

Enforcement Program Report

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Complaint Program

The total number of complaints received from July 1, 2012 through April 1, 2013 is 462. Of the 462 cases, 74 involve unlicensed activity.

Due to staff shortages and backlogs in enforcement, the Division of Investigations Intake Unit has offered to help review cases and determine if formal investigation is needed. If so, the Intake Unit will open the case, make a copy and assign an investigator for formal investigation. The Intake Unit has offered their services for the next four to six months.

The Veterinary Medical Board (Board) is continuing to receive complaints involving negligence, unprofessional conduct, and minimum standard issues. The enforcement staff is continuing to prioritize cases in accordance with Business and Professions Code Section 4875.1.

As requested by a Board member, the Board researched whether or not complaints have been received against a junior, senior, or graduate performing RVT tasks without being registered. A search of our records for the last two fiscal years revealed that the Board has not received any complaints regarding this issue.

Citation Program

Since July 1, 2012, 90 citations have been served, seven (7) informal conferences were held and no citations have been referred to the Attorney General's Office for an administrative hearing. Of the 90 citations served, 40 were issued for unlicensed activity.

Inspection Program

To date, the Board has assigned 441 inspections. Of the 441 inspections assigned, 125 routine inspections have been performed. In addition to the routine inspections, 23 complaint related inspections have been performed.

Our inspectors are progressing on schedule and will have all assigned inspections completed and submitted to staff by May 30, 2013.

An Inspection Workshop is scheduled for May 2013. The workshop is intended to educate the inspectors and answer questions regarding the application and interpretation of the minimum standards. As part of the workshop, Board staff will be shadowing each inspector on three inspections.

Discipline Program

Currently there are 102 cases pending at the Attorney General's Office. Those cases include Accusations, Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, and Statement of Issues (License Denial).

Enforcement staff is currently monitoring 44 probationers. As of today, there are two probationers out of compliance. The Board is continuing to work with the Office of the Attorney General on Accusations and Petitions to Revoke Probation.

During closed session, the Board members have discussed the different levels of supervision referenced in the Disciplinary Guidelines. There are four levels: continuous, substantial, partial, and supervision by daily review and are defined below.

Continuous- supervision for the duration of probation

Substantial- supervision for the majority of probation

Partial- supervision for approximately one to two years depending on the length of probation

Supervision by Daily Review- supervisor may review one to 50 records a day as deemed necessary by the Board.