

## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 1, 2025
<b>TO</b>	California Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
<b>FROM</b>	<u>Enforcement Managers</u> Patty Rodriguez Ashley Sanchez Robert Stephanopoulos
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 23.C. Enforcement Report</b>

### Inspections

On August 12, 2025, Board staff held a quarterly round table meeting for Inspectors. Mobile inspection application issues were discussed as well as potential future enhancements. New inspectors were welcomed and encouraged to ask questions. The next Inspection round table meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2025.

As part of the Board's ongoing outreach efforts, an Inspection webinar was held September 23, 2025. The webinar featured a presentation by California Department of Health's Radiological Health Branch (RHB) staff. The Section Chief of the Radiation Machine Inspection, Compliance, and Enforcement Section gave an overview of the State's radiation safety program. The RHB enforces laws and regulations addressing radiation designed to protect the public, radiation workers, and the environment and is responsible for the licensing and registration of X-ray producing machines as well as inspection of facilities using radiation. The webinar was well received and well attended. The next webinar will be scheduled in early 2026.

Ongoing recruitment efforts continue for an inspector in the Bay Area. While many emails have been received from licensees expressing interest, most do not meet the qualifications.

The mobile inspection application will soon be updated to an iOS application. The Office of Information Systems staff along with the Tyler Technologies, Inc staff have been working on this update which will result in greater ease of use in the field. User Acceptance Testing is scheduled to be completed October 5, 2025.

### Intake

Intake has continued to process complaints well below the ten-day cycle time target, with investigations opened in about three days. However, as mentioned during the prior meeting, in August, Intake began dedicating most of their time to requesting records for cases in which records have not been obtained. The goal of this project is to avoid any records from reaching the three-year retention mark specified in law as well as getting a

realistic number of cases that will require a Consultant and potentially Subject Matter Expert (Expert) review. As expected, this has caused an increase in the number of cases pending at Intake, but this should only be temporary as the team has already requested a large number of records and is finalizing getting the remaining records.

### **Investigations**

At the end of September 2025, the Board had 3,513 cases pending, which is slightly above where it started at the beginning of FY 24/25 - as the Board had a couple vacancies in the enforcement unit. Despite this, the average number of closures per analyst still remains above ten case closures per analyst.

### **Subject Matter Expert (Expert) Program**

On August 27, 2025 and August 28, 2025, the Board held round tables for its Consultants and Experts (respectively). During these meetings, a variety of topics were covered, including:

- Avoiding: references to other unrelated cases when writing reports, jargon, artificial intelligence, making assumptions on behalf of the respondent, providing personal opinions of the respondent, opining on non-medical issues.
- Reminders that: Experts are required to have 5 out of the prior 7 years of clinical (hands on) experience in the area in which they are opining, each Standard of Care finding should exist on its own, failure to perform is different from failure to document, all medical issues present in the record should be identified

Scenarios were also discussed involving:

- Veterinarians working with a specialist and the application of the VCPR
- Overtreatment
- Antibiotic stewardship
- Responsibilities of a vet when firing a client
- Use of waivers
- Inappropriate administration of drugs

### **Probation**

The Probation Monitors are actively investigating 23 pending enforcement complaints against 12 probationers and five inspections. Currently, there are four Petitions for Early Termination pending with the Probation Unit. There are no Petitions for Reinstatement pending.

Since the last update, two licensees began probation, bringing the number of current probationers to 58, eight of which are tolled.

