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Books: Law and Ethics of the Veterinary Profession

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Law and Ethics of the Veterinary Profession

by James F. Wilson, D.V.M., J.D.,
533 pages, illus., $59.95

Law and Ethics of the Veterinary Profession is an excellent resource for practitioners, students and teachers of veterinary law. A brief overview of the legal system and its history acquaints readers with a system that impacts directly on the application of veterinary medicine. Basic legal concepts and clear, practical examples of their in practice application assists in giving the law immediacy for the reader. An understanding of these differences and the concepts engendered within the legal system will return dividends to the informed practitioner.

The text draws freely from experiences familiar to the small animal practitioner to provide examples for legal applications. Landmark legal decisions are referenced and integrated into the subject matter, California statutes and regulations are utilized to demonstrate the applications of state law to veterinary practice and to suggest legislation appropriate for avoiding common legal pitfalls in veterinary practice. Such usage is informative because California often takes leadership in the development of new state law initiatives to be later accepted by other states.

Although necessarily general to obtain a national scope, the chapters on professional ethics, practice liability, dispute resolution and avoidance techniques, veterinary drug, biologic and pesticide usage regulations, practice management techniques and their use in legal defense development and wildlife law sections are clearly presented. The numerous sample forms provided, as well as the practice management and drug usage information, more than justify the $59.95 purchase price of this text for practitioners and for veterinary students.

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