



TEXAS BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 5, 2017

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INVESTIGATION OF UNLICENSED PRACTICE LEADS TO ARREST

TBVME joint investigation results in arrest of Springtown, TX Man

Austin, TX: An investigation into the practicing of equine dentistry without a license led to the arrest of Parker County resident, Nathan Strahan on November 16, 2016. Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME) investigators began their investigation after receiving a complaint that Strahan was providing dental services around the North Texas and Southwestern Oklahoma area.

During the TBVME investigation, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Special Ranger Wayne Goodman assisted with the case, enabling criminal charges to be filed. According to TBVME Director of Enforcement, Matthew West, an undercover sting was conducted in which Strahan offered to perform dental services for the undercover TBVME investigators and even offered the ability to sedate horses using drugs.

Based on the information from the undercover operation, Special Ranger Goodman was able to obtain a warrant for Strahan for the practice of equine dentistry without a license. With the assistance of the Parker County Sheriff's Office, a separate warrant was issued for the possession of dangerous drugs that Strahan had in his possession at the time of the undercover operation. Both offenses are Class A Misdemeanors, which can be punished by a fine up to \$4,000 and/or up to one year in jail. Strahan also faces the potential civil action through the TBVME.

According to Investigator West, "Practicing equine dentistry or veterinary medicine may not seem like a serious offense, but for those involved in the livestock industry, having an untrained and unlicensed individual perform procedures on an animal that they rely on to make a living with can have far-reaching consequences."

About the TBVME: The Texas Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was created in 1911 to establish and enforce policies to ensure the best possible quality of veterinary and equine dental provider services for the people of Texas. TBVME also strives in setting clear standards for professional conduct, by assuring compliance with the rules of professional conduct and the community standard of care and seeking solutions to issues that strengthen the profession and protect the public.

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