



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

March 5, 2009

Lisa Taylor-Austin



Re: Donald H. DeForge, VMD
Petition No. 2009-0305-047-006

Dear Ms. Austin:

Your petition concerning care and services provided by Donald H. DeForge, VMD has been received by Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section and has been reviewed.

The Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section of the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health is responsible for investigating complaints and compliance issues for individuals whom we regulate pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, the Public Health Code of the State of Connecticut and/or the Code of Federal Regulations.

The Department will investigate your concerns pertaining to the standard of care provided by Dr. DeForge. The Department of Public Health lacks jurisdiction to resolve billing practice issues or obtain compensation for individuals related to practice issues.

Karen Wilson, Health Program Associate, has been assigned to investigate your concerns. Please feel free to contact her at the number listed below.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen W. Boulware".

Kathleen W. Boulware, RN
Public Health Services Manager
Practitioner Licensing and Investigations Section

KWB:ca



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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.