



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
Office of the District Attorney  
Twelfth Judicial District

**Scot D. Key**  
District Attorney

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 25, 2022

VETERINARIAN, DR. EDMOND CHRISTOPHER STALEY, CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, DANGEROUS DRUGS, CONDITIONS FOR SALE, FORGERY – MAKING OR ALTERING (\$2,500 OR LESS), FORGERY – ISSUING OR TRANSFERRING (\$2,500 OR LESS), AND PRACTICING VETERINARY MEDICINE WITHOUT A LICENSE

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney, Scot D. Key, announces that a Change of Plea Hearing was heard on Defendant, Edmond Christopher Staley, age 69, of Bryan, Texas. On April 22, 2022, Staley pled No Contest to one count of Possession of a Controlled Substance, one count of Dangerous Drugs, Conditions for Sale, one count of Forgery – Making or Altering (\$2,500 or less), one count of Forgery – Issuing or Transferring (\$2,500 or less), and one count of Practicing Veterinary Medicine Without a License.

The investigation revealed Staley previously operated a veterinarian practice but was ultimately shut down after he failed to pass the National Veterinary Medical Exam in April of 2019. As a result, his Veterinarian License was suspended on May 21, 2019.

Thereafter, on May 30, 2019, he surrendered his Certificate of Registration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), in addition to all drugs in his possession. Staley acknowledged, in writing, he was no longer authorized to order, manufacture, distribute, possess, dispense, administer, prescribe, or engage in any other activities regarding controlled substances or List 1 Chemicals.

However, between June 1, 2019, and September 30, 2019, he continued to operate his clinic and perform surgeries, euthanize animals, administer and prescribe controlled substances and other medications.

On September 30, 2019, a Search Warrant was served at his clinic in Alamogordo, New Mexico, which was open for business. He had, in his possession, 360 bottles of dangerous drugs, drugs which are require a prescription which he did not have, and 37 bottles of controlled substances, for which he did not have a prescription or authorization to possess.

In May of 2019, Staley altered his score from “fail” to “pass” on the North American Veterinarian Licensing Exam (NAVLE). This alteration would affect his license status and would be different than his original failing score. Moreover, on June 19, 2019, he sent the forged “passing” score to the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine (NMBVM), with the knowledge it had been changed from the original. This act was intended to deceive or cheat the NMBVM.

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The Honorable Chief Judge, Angie K. Schneider, sentenced Staley to four and a half years of supervised probation. Staley will have to abide by all conditions of probation with a special term and condition prohibiting him from practicing veterinarian medicine. In addition, Staley will be prohibited from working at a clinic or any agency or organization that practices veterinary medicine.

Staley's case was investigated by Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's Office Investigator, Daniel Sarkozy.

This matter was prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney, RoxeAnne B. Esquibel.

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