### **Disciplinary Action Vote Results**

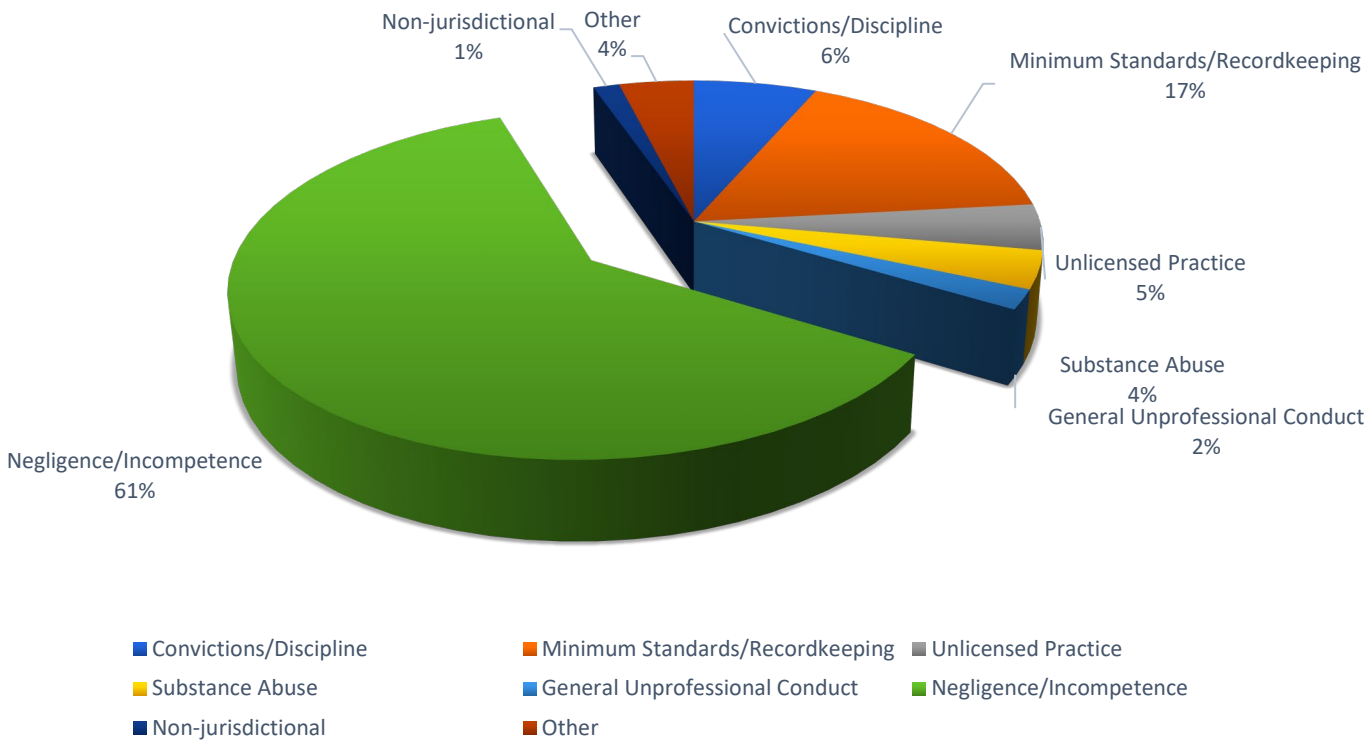
Since the last Board meeting, the Board reviewed the following disciplinary matters:

<b>STIPULATED SETTLEMENTS</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
Joshua Millerd, RVT (Case No. 4602023000623)	5– Adopt	Adopt
John Pena Araujo, DVM (Case No. 4602022000126)	6 Adopt 1 Hold for Discussion	Adopt
Joseph Patrick Dowd, DVM (Case No. 4602021001574)	6 Adopt 1 Hold for Discussion	Adopt
<b>DEFAULT DECISION</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
Oriana Iannitti (Case No. 4602024001067)	6 – Adopt	Adopt
<b>DECISION AFTER REJECTION</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>RESULT</b>
Sonia Amador, DVM (Case No. 4602019000083)	5 – Adopt	Adopt

