

Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners



Newsletter



FALL 2012

A regulatory agency of the State of Tennessee

Vol. 8, No. 1

227 French Landing, Suite 300; Heritage Place Metro Center; Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 532-5090 or 1-800-778-4123 ext5325090
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (615) 532-5164 Fax
(closed State and Federal holidays) <http://tennessee.gov/health>

CURRENT COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is composed of seven (7) members. Five (5) members are licensed veterinarians, one (1) member is a licensed veterinary medical technician, and one (1) member is a citizen member. The State Veterinarian serves as a non-voting, ex-officio member.

Current members are: Bryan Bondurant, DVM, President; Janet Jones, LVMT, Vice-President; Joseph Kendrick, DVM, Secretary; Stephen Galloway, DVM; Forrest Reynolds, DVM; Charles "Chuck" Halford, DVM; Ann Strong, Public Member; and Charles Hatcher, DVM, State Veterinarian.

MISSION OF THE BOARD

The Board's purpose is to protect the public from being misled by incompetent, unscrupulous and unauthorized practitioners, and from unprofessional or illegal practices by persons licensed to practice veterinary medicine. The board was enacted in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the animal population and the citizens of Tennessee. The Board adopts and interprets the laws, rules, and regulations to establish and maintain a high standard of integrity, skills and practice in the profession of veterinary medicine. The Board is responsible for the investigation of alleged violations of the Practice Act and rules and is responsible for the discipline of licensees who are found guilty of such violations.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 2012 Legislative Session has ended, and the following new laws apply to veterinarians and/or the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners:

Public Acts 2012

Public Chapter No. 695

This public act requires the Governor to consult with the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association and other interested groups to determine qualified persons to fill positions on the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, except for the appointment of the public member.

This act became effective April 11, 2012.

Public Chapter No. 880

This public act, also known as the **Tennessee Prescription Safety Act of 2012**, updates the Controlled Substance Monitoring Database (CSMD) access and reporting requirements, allows for cooperative agreements with other states' databanks, and creates a number of exemptions for veterinarians. Generally, dispensers must submit, at least once every seven (7) days, a report of controlled substances dispensed, and must check the CSMD if they know or are reasonably certain that a person is attempting to obtain certain controlled drugs for improper purposes. Prescribers who prescribe those controlled drugs for humans also have a duty to check the CSMD.

The bill's exemptions for veterinarians include:

1. Generally, all prescribers with DEA numbers who prescribe controlled substances more than fifteen (15) calendar days per year must register with the CSMD. However, veterinarian prescribers who never prescribe a controlled substance in an amount intended to treat an animal for more than forty-eight (48) hours need not register.
2. There is no reporting requirement for any drug dispensed by a veterinarian in an amount adequate to treat an animal for a maximum of forty-eight (48) hours.
3. Veterinarian dispensers who use computerized systems need not submit information to the CSMD using nationally-recognized pharmacy telecommunications format standards, unlike other dispensers who use computerized systems.
4. Veterinarian prescribers or dispensers do not need to provide for on-site electronic access to the CSMD.
5. Veterinarian prescribers are not required to check the CSMD information for an animal at the start of a new treatment and annually thereafter, unlike healthcare professionals prescribing certain controlled drugs to humans.

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is required to promulgate rules regarding procedures, notice requirements, and penalties for prescribers and dispensers who fail to register in, report to, or check the CSMD as required.

For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act became effective May 9, 2012. For all other purposes, this act as it pertains to veterinarians, shall take effect on January 1, 2013.

Public Chapter No. 1067

This public act makes any new fee or fee increase effective on the July 1st following expiration of the 90-day waiting period after the applicable board rule is filed with the Secretary of State, rather than simply after the expiration of ninety (90) days. This change will affect rules filed with the Secretary of State after July 1, 2013 and will apply to all boards and state agencies that promulgate new fees or fee increases under the Uniform Administrative

Procedures Act. This bill would not apply to rules that implement new fees or fee increases that are promulgated as emergency rules and will not apply to state agencies that, during the preceding two fiscal years, did not collect fees in an amount sufficient to pay the cost of operating the board, commission, or entity,

This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

These public chapters are available on line at:

<http://www.tennessee.gov/sos/acts/index.htm>.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mailing and practice address changes must be reported in writing to the board's office within thirty (30) days after such change is effective. Please include the following:

- Your name and license number;
- Your profession
- Your old address and phone number;
- Your new address and phone number, e-mail address, and/or your fax number;
- Your SIGNATURE

Keeping your address up to date facilitates the timely notification to you of important information such as your application for licensure renewal and important statutory and rule changes.

