



**News & Views** **VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD**

**New Laws Change Board Operations, Requirements**

**Other new regulations for 2011**

There have been some important changes to the Veterinary Practice Act regulations in the first few months of the year. Changes ranged from cleaning up regulatory language to increasing oversight and consumer protection. Here is a summary of the changes:

**Examination and clean up**

Effective March 2, 2011, the Board made changes to regulation language that includes updating the Veterinary Medical Board's address, eliminating a fixed filing deadline for application for examination, updating the application form names, and clarifying examination eligibility and examination for licensure requirements.

continued on page 2

**Impact of Assembly Bill 1980**

Assembly Bill 1980, effective January 1, 2011, implemented various changes to the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act. Significant changes include:

- » The Veterinary Medical Board added a Registered Veterinary Technician, increasing the number of Board members to eight. The Board now consists of four licensed veterinarians, one Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT), and three public members. A quorum now consists of five Board members.
- » The Registered Veterinary Technician Committee became inoperative effective July 1, 2011, and will officially sunset on January 1, 2012.
- » The total membership of the Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee is now seven: four licensed veterinarians, two RVTs, and one public member. Committee members serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms.

continued on page 2

**What's Inside**

Upcoming Meetings . . . . . 2

Subject Matter Experts Needed. . . . . 3

RVT Continuing Education FAQs. . . . . 4

Registered Veterinary Technician Committee Sunsets . . . . . 4

California Pet Lover's License Plate. . . . . 6

2011 Lawbook Available . . . . . 6

RVTs and Vets Needed to be Hospital Inspectors . . . . . 6

Welcome New Board and Committee Members . . . . . 7

Disciplinary Actions . . . . . 8



# New Laws

## Other new regulations for 2011

continued from page 1

### Schedule of fees

Effective March 1, 2012, several fees relating to examination and licensure will be increasing. These include examination fees, initial and renewal license fees, premise license fees, and a new Diversion Program Fee. For more information, visit the Board's Web site and click on "Laws and Regulations" under "Quick Hits" or go directly to [www.vmb.ca.gov/laws\\_regs/feesmodtext\\_102110.pdf](http://www.vmb.ca.gov/laws_regs/feesmodtext_102110.pdf).

### Retroactive fingerprinting

Effective April 1, 2012, and as a condition of license renewal, all licensed veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians will be required to have an electronic record of their fingerprints on file. This requirement applies to those licensed veterinarians or RVTs who had not previously been fingerprinted or who do not currently have an electronic record of their fingerprints on file. Additional information will be provided closer to implementation date of the law.

As with any summary, you should always refer to regulatory language for a complete interpretation of law. For a complete listing of amendments contained in regulation, please visit the Board's Web site.

## Impact of Assembly Bill 1980

continued from page 1

- » Rodeo reporting requirements were expanded to include reporting of rodeo injuries and treatment during and after a rodeo event. The Board is also required to provide a form for injury reporting that includes specific information on the attending veterinarian and the nature of the injury.
- » The title of "Registered Veterinary Technician" and several other similar designations are now protected and exclusive to registration with the Board as a veterinary technician.
- » Unregistered assistants were formerly required to be trained in radiographic safety and techniques in order to operate radiographic equipment under the direct supervision of an RVT or licensed veterinarian. The new law requires that a record of radiographic training must be maintained by the responsible managing licensee of the veterinary premises and must be available for inspection upon request by the Board.
- » Veterinary technician students in the clinical portion of their final year of study at a Board-approved program may perform RVT job tasks under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The Board must adopt regulations defining the parameters of supervision required.

As with any summary, you should always refer to statutory language for a complete interpretation of law. For a complete listing of amendments contained in AB 1980, please visit the Board's Web site.

# Upcoming meetings

The Veterinary Medical Board and its Committees hold quarterly meetings throughout California to discuss various topics such as veterinary law, licensure, examination, and enforcement. The Board dedicates a portion of each meeting to receive public comments.

### Here are the upcoming meetings:

#### January 25–26, 2012

Veterinary Medical Board: Sacramento

#### March 14, 2012

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee: Sacramento

#### April 24–25, 2012

Veterinary Medical Board: Orange County

Meetings are open to the public unless otherwise noted on meeting agendas. Attendance at Board meetings is encouraged and welcomed.