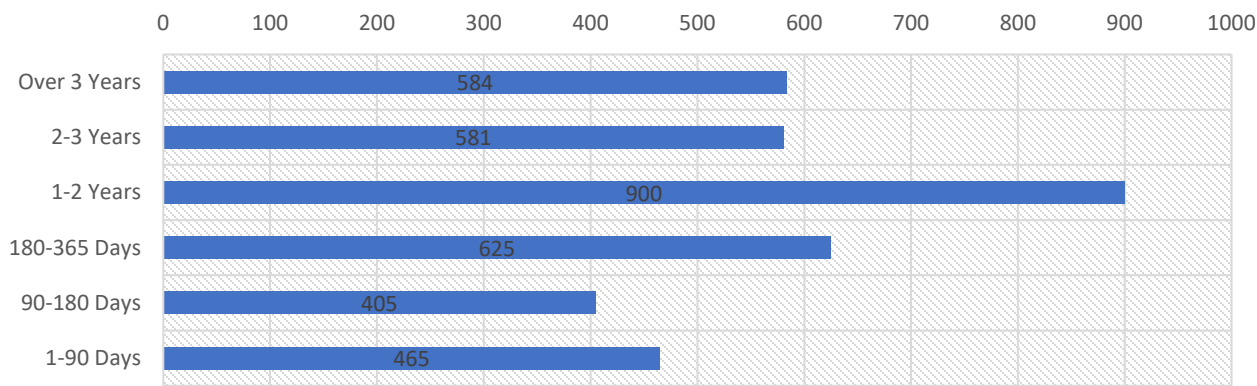
### **Attachments**

1. Enforcement Statistics

### FY 25/26 YTD Complaints Received by Violation Type



### Pending Cases



Summary of Enforcement Activity								
Enforcement Activity	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26			
Complaints – Intake (+ Conviction Arrest Notification Complaints)	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	July	Aug	Sept	YTD
Received	1,696	1,808	1,871	2,163	191	202	181	574
Closed Without Referral for Investigation	80	70	95	122	14	17	16	47
Referred for Investigation	1,634	1,716	1,790	2,057	178	180	153	511
Pending	10	33	17	4	4	7	33	33
<b>Inspections</b>								
Conducted	41	116	182	203	16	27	16	59
Citations Issued	10	5	3	3	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Action Taken	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	1
<b>Investigations</b>								
Open	1,634	1,716	1,790	2,057	178	180	153	511
Closed	1,279	1,942	2,023	2,166	190	147	177	514
Pending	3,848	3,722	3,565	3,487	3498	3544	3513	3513
<b>Cases Closed within Timeframe to Complete Intake and Investigations</b>								
Up to 90 Days	263	446	387	560	46	35	33	114
91 to 180 Days	67	79	102	133	11	24	20	55
181 Days to 1 Year	118	171	158	221	23	14	27	64
1 to 2 Years	151	307	309	343	38	19	32	89
2 to 3 Years	166	300	415	353	50	38	32	120
Over 3 Years	514	639	652	556	22	17	33	72
Average Number of Days from Receipt of Complaint to Assignment of Investigator (start of investigation)	9	7	8	3	2	3	5	3
Average Number of Days for All Investigation Outcomes (from start investigation to referral for prosecution or case closure without referral for prosecution)	772	705	767	662	593	535	607	581
Average Number of Days from Receipt of Complaint to Referral for Prosecution or Case Closure Without Referral for Prosecution	789	721	777	669	598	539	611	585
<b>Citations and Fines</b>								
Issued without a Fine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Issued with a Fine	42	23	18	31	0	0	0	0
Withdrawn/Dismissed/Reduced	6	10	2	2	0	0	0	0
Average Number of Days to Issue a Citation and Fine (from complaint receipt/inspection conducted to citation issued)	1,308	1,456	1,386	1,415	0	0	0	0
Administrative Fines	2	8	11	5	0	3	1	4
<b>Total Amount of Fines</b>								
Assessed	\$198,250	\$131,000	\$115,178	\$164,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$25,000
Withdrawn/Dismissed/Reduced	\$2,501	\$22,251	\$60,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Collected	\$129,366	\$103,208	\$111,457	\$119,637	\$5,917	\$5,350	\$11,838	\$23,105
<b>Criminal/Civil Actions</b>								
Referrals for Criminal/Civil Action	3	2	7	13	0	0	0	0
Criminal Actions Filed	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
Civil Actions Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Office of the Attorney General/Disciplinary Actions</b>								
Cases Opened/Initiated	64	71	130	226	14	3	11	28
Cases Closed	20	38	65	42	4	4	3	11
Consolidated Cases Closed	5	20	44	8	3	3	0	6
Cases Pending - AG Pre-Filing	55	76	128	303	309	303	301	301
Cases Pending - AG Post-Filing	34	34	40	42	41	45	44	44
<b>Number of Days to Complete AG Cases</b>								
Up to 1 Year	8	14	35	30	0	0	0	0
1 to 2 Years	3	19	26	10	4	3	1	8
2 to 3 Years	2	4	4	1	0	1	1	2
Over 3 Years	5	0	0	1	0	0	1	1

