



Telephone: (803) 896-4470
Fax: (803) 896-4656

South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

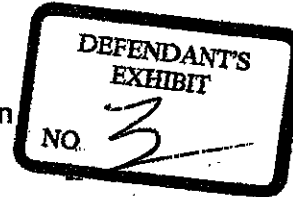
Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners

LLR
Synergy Business Park
110 Centerview Drive
P.O. Box 11329
Columbia, South Carolina
29211-1329

Complaint Form

Please type or print legibly.

Complainant Information
(Individual filing complaint)



Name: SUSAN FOX

Address: _____
(Number and Street)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: () _____

Evening Phone: () _____

What is the best way to reach you? Daytime Phone Evening Phone E-mail: _____

Respondent Information
(Individual the complaint is filed against)

Board or Profession: VETERINARIAN

Name: SHERIDAN THOMAS J
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Business Name: TOLLY ROAD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Address: 10388 TOLLY RD
(Number and Street)

City: CHARLESTON State: SC Zip Code: 29419

Business Phone: 843 760 4044

Please list all witnesses, providing names, addresses, and telephone numbers

TOM NICHOLSON

Statement of Complaint

Date and Location of Alleged Violation: JUNE 30, 2004 - JULY 23, 2004

Please provide a statement of facts, allegations and/or, concerns. Attach a copy of each document you possess that can substantiate any facts in your complaint. These documents will not be returned. Please attach additional sheets, if necessary.

SEE ATTACHMENTS

Lined area for providing a statement of facts, allegations and/or concerns.

Have you attempted to contact the licensee concerning your complaint? Yes ___ No If yes, When? FAX AND TELEPHONE

What was the result? NO CONCERN FOR THE CAT

I attest that the information provided is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Doreen Scott
Complainant Signature

9/7/05
(Date)

Michelle Baker
Notary Public (Expiration Date) 9/11/10

9/7/05
(Date)

Date Received	___/___/___	Receiving Board:	_____
License Number	_____	License Type:	_____
How Received	_____	Date Reviewed	___/___/___
Acknowledgement letter sent	___/___/___	Category	_____

Susan Fox
900 King Street
4-A
Charleston, South Carolina 29403
www.captseasun@yahoo.com
843-494-5224



September 7, 2005

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners
Post Office Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329

RE: Complaint
 Thomas James Sheridan, DVM
 Folly Road Animal Hospital
 1038 Folly Road
 Charleston, SC 29412 843.762.4944

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter shall serve as an attachment to the complaint which is being filed against the above named veterinarian. Copies of two letters that I sent to Dr. Sheridan regarding my concerns are also attached for your review.

Dr. Sheridan is extremely aware of my complaints as I have been quite vocal about my absolute disgust of him and his practice. Contained in a zip lock bag in my freezer is a large piece of the "virtual rug" which I had to shear from Cootie's back. She was covered in feces and urine and the skin under the matting displayed symptoms of infection.

My beloved "Cootie" was euthanized on August 19, 2005 due to complications from cancer. I promised her that I would avenge this matter.

Susan Fox
Susan Fox

Susan Fow

September 20, 2005

Gregg Hinson, Investigator
South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Division of Legal Services
Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Post Office Box 11329
Columbia, SC 29211-1329

RE: Complaint
Dr. Thomas Sheridan, DVM

Dear Mr. Hinson,

I am in receipt of the notice from H. Rion Alvery, Assistant Deputy Director of SCLLR dated September 12, 2005 which acknowledges your appointment as investigator with regard to the complaint which I have reported against Dr. Thomas Sheridan, DVM

I would like to share a little background on my beloved cat who is the subject of this investigation. "Cootie" was rescued at approximately three weeks of age from a garbage can. The person that rescued her took her to a veterinarian because she was in serious distress. She was dehydrated; her eyes crusted shut, had intestinal parasites, ear mites, and was covered with fleas. "Cootie" spent two weeks recovering under veterinary care. When I met "Cootie" she was in a foster home because the person that rescued her was not allowed to have pets. I was told that "Cootie" was extremely shy and scared but the moment that I put my finger up to her cage, she walked forward and touched her paw against my finger. She had never reacted this way with another person. There was no doubt that she would be going home with me. Her appearance was pitiful - big bulbous head, scrawny neck, distended belly, patchy fur, grimy ears. My mother's reaction upon seeing her was "You have lost your mind". My reply was "All she needs is LOVE". With that, she turned into a beautiful, majestic cat friend that I adored. She never was trusting of anyone but me and we cohabitated in a "live-and-let-live" world.

I became acquainted with Dr. Sheridan when he first opened his practice and a friend recommended him. At first, Dr. Sheridan treated my German shepherd. "Jazz" was advanced in age at that time and suffered from hip and leg problems (typical of the breed). He seemed caring and attentive. When "Jazz" suffered a stroke and it was obvious that her quality of life had diminished, Dr. Sheridan was the person that I turned to for an end to her suffering. I was present during the procedure and it gave me great

comfort to know that she passed so peacefully. When "Cootie" needed medical attention and on occasion boarding, I again turned to Dr. Sheridan.

When Dr. Sheridan was arrested and charges were brought against him, I defended him. It simply *couldn't* be true that this person that I trusted could be guilty of such horror.

It should be clear from my correspondence to Dr. Sheridan what transpired when my cat was at his facility. She was returned to me in deplorable condition. She suffered neglect and was abused by this man that I thought would care for her. When I voiced my disgust to him – and I was ADAMANT, Dr. Sheridan never once expressed concern. He wanted to blame her care on her temperament. ~~Could it be that her treatment was based on being scared, shy, and aggressive when chased around a cage with a net???~~ Since when did existing in feces and urine become acceptable???

Dr. Sheridan's only concern was his reputation after realizing that my first correspondence (requesting the transfer of "Cootie's" medical records) had been copied to Dr. Paul Patrick.

"Cootie" was euthanized on August 19, 2005 due to complications from cancer. As we spent our last few hours together, I realized that her life had been so happy and comfortable with the exception of the time that she spent in Dr. Sheridan's care. It was then that I made a promise to myself and to her that I would bring attention to this matter which I had failed to resolve as it unfolded.

On June 19, 2001 a Final Order was issued from The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in the matter of Thomas J. Sheridan, DVM. The **Findings of Fact** listed Patient A, B, C, D, & E which were all animals (pets) previously in the care of Dr. Sheridan. While these issues have been brought before the board and have no bearing on my complaint, I count "Cootie" as "Patient F" among the casualties of this veterinarian. My hope is that there will not be a "Patient G". Given the number of serious complaints previously filed against Dr. Sheridan, I think that this complaint should bear more weight than if it were a first-time complaint against a veterinarian with a clean record. Clearly, that is not the case here, and Dr. Sheridan's continued abuse of his patients points to a grave flaw in his ability to practice quality veterinary medicine. The "anger management course" that he was ordered to attend apparently did not solve his problem. It is my hope that as you investigate this case, the extreme history of abuse will be taken into account which will allow the Board to act appropriately to protect other animals from an abusive veterinarian.

I look forward to your reply, together with the case number assigned to my complaint. In addition, could you please advise approximately how long it will take for this case to be decided. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Susan Fox