If you would like to keep updated on meeting agendas or other Veterinary Medical Board activities please visit our Web site at [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov) and sign up to be on the Board's e-mail list by clicking on "Join Our E-mail List" under "Quick Hits."

## Congratulations to Tom Kendall, DVM

Dr. Tom Kendall was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) at its September 2011 meeting. The AAVSB consists of 57 veterinary licensing boards including the United States, four Canadian provinces, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.



# Subject Matter Experts Needed for Examination Development Program

Do you remember coming out of the licensing examination muttering under your breath “where did they get that question?,” “that’s not relevant!” or “there were two answers!” Well, here’s your chance to put in your two cents’ worth and make a difference!

The Veterinary Medical Board and the Registered Veterinary Technician Committee are looking for practitioners to help write and review test questions for the California State Board (CSB) and the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) examinations.

Two-day examination workshops, conducted in Sacramento, are led by the Department of Consumer Affairs’ Office of Professional Examination Services. The question writing workshop starts with a short course in question-and-answer writing (you’d think after all those years of taking tests you’d be an expert at it) and progresses to actually writing questions in a clear and relevant manner (emphasis on relevant, right?).

The question review workshop is a separate event and consists of picking apart the question-writers’ hard work. Each question is carefully reviewed for clarity, correctness of answers (you’d

be surprised at the discussions that arise here), and relevance (discussions on this, too!).

What’s in it for you? You get to feel good about your role in contributing to your profession by ensuring the CSB and RVT examinations are current and relevant, you can add an unusual line to your resume (“Subject Matter Expert” sounds impressive), and you get to engage in spirited discussions on subjects near and dear to all our hearts. You get paid travel expenses and a stipend, meet interesting colleagues, and finally, you earn up to 16 hours of continuing education credit.

These workshops can be a fun respite from practice. Talk a colleague into coming with you! Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technicians (particularly those of you less than five years out of school) from all areas of expertise are needed—exotic, feline, emergency, small animal, food animal, equine, dentistry, surgeons, etc.

If you are interested, go to the Board’s Web site at [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov) and click on the application under “What’s New,” or call Ethan Mathes at 916.263.2610.

## Keep up to date by joining the Board’s e-mail list

In an effort to reduce our consumption of natural resources and streamline our business process, the Veterinary Medical Board is going to an all-electronic Interested Parties List. Sign-up is easy!

1. Go to [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov).
2. Select “Join Our E-mail List” on the left side of the page.
3. Select “Subscribe” and enter your e-mail address and security word.

By joining the interested party list you’ll be notified by e-mail of important Board news and information, law changes, Board and Committee meeting agendas, newsletters, and much more.



# RVT Continuing Education: FAQs and Chart

Starting with the July 1, 2011 renewal period, Registered Veterinary Technicians must begin completing 20 hours of approved continuing education (CE) in order to renew their license in California. Beginning with the June 30, 2013, renewal period, registered veterinary technicians will have to certify on their renewal form that they have completed the required CE hours. The answers to the following frequently asked questions are designed to help veterinary technicians understand the new CE requirements.

## Who is required to take CE?

Starting with the July 1, 2011 renewal cycle, all California Registered Veterinary Technicians are required to take 20 hours of CE for each renewal period. The CE requirement does not apply to first time license applicants, only to your subsequent license renewal periods.

## What is my registration “renewal period?”

Your renewal period is two years and runs from the license expiration date to license expiration date. Your license displays its expiration date. *Example: If your license expiration date is May 31, 2012, the renewal period would be June 1, 2012, through May 31, 2014. To renew your license in May 2014, you must have completed 20 hours of approved CE.*

## Where can I take CE courses?

Licensees can take any course offered by an approved provider. A provider must be either statutorily recognized or approved by American Association of Veterinary State Boards prior to the commencement of a course for that course to count towards your requirements.

Approved provider information is available on the Board’s website at [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov).

## Can I count CE hours completed outside my renewal period?

No. The only exception to this is a course taken for a license renewal that is delinquent due to incomplete CE credit.

## What if a course begins in one renewal period but ends in another?

If you take a course that starts in one renewal period but ends in another, those hours will count only towards the renewal period in which you completed the course. The only exception to this is a course taken for a license renewal that is delinquent due to incomplete CE credit.

