

PETER C. HARVEY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey Street, Fifth Floor  
Post Office Box 45029  
Newark, New Jersey 07101

RECEIVED and FILED by the  
NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF  
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
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By: Olga E. Bradford  
Deputy Attorney General  
(973) 648-3696

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS -  
BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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IN THE MATTER OF :  
: Administrative Action  
**ABDALLA ABDELAZIZ, BVSc** :  
: **CONSENT ORDER**  
TO PRACTICE VETERINARY MEDICINE :  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :  
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This matter was opened to the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") following the Board's review of a consumer complaint filed by Geraldine Sperling following her visit with her pet to Lincoln Avenue Cat Hospital owned by Hesham El-Akbawy, BVSc. In her complaint to the Board, Ms. Sperling alleged that Dr. El-Akbawy misdiagnosed her pet, engaged in professional misconduct and was negligent, among other allegations, in his care of her seven (7)

year old Persian cat, "Sabastian." The Board's review into this matter revealed that the respondent, Abdalla Abdelaziz, BVSc, also provided veterinary care and treatment to Sabastian.

On April 16, 2003, the owner noticed that Sabastian, a cat with a history of crystal urea, bladder stones and cystitis, was having difficulty urinating. She called Lincoln Avenue and Dr. El-Akbawy requested that she admit the cat so he could perform a complete analysis and she complied. Following his examination and treatment of the cat, Dr. El-Akbawy discharged Sabastian to the owner with medication to relax his bladder on April 19, 2003. Dr. El-Akbawy provided the owner with his cell phone number and advised her to contact him if Sabastian had any problems.

On the following day, Sunday, April 20, 2003, the owner reported that Sabastian started to vomit, was lethargic and could not walk. She contacted Dr. El-Akbawy and advised him that she believed the cat was "blocked." The owner was directed to bring Sabastian to Lincoln Avenue Cat Hospital ("Cat Hospital") where the respondent, Abdalla Abdelaziz, BVSc, would treat the cat in his absence. Dr. Abdelaziz was, at the time, a qualified veterinary graduate who had obtained a temporary permit to work as a veterinarian in New Jersey pursuant to the mandates of N.J.S.A. 45:16-9.7. Dr. Abdelaziz was working at Lincoln Avenue under the supervision of Dr. El-Akbawy.

The owner presented Sabastian to Dr. Abdelaziz at approximately 6:00 p.m. on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Prior to the cat's arrival,

the respondent had arrived and reviewed Sabastian's medical records. Following his examination of Sabastian, Dr. Abdelaziz concluded that the cat was "blocked" and in renal failure. He performed a catheterization, initiated fluids and advised the owner, at approximately 9:00 p.m., that the cat was stable.

On Tuesday, April 22, 2003, the owner was advised that Sabastian's creatinine levels were high and that he was not doing well. The owner transferred Sabastian to another veterinary hospital where he was diagnosed to be in critical condition with a ruptured bladder. The cat underwent bladder repair surgery and was later euthanized on or about April 30, 2003.

On December 10, 2003, Dr. Abdelaziz appeared with counsel at an investigative inquiry held by the Board. During the inquiry, the respondent testified relative to the care and treatment he provided to Sabastian. Dr. Abdelaziz testified that he directed that the cat be placed on intravenous fluids at the rate of one (1) drop every twelve (12) seconds or five (5) drops a minute or approximately twenty (20) cc's an hour.

Having reviewed the entire record in this matter, including the patient records and the testimony of the respondent, it appears to the Board that Dr. Abdelaziz engaged in gross negligence, contrary to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c), which damaged or endangered the life, health, and welfare of Sabastian in that he provided insufficient and inadequate fluid therapy to Sabastian which failed to properly re-hydrate the cat. Acceptable standards

of veterinary practice require that a dehydrated animal be prescribed enough fluids to re-hydrate the animal within two to four hours. The Board determined that adherence to Dr. Abdelaziz's prescribed fluid therapy would require thirty-six (36) hours to adequately re-hydrate the animal. The Board concludes that this conduct grossly deviates from acceptable standards of care.

The parties desiring to resolve this matter without the need for further disciplinary proceedings; and the respondent acknowledging and not contesting the findings of the Board; and the Board having been satisfied that the within resolution adequately protects the public health, safety and welfare, and for good cause shown:

IT IS, THEREFORE, ON THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF ~~OCTOBER~~ <sup>November</sup> 2005,

**ORDERED THAT:**

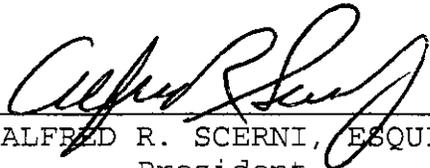
1. The respondent, Abdalla Abdelaziz, BVSc, is hereby reprimanded for his conduct as described above, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c).
2. Dr. Abdelaziz shall pay a civil penalty in the aggregate amount of \$2,500.00 for the violation found herein. Such penalty shall be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at 124 Halsey Street, Post Office Box 45020, Newark, New Jersey 07101, within fifteen (15) days following entry of this Order.

In the alternative, payment for the civil penalties shall be made by Dr. Abdelaziz in installment payments for the period of twenty-three (23) months at the rate of \$120.00 per month commencing on January 15, 2006. The twenty-fourth (24th) and final payment shall total \$102.00. These payments shall be made by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey. Additionally, the payments shall be due on or before the fifteenth (15) day of each month and shall be submitted to Leslie G. Aronson, Executive Director of the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners at the address listed above. Any failure to make any installment payment when due shall cause the entire remaining balance to become immediately due and payable without further notice. Subsequent violations will subject respondent to enhanced penalties pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-25.

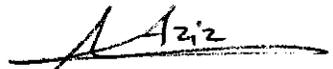
3. Dr. Abdelaziz shall pay the Board's costs in this matter in the amount of **\$362.00**. Such costs shall be added to the penalty amount set forth in paragraph 2 of this Consent Order which shall be paid in monthly installments.

4. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order or remit any and all payments required by this Order will result in the filing of a certificate of debt and may result in subsequent disciplinary proceedings for failure to comply with an Order of the Board.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF  
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:   
ALFRED R. SCERNI, ESQUIRE  
President

I have read and understand the  
within Consent Order and agree  
to be bound by its terms. Consent  
is hereby given to the Board to  
enter this Order.

  
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ABDALLA ABDELAZIZ, BVSc,

DATED: 11/10/05