



RICHARD J. CODEY
Acting Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

RECEIVED and FILED by the
NEW JERSEY STATE
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS
on this date of: 2/16/06



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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

February 16, 2006

By Certified and Regular Mail

Libby Y. Nesvold, V.M.D.
Fort Lee Animal Hospital
534 Tenth Street
Palisades Park, New Jersey 07650

Wallace Wass, D.V.M., PhD., ACVIM
Fort Lee Animal Hospital
534 Tenth Street
Palisades Park, New Jersey 07650

Re: I/M/O LIBBY Y. NESVOLD, V.M.D.
Complaint Number: 04-114

Letter of Admonishment In Lieu of Disciplinary Proceeding

Dear Drs. Nesvold and Wass:

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") has had an opportunity to review a complaint it received, filed by Louis Bellotti, concerning the treatment of his then thirteen (13) year old Domestic Shorthair cat, "Murphy," beginning on November 30, 2004.

Specifically, the information reviewed by the Board included, but is not limited to, the following documents:

1. A complaint filed, on or about December 20, 2004, by Louis Bellotti, as well as any and all attachments and exhibits; and
2. A correspondence, dated January 6, 2005, from Libby Y. Nesvold, V.M.D., to the Board, as well as any and all attachments and exhibits.

Upon review of all available information, the Board has determined that there is insufficient cause in this matter to warrant the filing of formal disciplinary charges. Notwithstanding this decision, the Board, however, asked me to convey to you its concerns with regard to this matter.

In reviewing this matter, the Board found that Murphy was admitted into your hospital, Fort Lee Animal Hospital ("Hospital"), on November 30, 2004 with the complaint of not eating well for about a week. The cat remained there at your facility for the next twelve (12) days. During this time period, several diagnostic tests were performed, including x-rays and a barium swallow, as well as the administration of medications, including antibiotics. However, the Board's review of this matter failed to find a diagnosis on your part or a plan of treatment for Murphy.

The foregoing clearly demonstrates to the Board that you engaged in conduct which constitutes simple negligence in failing to establish and implement a plan of treatment for Murphy or in the alternative to timely refer the owner and his pet to another facility for treatment in the face of an open diagnosis. Notwithstanding the Board's finding in this matter, it has determined to refrain from taking formal disciplinary action against you. However, the Board strongly admonishes you for failure to timely refer this case to another veterinarian and/or referral hospital and for failing to establish a treatment plan for Murphy. The Board suggests you take appropriate actions in this area in order to avoid this occurrence in the future.

As you may be aware, the Board is obligated to review every complaint received from consumers in order to assure that veterinarians licensed to practice in this State are complying with the applicable statutes, regulations and accepted standards of practice. Notwithstanding the concerns expressed in this letter, the board has determined not to initiate any formal disciplinary action against you at this time. The Board suggests that you consider the issues raised in this correspondence and comply with the directives contained herein. This matter will now be considered closed by the Board and, as such, this letter will be a matter of public record.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By: _____

Leslie G. Aronson
LESLIE G. ARONSON
Executive Director

cc: Deputy Attorney General Olga E. Bradford