

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE,
Complainant,**

v.

Case No. 0924A

**TIM KNOTTS, D.V.M.,
Veterinarian License Number: 50-2010
Respondent.**

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

After due investigation of a written complaint, the West Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (“Board”) determined that there was probable cause to believe that Tim Knotts (“Respondent”) has exhibited unprofessional conduct in the practice of veterinary medicine, in violation of the provisions of W. Va. Code § 30-10-1 *et seq.* and the Rules of the Board at W. Va. Code R. § 26-1-1 *et seq.* The Respondent was provided with written notice of the allegations against him pursuant to the rules of the Board and the laws of this State.

WHEREAS, Respondent acknowledges that the Board may file a formal Statement of Charges pursuant to W. Va. Code §§ 30-10-1 *et seq.* and W. Va. Code R. §§ 26-1-1 *et seq.*; however, Respondent waives the filing of a formal Statement of Charges.

WHEREAS, in lieu of hearing, the parties have reached an agreement for the resolution of Case Number 0924A, and the parties agree to entry of the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order in disposition of this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board adopts the following findings in this matter:

1. That Tim Knotts is a licensee of the Board with license number 50-2010 and is subject to the license requirements of said Board. Moreover, that all times relevant to this Complaint that the Respondent held an active license issued by this Board.
2. The Board is a regulatory board created for the purpose of regulating the practice of veterinary medicine. W. Va. Code § 30-10-1 *et seq.*
3. In order to carry out its regulatory duties, the Board is empowered to suspend, revoke or otherwise discipline an individual's veterinary medicine license because of authority granted to it by W. Va. Code §§ 30-10-5 and 30-10-19.
4. That on September 25, 2024, the Board received a complaint against the Respondent for the care of a dog named "Kreed."
5. That the Respondent at all times relative to this Complaint practiced veterinary medicine at the Audubon Animal Clinic ("Clinic") located in Bridgeport, West Virginia.
6. That the Respondent filed a timely response to this Complaint denying all allegations.
7. That Complaint alleges that Respondent caused her pet's death after a routine castration procedure on April 2, 2024.
8. That Complainant's dog, Kreed, went for a castration procedure on April 2, 2024.
9. That Complainant declined any pre-operative blood work be performed prior to the castration procedure.

10. That Respondent states that after a pre-operative physical examination it was noted that Kreed had fleas and diarrhea.

11. That Respondent states all other findings obtained from the pre-operative physical examination were within normal limits, and as such, a routine castration was performed on Kreed.

12. That Kreed was placed in recovery and medication was given to shorten the anesthetic effects.

13. That Kreed did vomit in recovery, and later at approximately 5:00pm it was found that Kreed had a temperature. At that time additional medications were administered and a spray tub was utilized to assist in decreasing his temperature.

14. That Complainant arrived to pick-up her dog, and she was advised to allow the Clinic to continue to administer care to stabilize Kreed in order for him to be transferred to a 24-hour emergency clinic. Complainant declined and took the Kreed home; however, Kreed passed away on the way home.

15. That upon the following day Respondent was notified of the passing and offered a necropsy which was declined.

16. That upon recommendation of the Complaint Committee, after reviewing the complaint and accompanying documents, the Board, by majority vote, at its Board meeting on January 30, 2025, determined there was sufficient evidence to warrant further proceedings and that further action should be taken against the licensee, Tim Knotts.

17. That the Respondent's actions constitute, practices or acts in violation of W. Va. Code R. §§ 26-4-5.1.a and 26-4-5.8.a.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. That the Board has jurisdiction to take disciplinary action against Respondent.
2. That based upon the allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct set out above in the *Findings of Fact* section, the Board is authorized to suspend, revoke or otherwise restrict the license of the Respondent to practice veterinary medicine, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-10-19.
3. That the Board has defined unprofessional conduct by adopting the standards of practice at 26 C.S.R. § 4-1 *et seq.* and violations of these standards of practice may be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-10-19(g)(3).
4. That Respondent violated the standard care by failing to properly communicate with the client and properly monitor the animal post-operation.
5. That Respondent's actions constitute, practices or acts in violation of W. Va. Code R. §§ 26-4-5.1.a and 26-4-5.8.a.
6. That the Board served a *Complaint* upon the Respondent pursuant to the laws and regulations of West Virginia.

CONSENT OF LICENSEE

I, Tim Knotts, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge the following:

1. That I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel and execute this Consent Agreement voluntarily, freely, without compulsion or duress and mindful that it has legal consequences.

2. That no person or entity has made any promise or given any inducement whatsoever to encourage me to make this settlement other than as set forth herein.

3. That I acknowledge that I am aware that I may pursue this matter through appropriate administrative and/or court proceedings, and I am aware of my legal rights regarding this matter, but intelligently, knowingly and voluntarily waive such rights.

4. That I waive any defenses including, but not limited to, laches, statute of limitations, and estoppel, that I may have otherwise claimed as a condition of this agreement.

5. That I admit that my actions violated the standards of care for the practice of veterinary medicine and in violation of the governing statute and rules of the Board.

The Respondent, Tim Knotts, by affixing his signature hereon, agrees to the following:

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board does hereby ORDER and DECREE that:

1. Respondent is hereby REPRIMANDED for his actions in this matter.
2. Within three (3) months from the date of the entry of this *Order*, Respondent shall complete six (6) hours of board-approved continuing education on the subject of administering anesthesia and post-operative care. These continuing education hours must be approved by the Board prior to completing them. Moreover, these continuing education hours do not count toward the required eighteen (18) hours of continuing education that is required of all board licensees.
3. Within three (3) months from the date of the entry date of this *Order*, Respondent shall reimburse the Board for the costs of these proceedings, including but not limited to, the

administrative and legal expenses incurred by the Board in the investigation and disposition of this case.

4. Respondent shall be placed on probation for a period of six (6) months effective upon the entered date of this Agreement. During this probationary period the Respondent shall adhere to the following terms:

a. Respondent shall submit to the Board three separate medical records of a surgery case, including all post-operative care, every month of probation.

b. Should any of the medical records submitted to the Board be insufficient and not adhere to the statute and regulations of medical record keeping, and/or should the Respondent receive any further complaints that result in additional probable cause findings during this probationary period, then Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine will immediately be suspended for three (3) months without a hearing.

i. Upon completion of the three (3) month suspension, the Respondent shall complete all unfinished terms of this Consent Agreement, including the probationary period left uncompleted.

4. Any violation of this *Consent Agreement and Order*, or failure to adhere to its terms may result in additional disciplinary action, up to and including the suspension or revocation of the Respondent's license to practice veterinary medicine in the state of West Virginia.

5. The Board is bound by agreement and by law to report the results of all disciplinary actions, including the instant matter, for posting in the AAVSB Veterinary Practitioners Disciplinary Database.

6. That this document is a public record as defined in W. Va. Code § 29B-1-2(4).

7. This *Consent Agreement and Order* constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

In recognition of this *Consent Agreement and Order* and these terms, we hereby affix our signatures.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE

By: Keith Berkeley, DVM
Dr. Keith Berkeley
Board Chair

Entered: 10 March 2025
DATE

Reviewed and agreed to by:

Tim Knotts DVM
Tim Knotts, DVM, Respondent

2/24/25
DATE

This day personally appeared before me, Tim Knotts, whose name is signed to the foregoing document and who is known to me, having acknowledged before me that the statements in the foregoing document are complete, true and correct, to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief, and executed the document voluntarily on the date shown above.

Given under my hand and seal on this the 24th day of February, 2025.

My Commission expires: May 13, 2029

Patricia L. Evans
Notary Public