## What records should I keep and for how long?

You must keep proof of your completed coursework (certificates, transcripts, etc.) four years from the date the course was completed.

## Do I turn in proof of coursework when I renew my license?

No. When you renew your license you will certify that you have completed your 20 hours of mandatory CE. Do not submit your CE course certificates with your license renewal.

## When do I need to turn in proof of my coursework?

The Board will randomly audit licensees. If and when you are audited, you will need to submit proof of your course work. Remember, you need to keep CE records for at least four years.

For additional information and FAQ’s, please visit [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov)

continued on page 5



## The Registered Veterinary Technician Committee Sunsets

With the passage of Assembly Bill 1980, the Registered Veterinary Technician Committee became inoperative on July 1, 2011, and will officially sunset on January 1, 2012.

The profession of Animal Health Technicians was established in 1975 along with the original committee of eight members. In 1998, the Animal Health Technician Examining Committee became an advisory committee of the Veterinary Medical Board and was renamed the Registered Veterinary Technicians Committee.

Committee members throughout the years have been influential in developing Registered Veterinary Technician job tasks in regulation, opening up licensure to professionals with job experience through its Limited Term Eligibility Window registration periods, and bringing issues involving veterinary technicians to the attention of the Veterinary Medical Board.

A special thank-you goes out to the most recent members of the Registered Veterinary Technicians Committee: Craig Cornell, RVT; Oscar Chavez, DVM; Virginia Curtis; and Carol Schumacher, RVT.

# RVT Continuing Education: FAQs and Chart continued from page 4

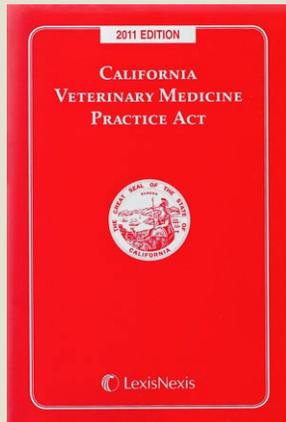
If your license expires on...	You can start accruing continuing education hours on...	You need to have 20 hours completed by next renewal on...
<b>2011 Expirations</b>		
June 30, 2011	July 1, 2011	June 30, 2013
July 31, 2011	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2013
August 31, 2011	September 1, 2011	August 31, 2013
September 30, 2011	May 1, 2011	April 30, 2013
October 31, 2011	June 1, 2011	May 31, 2013
November 30, 2011	July 1, 2011	June 30, 2013
December 31, 2011	August 1, 2011	July 31, 2013
<b>2012 Expirations</b>		
January 31, 2012	February 1, 2012	January 31, 2014
February 30, 2012	March 1, 2012	February 28, 2014
March 31, 2012	April 1, 2012	March 31, 2014
April 30, 2012	May 1, 2012	April 30, 2014
May 31, 2012	June 1, 2012	May 31, 2014
June 30, 2012	July 1, 2012	June 30, 2014
July 31, 2012	August 1, 2012	July 31, 2014
August 31, 2012	September 1, 2012	August 31, 2014
September 30, 2012	October 1, 2012	September 30, 2014
October 31, 2012	November 1, 2012	October 31, 2014
November 30, 2012	December 1, 2012	November 30, 2014
December 31, 2012	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2014
<b>2013 Expirations</b>		
January 31, 2013	February 1, 2013	January 31, 2015
February 28, 2013	March 1, 2013	February 28, 2015
March 31, 2013	April 1, 2013	March 31, 2015
April 30, 2013	May 1, 2013	April 30, 2015
May 31, 2013	June 1, 2013	May 31, 2015
June 30, 2013	July 1, 2013	June 30, 2015
July 31, 2012	August 1, 2013	July 31, 2015
August 31, 2012	September 1, 2013	August 31, 2015
September 30, 2012	October 1, 2013	September 30, 2015
October 31, 2012	November 1, 2013	October 31, 2015
November 30, 2012	December 1, 2013	November 30, 2015
December 31, 2012	January 1, 2013	December 31, 2015

# California Pet Lover's License Plate

## Help reduce pet overpopulation with the California Pet Lover's License plate!

The California Pet Lover's License plate, sponsored by the California Veterinary Medical Board, provides an easy way for pet lovers to help reduce pet overpopulation. Proceeds from the plate provide funding for free or low-cost spay and neuter surgeries across California, and also help to raise awareness about the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

Please visit [www.petloversplate.com](http://www.petloversplate.com) for more information on how you can help, or e-mail [info@caspayplate.com](mailto:info@caspayplate.com) for information on obtaining brochures.



