

## North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

PO Box 328 Lisbon, ND 58054 ~ 701-683-4705

[ndbvme@nd.gov](mailto:ndbvme@nd.gov) ~ [www.ndbvme.org](http://www.ndbvme.org)

### Complaint Information

Practicing veterinary medicine without a license is a violation of the Veterinary Medical Practice Act (Chapter 43-29 of the North Dakota Century Code) and is also a class B misdemeanor. For your information, copies of the pertinent sections of the Act are referenced below. The full text of the practice act and board rules is available from our office, through the board's web site and in most public libraries.

**43-29-01.1. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

8. "Practice of veterinary medicine" means to: a. Diagnose, treat, correct, change, relieve, or prevent animal disease, deformity, defect, injury, or other physical or mental conditions. The term includes the prescription or administration of any drug, medicine, biologic, apparatus, application, anesthetic, or other therapeutic or diagnostic substance or technique, the use of any manual or mechanical procedure for testing for pregnancy, or for correcting sterility or infertility, or to render advice or recommendation with regard to any of the above. b. Represent, directly or indirectly, publicly or privately, an ability and willingness to do an act described in subdivision a. c. Use any title, word, abbreviation, or letter in a manner or under circumstances that induce the belief the person using the title, word, abbreviation, or letter is qualified to do any act described in subdivision a. d. Apply principles of environmental sanitation, food inspection, environmental pollution control, animal nutrition, zoonotic disease control, and disaster medicine in the promotion and protection of public health.

10. "Veterinary medicine" includes veterinary surgery, obstetrics, dentistry, chiropractic, acupuncture, and all other branches or specialties of veterinary medicine.

**43-29-17. Unlawful practice of veterinary medicine - Penalty - Civil remedy.** Any person who:

1. Practices veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry in this state without compliance with the provisions of this chapter; 2. Willfully and falsely claims or pretends to have or hold a certificate of registration issued by the state board of veterinary medical examiners; or 3. Willfully and falsely, with intent to deceive the public, claims or pretends to be a graduate of, or to hold a degree or diploma showing the satisfactory completion of a course in veterinary science in a school, college, or university recognized by the board; is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. In addition to the criminal penalty provided, the civil remedy of injunction is available to restrain and enjoin violations of any provisions of this chapter without proof of actual damages sustained by any person, upon application and unanimous vote of all members of the state board of veterinary medical examiners.

**Complaint form: Unlicensed practice**

To process a complaint, certain basic information is necessary. Please complete this form to the best of your ability and send the completed form by mail or email to the address above.

**Part 1. Your information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2. Information on the person thought to be practicing veterinary medicine without a license**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Type of services being offered or performed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3. The complaint**

Be as specific as possible (animals, dates, locations, times, participants, actions). Use additional sheets of paper, as necessary. Supporting documentation (business cards, flyers, newspaper ads, receipts, reports, etc.) should be included if possible.

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**Part 4.** By my signature, I authorize the release to the North Dakota Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners of all medical records necessary for evaluation of this complaint.

Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_