

**POSITION STATEMENT
TENNESSEE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

DISTRIBUTION OF VETERINARY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1730-1-.21(2)(a) Distribution of veterinary prescription drugs to laymen may occur only on the prescription or other order of a licensed veterinarian. The prescriptions must be issued in the course of his or her professional practice, with a veterinarian-client-patient relationship existing.

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners hereby adopts the following position statement in regards to the distribution of veterinary prescription drugs:

It is the position of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners that the prescribing, dispensing, or distribution of veterinary drugs not issued in the course of professional practice and without the existence of a proper veterinarian-client-patient not only constitutes a violation of the Practice Act and Regulations but is a substantial threat to the health, safety and welfare of the client and/or the public. The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners will impose disciplinary action including the assessment of maximum Type A civil penalties in the amount of \$1,000.00 per prescription written in violation of rules/statutes.

The Board has the authority to discipline any practitioner or facility which, after investigation and proper hearing, has been found guilty by the Board of a violation of the Tennessee Veterinary Practice Act (Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-12-101 *et seq.*) or the general rules governing the practice of veterinary medicine (Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1730-1 thru 1730-5).

Adopted by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners on the 16th day of February, 2006. Reviewed by the Board on the 25th day of August, 2010.

For further information, please contact the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners by telephone at (615)532-5090 or toll-free 1-800-778-4123 ext. 25090 or in writing:

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