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**March 21, 2018**

The Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners is a fee funded agency whose mission is to promote public health, safety and welfare relative to the practice of veterinary medicine.

Agency Goals: Assure the public consumer that each licensed veterinarian and each registered veterinary technician is qualified, properly trained, and performing in accordance with the Kansas Veterinary Practice Act.

Assure that all Kansas veterinary premises meet or exceed minimum premise standards to assure adequate facilities for providing veterinary services to the public in a sanitary and safe manner.

Assure that licensees practice in a manner that protects the safety of animal products entering the public food chain, and prevents and controls animal diseases communicable to humans.

Guard against negligent and fraudulent practices, and respond efficiently and effectively in the investigation of all allegations of violations reported to the agency.

**As of 3/20/2018** the agency licenses **2669** veterinarians. This number includes **53** institutional licensees who work only at Kansas State Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Of the remaining 2616, there are only **1516 that reside and practice in the state of Kansas**; that leaves 1100 licensees that live outside the state. Today's numbers show licensees in neighboring states are as follows:

Colorado-75

Nebraska 127

Missouri-215

Oklahoma 104, **for a total of 521 veterinarians in our neighboring states.**

That leaves **579** individuals who still hold a Kansas license while living more than one state away. Many graduates from Kansas State Veterinary College become licensed and retain that Kansas license throughout their career.

As of December 2017 there were 865 DEA registered veterinarians in Kansas.

Kansas veterinarians have not reported any serious problems with requests for controlled substance prescriptions from clients.

The KBVE responds to problems of veterinary diversion as it relates to self-medicating. **The addition of veterinarians to the K-TRACS program would do very little to address this issue of veterinarians self-medicating.** Funding from the KBVE budget for K-TRACS would have a significant negative effect to our inspection process. The inspection of veterinary premises includes auditing controlled drug logs and inventory. This program is being expanded to include ambulatory veterinarians, those not associated with a registered premise.

KBVE has a long standing relationship with DEA and is currently collaborating with DEA to identify Kansas veterinarians holding a DEA registration. This information is used in the inspection/auditing process. The DEA field office in Kansas City is a valuable partner to KBVE during controlled substance investigations.

Jay Hedrick, DVM  
Executive Director