

**Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons  
And  
Mr David Christopher Wilson**

**Decision**

The responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee is to ensure the welfare of animals, to protect the best interests of the public, and protect the reputation of the veterinary profession.

In arriving at its decision the Committee has taken into account the mitigation submitted by Mr Wilson's counsel and the impressive references submitted in writing and in person by his previous employers.

Mr Wilson has been found guilty of disgraceful conduct in a professional respect, by failing to carry out euthanasia on a dog when he had received written instruction from its owners.

Mr Wilson's conduct during the events described had several untoward effects.

Mr Blow and Ms Gay suffered unnecessary distress.

The welfare of the dog, Indi, was compromised.

This case did not concern the competence of Mr Wilson. The Committee accepts the testimonials as to his professional ability and good character.

The episode indicated an error of judgement by a relatively inexperienced veterinary surgeon who did not appreciate the importance of being conversant with the Guide to Professional Conduct. He failed also to seek advice from a senior colleague when asked to undertake a procedure of which he did not approve.

This behaviour served seriously to damage the good reputation of the veterinary profession.

However, having taken all these factors into account, including the fact that Mr Wilson has suffered the anxiety of having this disciplinary matter hanging over his head, the Committee has decided that a just and proportionate sanction to meet Mr Wilson's fall from grace can be met by the imposition of a severe reprimand.

Should you in future appear before this Committee and have a similar charge substantiated against you, then you should not expect to be treated with such leniency again.

Mr Wilson, this Committee severely reprimands you.

**THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

**3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2006**