<b>Formal Actions Filed/Withdrawn/Dismissed</b>								
Restraining/Restriction/Suspension Orders Sought	1	1	5	4	0	0	0	0
Restraining/Restriction/Suspension Orders Granted	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	1
Accusations Filed	25	21	31	29	1	8	2	11
Petitions to Revoke Probation and Accusations, and Petitions to Revoke Probation Filed	0	13	4	9	2	0	1	3
Accusations Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Petitions to Revoke Probation and Accusations, and Petitions to Revoke Probation Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Administrative Outcomes/Final Orders</b>								
Revocation	3	2	4	5	0	0	2	0
Surrender of License	4	3	9	7	2	0	0	2
Probation with Suspension	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspension Only	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Probation Only	8	13	14	10	0	0	1	0
Public Reprimand/Public Reprimand/Public Letter of Reprimand	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other Decisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	18	27	23	2	1	3	6
Average Number of Days from Closure of Investigation to Imposing Formal Discipline(Previously under Formal Actions Filed/Withdrawn/Dismissed)	707	514	514	376	526	712	811	671
Average Number of Days to Impose Discipline (previously under Number of Days to Complete AG Cases)	1496	1402	1800	1455	765	1885	605	1129
<b>Probation</b>								
Probations Completed	19	18	18	8	0	1	0	1
Probationers Pending (includes Facilities and Individuals)	58	55	52	57	57	59	60	60
Cease Practice Orders Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Substance Abusing Licensees</b>								
Probationers Subject to Drug Testing	25	20	10	7	7	7	8	7
Drug Tests ordered	773	497	281	196	20	20	20	60
Positive Drug Tests	198	158	49	32	0	2	0	2
<b>Subsequent Discipline</b>								
Probations Revoked	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Probationers License Surrendered	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Additional Probation with Suspension	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additional Probation Only	1	0	5	2	0	1	0	1
Other Conditions Added Only	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Probation Outcome	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Applicant Action</b>								
License Application Denied (No Appeal)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Statement of Issues Filed	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
License Applications Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
License Issued with Probation or Probationary License Issued	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
License Granted (Statement of Issues Denied)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(License Issued with a Public Letter of Reprimand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statement of Issues Withdrawn/Dismissed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Petition for Modification or Termination of Probation</b>								
Granted	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0
Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Petition for Reinstatement of Revoked License/Registration/Certification</b>								
Granted	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	0
License Issued with No Restrictions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

License Issued and Placed on Probation	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
License Issued and Placed on Probation with Precedent Condition	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Other Decisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denied	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Administrative/Criminal Cost Recovery</b>								
Ordered (Total)	\$106,625	\$319,398	\$220,298	\$233,948	\$0	\$41,859	\$14,050	\$55,909
Ordered with Revoked/Surrendered Decision	N/A	0	0	0	\$0	\$11,594	\$0	\$11,594
Ordered with All Other Decisions	\$106,625	\$319,398	\$220,298	\$233,948	\$0	\$30,265	\$14,050	\$44,315
Administrative Cost Recovery Collected	\$29,193	\$100,876	\$340,969	\$255,930	\$5,377	\$24,086	\$14,337	\$43,800
Criminal Cost Recover Ordered	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Criminal Cost Recover Collected	0	0	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Restitution to Consumers/Refunds/Savings</b>								
Restitution Ordered	\$13,251	\$18,683	\$6,328	\$3,578	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Amount Refunded	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Rework at no Charge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Adjustments/Returns/Exchanges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Savings Achieved for Consumers	\$13,251	\$18,683	\$6,328	\$3,578	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0