



**Academy of Veterinary Dentistry**  
37W748 Stratford Lane  
Elgin, Illinois 60124

August 10, 2010

Dr. Donald DeForge  
17 Seemans Lane  
Milford, CT 06640

Dear Dr. DeForge,

As per your request, enclosed are examples the Academy Board of Directors have reviewed, concerning your use of the term "specialist". Also included is a copy of the letter that was sent to you by the Academy Board of Directors last year with the same request. Examples of use of the term have been highlighted, underlined, or circled. As stated in the previous letter, all members of the AVD Professional Policy Committee and the AVD Board of Directors have reviewed this issue and Board of Directors requests the following:

1. Remove of the term "specialist" from your internet website pages and from all future printed practice literature material as of October 1, 2010
2. Assure that proof of changes be visible on your website pages as of October 1, 2010
3. Provide proof of changes on printed literature the AVD Board of Directors board via examples of your business card and business letterhead
4. Provide the Board of Directors your personal written assurance that in all publications after Oct 1, 2010 will not refer to yourself using the term "specialist"

Failure to comply with these specific requests outlined above by October 1, 2010 will result in immediate removal of your name from the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry's membership roster.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curt R. Coffman'.

Curt R. Coffman, 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.