

**From:** [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)  
**To:** [Trisha Linebarger](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 9:03:05 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: sundrupal@capitol.local [<mailto:sundrupal@capitol.local>]  
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:36 AM  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: STATE BOARD VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

First Name: Greg

Last Name: Munson

Title: Founder

Organization you are affiliated with: Texas Vet Board Watch; Texas Veterinary Records

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City: Mesquite

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed: With regards to issue #4, if the commission chooses to allow the board to delegate medical review to licensed veterinarians who are not board members or to a possible 'staff veterinarian,' it is IMPERATIVE that AT LEAST two licensed veterinarians perform medical review. A single licensed veterinarian should NEVER have the sole authority to dismiss a complaint.

Also, the board should have strict guidance on who may be chosen to perform medical reviews. Board staff should choose the licensed veterinarians conducting medical reviews following guidelines issued by the Sunset Commission or Legislature with absolutely NO influence, input, or coercion by vet board members or past / present officers and / or other representatives of TVMA (Texas Veterinary Medical Association).

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: Open up the complaint process between the complainant and licensee so that the complainant and licensee can see and reply to all responses received from either party. Make it mandatory that if the complainant requests to be interviewed during the investigation, the board will accommodate that request. Remove the veil of secrecy that surrounds the entire complaint process. The board must protect our pets - not bad vets. Thank you.

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree

My name is Greg Munson and I am from Mesquite. My advocacy dates back to 2006 when the vet board dismissed a complaint filed by my wife Cindy and me. My greatest accomplishment was getting the Texas attorney general to rule in 2009 in Open Records Decision GA-683 that the licensee's response to a complaint must be provided to the complainant. Prior to this date, licensees faced with a complaint could make up whatever story they saw fit in their response, all the while knowing that the only person that could dispute their story – the complainant – would never even see their response. No more.

As Cindy mentioned, I am the creator of the Texas Veterinary Records website. This was created as a necessary public service due to the board's lack of motivation to publish the complete disciplinary records on their own web site.

The last time the Texas Vet Board went through the Sunset review process, in 2004, one of the recommendations contained in the Sunset Commission Decisions report was that “the Board should post information about disciplinary orders and sanctions on its website in a format that consumers may access easily.” Here we are, 12 years later, and the board is still attempting to obfuscate, or make more difficult to access, this disciplinary information.

In response to this recommendation, the vet board stated that they were working on improving the format. Twelve years later, we are still waiting.

There were also many citizens who publicly supported easier access to the information.. Interestingly, as noted in the report, there was one person who was against easier / public access to disciplinary information. That person was Dr. Roland Lenarduzzi, who, at that time, was the President-Elect of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association.

Why is this important? Well, the mission of the TVMA is protecting the best interests of Texas veterinarians. This would be exactly the opposite of the Texas Vet Board whose first priority is to protect the public. Here we are, 12 years later, and Dr. Lenarduzzi, former president of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association, is the CURRENT president of the Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners!-- the same Dr. Lenarduzzi, who was AGAINST easier public access to disciplinary information. I believe this helps to explain WHY this board has failed in making all disciplinary information easily accessible.

It is a HUGE conflict of interest for the former president of the TVMA to be the current president of the vet board. I am asking you to mandate that former and/or current officers of the state veterinary medical association are not eligible to be appointed to serve in ANY capacity on the Texas Vet Board.. This should be retroactively applied.

I am also asking that you mandate for the board to finally make ALL disciplinary information easily accessible on their website. Twelve years of waiting is long enough. Thank you.