

State of New Mexico
Board of Veterinary Medicine

SUSANA MARTÍNEZ
Governor



Rebecca J. Washburn, DVM
Chair

Frances R. Sowers
Executive Director and CFO

June 23, 2015

Bernadette M. Dunham, DVM, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine
Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Silver Spring, Maryland 20993

Dear Dr. Dunham:

In response to your letter dated June 11, 2015, the veterinary-client-patient relationship is set out in the New Mexico Veterinary Practice Act as follows:

61-14-2 Definitions.

J. "valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship" means:

- (1) the veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of an animal being treated and the need for and the course of the animal's medical treatment;
- (2) the client has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian;
- (3) the veterinarian is sufficiently acquainted with an animal being treated, whether through examination of the animal or timely visits to the animal's habitat for purposes of assessing the condition in which the animal is kept, to be capable of making a preliminary or general diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal being treated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances R. Sowers".

Frances R. Sowers
Executive Director and CFO

