

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
FORMAL HEARING MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
BOARD ROOM 2  
HENRICO, VA  
July 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) was called to order at 9:05 a.m., on July 28, 2022, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, Virginia.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Tregel M. Cockburn, D.V.M., President

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ellen Hillyer, D.V.M., M.P.H.  
Steve Karras, D.V.M.  
Thomas Massie, D.V.M.

**QUORUM:** With four members of the Board present, a quorum was established.\*

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Senior Discipline Case Administrator

**BOARD COUNSEL:** Charis A. Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General

**COURT REPORTER:** Andrea Pegram, Court Reporting Services, LLC

**PARTIES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMONWEALTH:** Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

**COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES:** Jermial Gray, Senior Investigator

**RESPONDENT WITNESSES:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Taryn Singleton, L.V.T., Discipline Case Administrator  
Julia Bennett, Deputy Executive Director, Administrative Proceedings Division

\*On August 1, 2022, the Board was notified that a new board member had been appointed on July 11, 2022 to succeed Dr. Hillyer, whose term expired on June 30, 2022. Because the Board was unaware of this new appointment, a quorum was not established in order to conduct this hearing.

**MATTER SCHEDULED:**

**Sarah Carter, Veterinary Technician Applicant  
Case: 215924**

Ms. Carter appeared before the Board in accordance with a Notice of Formal Hearing dated June 23, 2022. She was not represented by counsel. The Board received evidence from the Commonwealth and from Ms. Carter regarding allegations in the Notice.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Dr. Karras moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Sarah Carter, Veterinary Technician Applicant**. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Pote attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE:**

Dr. Karras moved that the Board certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

**DECISION:**

Dr. Karras moved to approve Ms. Carter's application for licensure as a Veterinary Technician. The basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order that will be sent to Ms. Carter at her address of record. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hillyer and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions and decision of this quorum of the Board.

Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine  
Formal Hearing  
July 28, 2022  
Page 3

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Formal Hearing adjourned at 11:18 a.m.



Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H., Executive Director

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
FORMAL HEARING MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
BOARD ROOM 2  
HENRICO, VA  
July 28 and 29, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) was called to order at 12:05 p.m. on July 28, 2022, at the Department of Health Professions (DHP), Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Board Room 2, Henrico, Virginia.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Tregel M. Cockburn, D.V.M., President

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Karras, D.V.M.  
Thomas Massie, D.V.M.  
Jeffery Newman, D.V.M.

**QUORUM:** With four members of the Board present, a quorum was established.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kelli Moss, Deputy Executive Director  
Heather Pote, Senior Discipline Case Administrator

**BOARD COUNSEL:** Charis A. Mitchell, Assistant Attorney General

**COURT REPORTER:** Andrea Pegram, Court Reporting Services, LLC

**PARTIES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMONWEALTH:** Emily Tatum, Senior Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division  
Christine Corey, Adjudication Specialist, Administrative Proceedings Division

**COMMONWEALTH WITNESSES:** Jermial Gray, Senior Investigator, DHP  
Scott Dillon, Senior Investigator, DHP  
Curt Shade  
Sienna Church, Veterinarian  
Jacob Bogart  
Richard Malament  
Renee Addison, Veterinarian  
Taylor Wilcher  
Hannah Plaughter, Veterinarian

**RESPONDENT WITNESS:** Ayman Salem, Veterinarian

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Shirin Zin Faqiri  
Taryn Singleton, L.V.T., Discipline Case Administrator  
Tsering Cole  
Greer Peacock  
Diane Powers, DHP  
Sue Bartos, DHP  
Randi B. Hagi  
Erin T. Weaver

**MATTER SCHEDULED:**

**Ayman Salem, Veterinarian**  
**License No: 0301-201313**  
**Case Nos: 210960, 212327, 213511, 213789, 214580**

Dr. Salem appeared before the Board in accordance with a Notice of Formal Hearing dated May 9, 2022. He was represented by Michael Thorsen, Esq. The Board received evidence from the Commonwealth and from Dr. Salem and his counsel regarding the allegations in the Notice.

**RECESS:**

Dr. Cockburn recessed the hearing at 3:59 p.m. on July 28, 2022, to be reconvened on July 29, 2022.

July 29, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine (Board) was called to order at 9:02 a.m. on July 29, 2022. Dr. Cockburn stated for the record that all of the same board members, staff members, and the parties were in attendance as were at the first day of the hearing.

**COMMONWEALTH  
WITNESSES:**

Scott Dillon, Senior Investigator, DHP  
Thomas Burgess, Veterinarian  
Joseph Sorensen  
Garrett Smith, Veterinarian

**RESPONDENT WITNESS:**

Ayman Salem, Veterinarian

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Shirin Zin Faqiri  
Diane Powers, DHP  
Sue Bartos, DHP  
Randi B. Hagi  
Erin T. Weaver  
Crissy Sorensen

**CLOSED SESSION:**

Dr. Karras moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to § 2.2-3711(A)(27) of the Code of Virginia ("Code") for the purpose of deliberation to reach a decision in the matter of **Ayman Salem, Veterinarian**. Additionally, he moved that Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Moss attend the closed meeting because their presence in the closed meeting was deemed necessary and would aid the Board in its deliberations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE:**

Dr. Karras moved that the Board certify that it heard, discussed or considered only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened. The motion was seconded by Dr. Massie and carried unanimously.

The Board reconvened in open session pursuant to § 2.2-3712(D) of the Code.

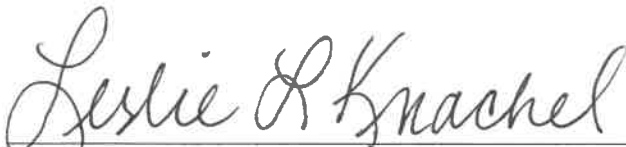
**DECISION:**

Dr. Karras moved to continue the indefinite suspension of the license of Dr. Salem for not less than two years, and that the basis for this decision will be set forth in a final Board Order that will be sent to Dr. Salem at his address of record. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman and carried unanimously.

This decision shall be effective upon the entry by the Board of a written Order stating the findings, conclusions and decision of this quorum of the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Formal Hearing adjourned at 4:08 p.m. on July 29, 2022.



Leslie L. Knachel, M.P.H., Executive Director