

**POSITION STATEMENT
TENNESSEE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**CONSULTING VETERINARIAN/
VETERINARIAN RESIDING NEAR BORDER OF A NEIGHBORING STATE**

Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-12-133 Exemptions (a) This chapter shall not be construed as applying to:

(2) Any lawfully qualified veterinarian residing in some other state or country when meeting in consultation with a licensed veterinarian of this state; and

(7) Any licensed veterinarian residing near the border of a neighboring state and duly authorized, under the laws thereof, to practice veterinary medicine therein whose practice extends into the limits of this state. However, such practitioner shall not open any office or appoint a place to meet patients in this state.

The Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners hereby adopts the following position statement in regards to the above statutory exemptions for licensure:

The practice of veterinary medicine in the state of Tennessee requires a current license from the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners. No person may be called into this state as a consulting veterinarian unless licensed as a veterinarian in another state and acting under the direct supervision of a Tennessee licensee. "Direct supervision" means that the licensee is on the premises and assumes responsibility for the consulting veterinarian. The Tennessee licensee is responsible for notifying the Board's administrative office of the name of the consulting veterinarian and the date(s) and location of the consultation. The request for consulting services must be for a specific case and can only be made by Tennessee licensed veterinarians, not by individual consumers.

Any one or more of the following would constitute a violation of the exemption(s):

1. Opening an office or appointing a place to do business within Tennessee;
2. Printing or using letterhead or business cards that reflect a Tennessee address;
3. Advertising the existence of a practice address in Tennessee;
4. Establishing an answering service in Tennessee;
5. Separate billing for consulting services;
6. Providing consulting services for more than ten (10) calendar days per year.

The Board has the authority to discipline any practitioner or facility which, after investigation and proper hearing, has been found guilty by the Board of a violation of the Tennessee Veterinary Practice Act (Tenn. Code Ann. 63-12-101 *et seq.*) or the general rules governing the practice of veterinary medicine (Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1730-1 thru 1730-5).

**Adopted by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners on the 13th day of December, 2006.
Rescinded by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners on the 25th day of August, 2010.**

For further information, please contact the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners by telephone at (615)532-5090 or toll-free 1-800-778-4123 ext. 25090 or in writing:

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