

# APPENDIX

## Regulations and Sanctions Governing the Use of Barbiturates for Animal Euthanasia in the U.S.A.

Sodium Pentobarbital is a Schedule II substance and can be obtained only by a licensed medical practitioner, such as a physician or veterinarian.

The physician or veterinarian must apply for and be issued a Controlled Substance Registration Certificate by the Drug Enforcement Agency. The application forms are available from any of the DEA Regional Offices. Normally it requires about six (6) weeks for a veterinarian to obtain a DEA Registration Certificate.

Also in Texas, a Texas Controlled Substances Registration Certificate, issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, is required.

Each of these Registration Certificates is issued to the veterinarian as an individual and drugs must be delivered, stored, and used only at the address shown on these Certificates.

The veterinarian or physician who obtains the controlled drugs is personally responsible and accountable for all drugs received and dispensed. Records must be maintained for at least two years and are subject to audit by DEA at any time.

Even though the veterinarian is properly registered with DEA and DPS, each drug order must be accompanied by a DEA Order Form. Each of these forms is numbered and must be accounted for. Each form is made in triplicate which is precarboned. The first two copies are sent to the supplier. Even the carbon paper must be sent with the order. The supplier is **not** allowed to fill any order unless it is properly made out and the carbon paper is intact.

### Drug Security

When a shipment of controlled drugs is received, each carton should be checked for leakage, breakage, or any shortages. After the individual cases are checked, they should be resealed and a notation made on the case of the date the check was made. At this time the last copy of the DEA numbered form is completed showing the number of units received and the date of receipt.

Also, a record should be maintained on a local form. This will give you a running summary of all drugs received as well as all other information needed for an inventory or audit.

DEA requires that stocks of controlled substances be kept in a securely locked cabinet or safe. I strongly recommend that you use a combination safe for the best security of your stock of drugs. Access to the safe should be limited to as few employees as possible.

### Facility and Equipment

A room which is adequate in size and basic standard equipment is essential when large numbers of dogs and cats are destroyed by the injection of pentobarbital sodium. Many times the room which was formerly used for euthanasia was converted after the old equipment was removed.

## Guidelines for State Sanction

The previous page consists of the Federal Government Regulations. In your state, you may first have to introduce and enact state legislation to permit the use of sodium pentobarbital for euthanasia. In other words, the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency recognizes the present need of humane societies, but first, existing state regulations limiting the use of barbiturates may have to be changed. It should be emphasized that according to the DEA, a veterinarian need not be on the premises when the drug is received and/or administered. For further information, you may contact your regional DEA office (see list on following page).

The following bill from the state of Indiana is a useful guideline for implementing state sanction for the use of barbiturates in animal euthanasia.

### *House Enrolled Act No. 1136*

AN ACT to amend IC 1971, 35-24.1-3 as it concerns the regulation of manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. IC 1971, 35-24.1-3, as added by Acts 1973, P.L. 335, SECTION 1, is amended by adding a new and additional section to be numbered 1.5 and to read as follows: Sec. 1.5 Humane Societies — Limited Permits. (a) Any humane society is entitled to receive a limited permit only for the purpose of buying, possessing, and using sodium pentobarbital to euthanize injured, sick, homeless, or unwanted domestic pets and animals if it:

- (1) makes appropriate application to the board according to rules established by the board; and
- (2) pays to the board annually a fee for the limited permit.
- (b) All fees collected by the board under this section shall be credited to the state board of pharmacy account.
- (c) Storage, handling and use of sodium pentobarbital obtained according to this section is subject to rules and regulations of the board.

SECTION 2. Because an emergency exists, this act takes effect on passage.

## DEA DOMESTIC REGIONAL OFFICES

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JFK Federal Bldg., Rm G-64  
Boston, Mass. 02203  
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Region II — New York  
555 West 57th Street  
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New York, New York 10019  
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Region III — Philadelphia  
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U.S. Customs House  
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Region XIV — Los Angeles  
1340 W. 6th Street  
Los Angeles, Calif 90017  
(213) 688-2650  
(California, Hawaii, Nevada)

*There is no Region IX*