

Results of Discipline Case 2014-06

SVMA Discipline Committee

On January 16, 2015 the Discipline Committee of the SVMA convened a hearing to determine an outcome in case #2014-06: a complaint referred to the DC by the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) against Dr Alex von Dewitz.

Specifically, that Dr. von Dewitz:

1. Distributed an out of date biological to a client thus contravening SVMA bylaw 31.11 (a)

Background:

Dr von Dewitz had given expired vaccine to a client on the assumption the vaccine would likely continue to be efficacious beyond its expiration date. The client was concerned about the vaccine having expired and discussed it with a veterinary technologist. The technologist brought the situation to the attention of a licenced SVMA member who was then obliged to report the matter to the registrar or PCC.

The Discipline Committee made the following penalty recommendations upon Dr von Dewitz' pleading guilty to the offense of distributing a veterinary biological past its expiry date, and thereby having breached SVMA Bylaw 31.11:

1. Receive a letter of reprimand, but not condemnatory in tone.
2. Be required to pay 50% of the costs of this hearing.