

State of



Arkansas

Veterinary Medical Examining Board

#1 Natural Resources Drive/P.O. Box 8505

Little Rock, Arkansas 72215

PHONE: (501) 224-2836

FAX: (501) 224-1100

August 14, 2015

Bernadette M. Dunham, DVM, Ph.D.
c/o U.S. Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20993

Dear Dr. Dunham:

I am writing to you in response to your letter dated June 11, 2015, in which you requested that the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Examining Board ("Board") review its definition of a veterinary-client-patient-relationship ("VCPR") to determine whether or not it meets the key elements as described in your letter. In §17-101-102 (11.) of the Arkansas Veterinary Medical Practice Act ("Act") VCPR is defined as follows:

"VETERINARIAN-CLIENT-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP" means:

- (A) The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or caretaker) has agreed to follow the instruction of the veterinarian;
- (B) There is sufficient knowledge of the animal(s) by the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s) by virtue of an examination of the animal and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animal is kept; and
- (C) The practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy;

Therefore, the Board feels that the Act's definition of a VCPR is directly in line with the key elements described in your letter. If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cara Tharp".

Cara Tharp
Executive Secretary