## 2011 California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act Now Available

Updated for 2011, the *California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act* contains important information including current laws from the Business and Professions Code, the California Code of Regulations, the Health and Safety Code, and the Penal Code. Also included in the book is the Radiation Safety Guide and self-test that provides one option for meeting new requirements for operation of radiographic equipment training.

Copies can be ordered by contacting Michael LaLiberte at 800.424.4200 ext. 3257 or [Michael.LaLiberte@lexisnexis.com](mailto:Michael.LaLiberte@lexisnexis.com).

## RVTs and Vets Needed to be Hospital Inspectors

Are you ready to try something a little different in the field of veterinary medicine? Are you interested in a position that uses your powers of observation, clinical experience, and communication skills, but with a new twist?

Do you enjoy meeting people and experiencing—and learning from—a variety of situations? How does getting out of the office on your schedule, sound? If this is something that sounds interesting, you might want to consider becoming a hospital inspector for the Veterinary Medical Board.

Hospital inspectors perform routine and complaint-related inspections of veterinary hospitals, helping practitioners maintain the necessary minimum standards and avoid enforcement actions. Inspections generally include making unannounced visits to hospitals, evaluating different aspects of the practice, and following up as needed to ensure compliance. Inspectors are paid \$225 for a routine inspection. The number of

inspections assigned per inspector depends on the size of the designated region.

Occasionally, an inspection is required as part of a complaint investigation. An inspector will be requested to accompany an investigator from the Division of Investigation, who is investigating the complaint, to the place of business.

Each hospital is unique. Inspectors have the opportunity to see the profession of veterinary medicine from a new perspective and to share their knowledge and learn from their colleagues.

To qualify, you must be in good standing and currently licensed in California as a veterinarian or a Registered Veterinary Technician, be knowledgeable of State laws and standards of practice, and have at least five years of clinical experience in the previous seven years. If you are interested, or have questions, please call Monica Ochoa at the Veterinary Medical Board at 916.263.2423.

# Welcome New Board and Committee Members

## The Veterinary Medical Board would like to welcome all the new members to the Veterinary Medical Board and Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee!

- » Judie Mancuso, public member, was appointed in August 2010 by Speaker of the Assembly Perez and participated in her first meeting in October 2010.
- » Patti Aguiar, public member, was appointed in December 2010 by Governor Schwarzenegger and participated in her first meeting in January 2011.
- » Dr. Richard Johnson was appointed in December 2010 by Governor Schwarzenegger and participated in his first meeting in January 2011.
- » Kim Williams, RVT, was appointed in December 2010 by Governor Schwarzenegger and participated in her first meeting in January 2011. She is also the first Registered Veterinary Technician to be appointed to the Board.
- » In addition to new Board member appointments, due to changes in AB 1980 (effective January 1, 2011) the Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee membership grew from five to seven members. Dr. William Grant (Chair), Jennifer Boyle, RVT (Vice Chair), Diana Woodward Hagle and Dr. Jon Klingborg remained on from their previous membership and the Committee gained three new members; Dr. Richard Sullivan, Dr. Oscar Chavez, and David Johnson, RVT.

## Welcome to the Board and Committee!



(L-R) Dr. Richard Johnson; Kim Williams, RVT; Patti Aguiar; Linda Starr; Dr. Stephanie Ferguson; Dr. Tom Kendall; Dr. Terri Becker; and Judie Mancuso attended the January Veterinary Medical Board meeting. The meeting saw a full Board represented for the first time since 2004.