ACTIVE LICENSEES AS OF June 30, 2012

| | |
|--|-------|
| Veterinarians: | 2,028 |
| Veterinary Medical Technicians: | 448 |
| Certified Animal Euthanasia Technicians: | 262 |
| Veterinary Facilities: | 688 |
| Certified Animal Control Agencies: | 64 |

REMINDER ABOUT PRACTITIONER PROFILES

The Health Care Consumer Right-to-Know Act of 1998, T.C.A. § 63-51-101 et seq, requires designated licensed health professionals to furnish certain information to the Tennessee Department of Health. The information for public dissemination includes: (1) A description of any criminal convictions for felonies within the most recent ten (10) years. (2) A description of any final disciplinary actions of licensing boards in other states within the most recent ten (10) years. (3) A description of any final disciplinary actions of licensing boards in other states within the most recent ten (10) years. (4) A description of revocation or involuntary restriction of hospital privileges for reasons related to competence or character that has been take by the hospital's governing body or any other official action of the hospital after procedural due process has been afforded, or the resignation from or nonrenewal of medical staff membership or the restriction of privileges at a hospital taken in lieu of or in settlement of a pending disciplinary case related to competence or character in that hospital. Only cases which have occurred within the most recent ten (10) years shall be disclosed by the department to the public. (5) All medical malpractice court judgments, all medical malpractice arbitration awards in which a payment is awarded to a complaining party and all settlements of medical malpractice claims in which a payment is made to a complaining party beginning with reports for 1998 and each subsequent year; provided, such reports shall not be disseminated beyond the most recent ten-year period, but shall include the most recent ten-year period for which reports have been filed. From the information submitted, the Department will compile a practitioner profile which is required to be made available to the public via the World Wide Web and toll-free telephone line after May 1, 1999.

Each practitioner who has submitted information must update that information in writing by notifying the Department of Health, Healthcare Provider Information Unit, within 30 days after the occurrence of an event or an attainment of a status that is required to be reported by the law. A copy of your initial or updated profile will be furnished to you for your review prior to publication. That opportunity will allow you to make corrections, additions and helpful explanatory comments. **Failure to comply with**

the requirement to submit and update profiling information constitutes a ground for disciplinary action against your license.

A blank copy of the profile may be obtained at:

<http://health.state.tn.us/Downloads/g6019027.pdf>

ACCESSING THE BOARD'S WEBSITE

- Log onto <http://tn.gov/health>
- Click on "For Health Care Professionals"
- Under "Health Related Boards": Click on "Veterinary Medical Examiners"

There are many resources on our website including, but not limited to, rules, statutes, applications, and policy statements. License renewal and licensure verification may also be utilized on this website. This is a valuable resource. Please use it. You will find it to be very friendly.

BOARD MEETING DATES

August 16 – 17, 2012

December 11 – 12, 2012

2013

April 10 – 11, 2013

August 15 – 16, 2013

December 11 – 12, 2013

All Board meetings begin at 9:00 a.m., Central Time. Board meetings are held at the Board's office and are open to the public. Dates are subject to change, but are listed on the Board's Website. [In the event of an electronic meeting, a conference room is made available to the public and is the location from which the electronic meeting is conducted.]

Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

227 French Landing, Suite 300

Heritage Place Metro Center

Nashville, TN 37243



**Tennessee Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Board Members as of July 31, 2012**

Janet B. Jones, L.V.M.T.
Vice-President
Knoxville

Bryan W. Bondurant, D.V.M.
President
Gallatin

Joseph Kendrick, D.V.M.
Secretary
Knoxville

Stephen S. Galloway, D.V.M.
Memphis

Ann Strong
Consumer Member
Alamo

Forrest W. Reynolds, D.V.M.
Franklin

Charles Hatcher, D.V.M.
State Veterinarian
Ex-officio Member

Charles R. Halford, D.V.M.
Memphis

Rosemarie Otto, Interim Director
Health Related Boards
Ex-officio Member

Board Staff

Rita Buckner-Shelton
Board Administrator

Lisa Lampley
Director

Katherine Young
Licensing Technician