

Academy of Veterinary Dentistry

37W 748 Stafford Lane

Elgin, IL 60124

Andrew Duke, DVM
President, Academy of Veterinary Dentistry

Cindy Charlier, DVM , FAVD, Dip AVDC
Secretary, Academy of Veterinary Dentistry

June 12, 2009

Lisa Taylor-Austin
58 River Street, suite 4
Milford, CT 06460

RE: Dr. DeForge

Dear Ms Taylor-Austin,

Dr. Charlier, the Secretary of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry has forwarded to me your letter of concern and copies of your subsequent e-mails. The Academy of Veterinary Dentistry is an organization of veterinarians worldwide that have a special interest in dentistry and have demonstrated advanced study and training in this area. It does not award credentials or certify specialty status. I see in your communications that you have researched this matter and are acquainted with the difference in the American College of Veterinary Dentistry and the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry. The Academy Board of Directors has reviewed your concerns and noted them in a letter to Dr. DeForge. A copy is enclosed for your review.

If you are not satisfied with the communication and public notice given by Dr. DeForge, the American Veterinary Medical Association have a suggested peer review policy. In these suggested guidelines, issues should be first heard on the local level. If the matter is not resolved at the local level, a state association peer review committee or another state regulatory agency can hear it. These organizations vary from state to state and even within districts.

Sincerely,



Andrew Duke, DVM

President, Academy of Veterinary Dentistry

Disclaimer:

“Lisa Taylor-Austin believes there was merit to her claims that Dr. Deforge negligently cared for her cat, Simba, and that he misrepresented whether he was a Board-certified dental specialist. Dr. Deforge denies these claims and asserts that the Department of Public Health’s veterinary board cleared him of any wrong doing. However, Dr Deforge agreed to pay \$7,500.00 to compensate Ms. Taylor-Austin because he believed the risks inherent in any lawsuit and the cost of missing two weeks from his practice made it imprudent to go to trial.”

Note: My guardian’s costs for my medical care and all legal avenues exceeded \$20,000.