

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCYGAVIN NEWSOM, GOVERNORDEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS• VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD1747 North Market Blvd., Suite 230, Sacramento, CA 95834-2987P (916) 515-5520| Toll-Free (866) 229-0170| www.vmb.ca.gov



## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 22, 2024 Contact: DCA Media media@dca.ca.gov

## LOS ANGELES-BASED VETERINARIAN SUSPENDED

Judge Granted Interim Suspension Pending Full Administrative Decision

SACRAMENTO – Veterinarian <u>Robert Dawson, DVM</u>, and his veterinary facility <u>ATSC Pico, Inc.</u>, have been suspended for 28 health and safety related violations that endanger the health, safety, and welfare of animals, consumers, and ATSC Pico employees.

The Veterinary Medical Board (Board) investigated the veterinary facility, where services are provided to many animal rescue groups, after receiving consumer complaints. The investigation confirmed significant unsanitary conditions and inadequate physical presence and oversight, among other violations.

Following the filing of a Petition for an Interim Suspension Order, the matter was heard before an Administrative Law Judge earlier this month. The judge issued a <u>Ruling and Order</u> granting the suspension against Dr. Dawson and ATSC Pico, Inc., pending a full <u>administrative decision</u>, stating, in part, that the "evidence raises serious concerns regarding the care being provided by Respondents to its animal patients; the cleanliness of the facility; and health, safety and welfare of the pets in care, staff at the facility and consumers."

Dr. Dawson and ATSC Pico, Inc., are prohibited from providing any veterinary services to consumers and their animals while suspended.

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Consumers are reminded to verify licenses are in good standing before seeking the services of any veterinary professional. To verify a license or file a complaint, visit the Board's website at <u>www.vmb.ca.gov</u>.

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The mission of the Veterinary Medical Board is to protect consumers and animals by regulating licensees, promoting professional standards, and diligent enforcement of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.