

**BEFORE THE
VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Modified Citation Against:

Stacie Popejoy,

and

Waggin' Tails Grooming,

Unlicensed

Respondents

Citation No. 4602019000963

MODIFIED CITATION

Complainant alleges:

PARTIES

1. Jessica Sieferman ("Complainant") brings this Citation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medical Board ("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.
2. The Board's records fail to reveal that Stacie Popejoy ("Respondent") has been issued a valid veterinarian license.
3. The Board's records fail to reveal that Waggin' Tails Grooming ("Respondent") has been issued a valid premises permit registration.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

4. Business and Professions Code (BPC) sections 125.9, 148, and 4875.2 and California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section 2043 authorize the Executive Officer of the Board to issue citations containing orders of abatement and/or administrative fines against a licensee of the Board, or to an unlicensed person, who has committed any acts or omissions in violation of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Act).

5. BPC section 4825, provides:

It is unlawful for any person to practice veterinary medicine or any branch thereof in this State unless at the time of so doing, such person holds a valid, unexpired, and unrevoked license as provided in the Act.

6. BPC section 4826 provides, in pertinent part:

A person practices veterinary medicine, surgery, and dentistry, and the various branches thereof, when he or she does any one of the following:

(a) Represents oneself as engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, or veterinary dentistry in any of its branches.

[...]

(c) Administers a drug, medicine, appliance, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals, except where the medicine, appliance, application, or treatment is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant at the direction of and under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian subject to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 4836) or where the drug, including, but not limited to, a drug that is a controlled substance, is administered by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant pursuant to Section 4836.1. However, no person, other than a licensed veterinarian, may induce anesthesia unless authorized by regulation of the board.

[...]

CAUSE FOR CITATION

7. On or about March 27, 2023, Respondent engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine by offering to treat a broken leg on an animal patient. The Board has not issued a veterinarian license to Respondent. Such practice of veterinary medicine constitutes a violation of BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC section 4826, subdivision (c).

8. On or about February 3, 2022, through January 23, 2024, Respondent represented themselves as being engaged in the practice of veterinary medicine by advertising on their business Facebook page that they can perform vaccination services. The Board has not issued a veterinarian license to Respondent. Such unlicensed conduct constitutes a violation of BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC section 4826, subdivision (a).

DETERMINATION OF ISSUES
CAUSE OF ACTION

9. Violations exist pursuant to BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC 4826, subdivision (c), as set forth in Paragraphs 7. A cause of action thereby exists.
10. Violations exist pursuant to BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC 4826, subdivision (a), as set forth in Paragraph 8. A cause of action thereby exists.

PENALTY

11. In compliance with BPC sections 148 and 4875.2 and CCR, title 16, section 2043, it is determined that:

Respondent be cited for a Class "C" violation in the amount of \$2,000 for the Cause for Citation, based upon a determination that the above-described facts set forth above in Paragraph 7 constitute a violation of BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC section 4826, subdivision (c).

Respondent be cited for a Class "C" violation without a fine assessed for the Cause for Citation, based upon a determination that the above-described facts set forth above in Paragraph 8 constitute a violation of BPC section 4825, as defined in BPC section 4826, subdivision (a).

12. In compliance with BPC sections 125.9 and 4875.2, and CCR, Title 16, section 2043, subsection (e), the total penalty for the above violations is \$2,000.00.

ORDER OF ABATEMENT

The Board hereby orders Respondent to cease and desist from violating BPC sections 4825, and 4826, subdivisions (a) and (c).

March 12, 2024

DATE

Signature on file

JESSICA SIEFERMAN
Executive Officer
Veterinary Medical Board
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California