

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 4:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response- Q&A
Attachments: Practice Act Model_FullDocument 9-6-10.pdf

[REDACTED]

Please note that the FOIA does not require our office to respond to questions posed in FOIA. However, I reached out to the APHIS Human Resources Division (HRD) and the Office Animal Care regarding questions you had regarding Vet licenses.

The Federal Office Personnel Management does not require HRD to import certificates/license in employee's Official Personnel File.

Animal Care provided the following "a federal Veterinary Medical Officer is not required to have a state license to conduct their duties assigned in the federal government. They are exempt from the requirement to hold a state license for each state they work in. The requirements leveraged to obtain a state license are not the same requirements to complete their duties in the federal government especially for enforcing the Horse Protection Act. The VMOs are trained annually face to face for 40 hours prior to horse protection inspections being conducted for the year as well as they receive continuing education of conferences, symposiums, webinars and conference calls throughout the year." I have attached the document from the AAVSB that shows the exemption – pg 13.

Therefore, our office will not be able to provide copies of their veterinary licenses.

With the information previously provided and the information stated above, we have fully complied with your request. If you still have questions, you are welcome to contact Rachel Cezar at (301)851-3746.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:42 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Woods, Tonya G - APHIS
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

Will do. Thanks a lot for your typically excellent service.

And please call me [REDACTED] My friends' 3 year olds do. Outside of work, I'm just an elderly kid.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Woods, Tonya G - APHIS
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

M [REDACTED]

Before you file an appeal, let me first check around.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 2:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Woods, Tonya G - APHIS
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

[REDACTED]

Thanks very much. This is very helpful.

Tonya,

A heads up. I'm going to have to appeal this. I really need to know if they hold valid, current state vet licenses. There's case law out there that VMOs without current licenses should not (and aren't in some jurisdictions) be allowed to testify in HP cases, just like I couldn't practice law without a current state license. But just to see if what I saw was right about some of the VMOs being unlicensed, I checked 8 of the folks on the list. Four I could find, but the other 4 weren't licensed in the states in which they are assigned.

I'm pretty sure that somewhere in APHIS someone is keeping track of this.

Thanks for your efforts,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 10:34 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

- 1- Occupational series – all should be 0701 veterinary medicine
- 2- Grade level of the job
- 3- Official duty city where the employee works
- 4- Official duty state where the employee works

One can deduce that if they are a VMO assigned and working in a particular state, they should be licensed to practice in that state...we don't have their licenses.

Hope this helps.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 1:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

First, thanks for the very, very quick turnaround. Now to prove that I am never satisfied, I'd like to understand what four specific titles mean:

1. Ser
2. Gr
3. City
4. State

Why I'm confused about items 3 and 4 in this request:

Requesting in electronic form any and all listings for your VMOs who enforce the Horse Protection Act showing the state or other jurisdiction where they are licensed to practice veterinary science.

Is probably due to my ignorance. I had thought that vets were like docs or lawyers and were licensed by a state, so that the City column wouldn't be there. And if there was a city it would be the capital city of the state where they're licensed.

Thanks a lot,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 10:03 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOIA 14-1244 response

Titles!

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 9:15 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOIA 14-1244 response

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