# Disciplinary Actions

## Veterinarian Disciplinary Actions July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

Respondent Name and City	License Number	Action	Effective Date	Violations
Ignacio Lambarri Vista, CA	VET 5564	Revocation	8/20/2010	» Negligence
Michael Wiekamp Dana Point, CA	VET 9480	Revocation Stayed 5 years probation	11/18/2010	» Unprofessional conduct » Unregistered premise
James Jansen Torrance, CA	VET 6289	Revocation Stayed 3 years probation	2/20/2011	» Minimum standards » Negligence » Unprofessional conduct » Record keeping » Anesthesia » Federal or State controlled substances
Janine Jung Irvine, CA	VET 12330	Revocation	2/24/2011	» Negligence
Kenneth Loomis Fullerton, CA	VET 3418	Voluntary Surrender	2/24/2011	» Record keeping » Anesthesia » Negligence
Ronald Walker Indio, CA	VET 5980	Default Decision Petition to Revoke Probation	5/6/2011	» Petition to revoke probation » Obey all laws » Quarterly reports and interviews » Cost recovery and payment of fines » Continuing education
Randy Pace Rogue River, OR	VET 9857	Revocation Stayed 3 years probation	5/6/2011	» Disciplinary action by another state
Terry Kaiser Spring Valley, CA	VET 7184	Revocation Stayed 30 day suspension 5 year probation	5/6/2011	» Negligence » Incompetence » Violations of the regulations: record keeping

## Veterinary Technician Disciplinary Actions July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011

Respondent Name and City	License Number	Action	Effective Date	Violations
Holly Davis Huntington Beach, CA	RVT applicant	License Denial	8/20/2010	» Conviction of a crime
Penny Lee Kingsburg, CA	TEC 5369	Revocation	1/27/2011	» Conviction of a crime substantially related to the practice of veterinary medicine
Heidi Vanoni Cloverdale, CA	RVT applicant	License Denial	2/24/2011	» Conviction of a crime
Ellen Koller Encinitas, CA	TEC 1124	Revocation	5/6/2011	» Conviction of a crime » Unprofessional conduct: conviction of more than one misdemeanor involving the consumption of alcohol » Unprofessional conduct: use of alcohol in a dangerous manner
James Coghlan Santa Ana, CA	VET 9742	Revocation Stayed 4-year probation	5/6/2011	» Conviction of a crime » Failure to keep accounting of controlled substances » Failure to display license » Failure to post notice of no staff on premises after hours » Failure to post referral for emergency treatment after hours » Expired drugs » Failure to document amounts of controlled substances » Incomplete and inaccurate controlled substance logs » Failure to reconcile drug inventory to controlled substances log » Improper placement of autoclave in surgical suite » Controlled substances not properly secured » Failure to properly account for controlled substances » Failure to report convictions on renewal application
Kelley Brock Antelope, CA	TEC 6953	Default Decision Petition to Revoke Probation	5/6/2011	» Petition to revoke probation: » Quarterly reports and interviews » Failure to submit to tests and samples » Failure to comply with the probation program

### **Veterinary Medical Board**

2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 2250

Sacramento, CA 95815

Phone: 916-263-2610

Licensing Fax: 916-263-2621

Enforcement Fax: 916-263-0311

E-mail: [vmb@dca.ca.gov](mailto:vmb@dca.ca.gov)

Web: [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov)

### **Board Members**

Stephanie Ferguson, DVM, President

Tom Kendall, DVM, Vice President

Patti Aguiar

Richard G. Johnson, DVM

Judie Mancuso

Linda L. Starr

Kim Williams, RVT

### **Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee Members**

William A. Grant II, DVM, Chair

Jennifer E. Boyle, RVT, Vice Chair

Oscar E. Chavez, DVM

David F. Johnson, RVT

Jon A. Klingborg, DVM

Richard J. Sullivan, DVM

Diana Woodward Hagle

### **Newsletter Editors**

#### **Board Editors**

Patti Aguiar

Judie Mancuso

#### **Staff Editor**

Ethan Mathes

## **A Special Thank-You to Outgoing Board Member Terri Becker, DVM**

Dr. Terri Becker was appointed to her first term as a member of the Veterinary Medical Board in 2003 and was appointed to a second term in 2007. Dr. Becker served as Board Vice President from January through December 2009 and as Board President from January through December 2010.

In her time with the Board, Dr. Becker was instrumental in supporting the mission of the Board to protect consumers and animals. The Board and staff wish to thank her for her support, service, and commitment to California. Thank you, Terri!

