

MIETRO

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Veterinarian retires after complaints

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A Mount Pleasant veterinarian who had his license suspended for a year has agreed to stop practicing in South Carolina.

Dr. Stan Gorlitsky sold his practice and retired, according to

an agreement accepted Thursday by the state Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

The order prohibits Gorlitsky from any activity that would lead the public to believe he was a licensed or practicing veterinarian. It says the veterinary board has received a complaint of profes-

sional misconduct but is not specific about the complaint.

Gorlitsky's license was suspended for a year in July 2002 after more than a dozen complaints were filed against him in the previous two years. The board found then that Gorlitsky had been incompetent and negligent in his

care of animals.

Marcia Rosenberg, a Mount Pleasant pet owner who filed a complaint two years ago about Gorlitsky's care of her cat, Pumpkin, has fought to have Gorlitsky's license revoked.

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COMPLAINT

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"They don't use the word revocation, but it's the equivalent," Rosenberg said Thursday.

A woman who answered Gorlitsky's phone said he was not available. "He sold his practice and retired. It's as simple as that," she said.

State officials declined to discuss the agreement.

Gorlitsky sold his Mount Pleasant practice, St. Elmo's Pet Clinic, and Palmetto Veterinary Hospital opened in the same location in April 2003. Palmetto Veterinary has no association with Gorlitsky.

Rosenberg said she planned to continue to push for passage of legislation that would open to the public the secretive disciplinary process for veterinarians. That would protect pets and pet owners from incompetent veterinarians, she said. The legislation was defeated in June.

Meanwhile, Rosenberg's cat Pumpkin is 4 years old and healthy. "Every day, when I see her, she reminds me how lucky I am that I have her."

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