veterinarian in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when he did not hold a valid license to do so. (09-01-05)

**Toni L. Ellis**, license no. **BV010844**, of Palmyra, Lebanon County, was publicly reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00, because Ellis had her license to practice veterinary medicine subjected to disciplinary action by another state on grounds which in this state allow disciplinary proceedings. (09-01-05)

**Susan T. Twitty**, license no. **VT000424L**, of Center Valley, Lehigh County, was publicly reprimanded and shall pay a civil penalty of \$500.00, because Twitty engaged in the practice as a certified veterinary technician in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through two biennial registration periods when she did not hold a valid license to do so. (09-01-05)

**Helal Elkalban**, DVM, license no. **BV0005861-L**, of Mahanoy City, was suspended for a period of 18 months with all but three months stayed in favor of probation, ordered to remit a \$1,000 civil penalty and complete continuing education, based on findings he failed to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing veterinary medical practice. (9-7-05)

P.O. Box 2649  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

## Board Members and Staff

**Brian V. Harpster, V.M.D.,**  
Chairman

*Lebanon, Lebanon County*

**Patricia L. Thomson, D.V.M.,**  
Vice Chairperson

*Lancaster, Lancaster County*

**James A. Orsini, D.V.M.,**  
Secretary

*Kennett Square, Chester County*

**Robin J. Bernstein,**  
Public Member

*Pittsburgh, Allegheny County*

**Robert W. Cloninger, V.M.D.**

*Centre Hall, Centre County*

**Mary D. Evans,**  
Public Member

*West Chester, Chester County*

**Thomas J. McGrath, D.V.M.**

*Columbia, Lancaster County*

**Basil L. Merenda,**  
Commissioner

*Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs*

**Teresa Lazo-Miller, Esq.**  
Counsel

**Clifford D. Swift, Esq.**  
Prosecuting Attorney

**Robert Kline**  
Administrator

### 2006 Board Meeting Dates

**January 26**

**March 16**

**May 18**

**July 13**

**September 7**

**October 26**

**December 7**