



COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE

College of Veterinary Medicine Policies and Procedures

Subject: **Professional Conduct**

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Professional Conduct

VMTP students in the College of Veterinary Medicine are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the Mississippi State University Honor Code and the Mississippi State University Code of Student Conduct. Mississippi State University (MSU) and the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) recognize students are adults who are expected to obey the law and the rules and regulations of the university and the CVM, to take personal responsibility for their conduct, to respect the rights of others, and to have regard for the preservation of state and university property, as well as the private property of others.

Students engaging in professional misconduct may be subject to disciplinary review. Sanctions may include disciplinary probation or dismissal from the professional program. Students are referred to the Mississippi State University OP 91.100: Code of Student Conduct.

In addition to aspects of misconduct listed in the MSU Code of Student Conduct OP 91.100, the VMTP of the CVM also considers the following to be examples of professional misconduct:

1. Discussing patient care or client records with persons other than the client, CVM faculty, staff or students assigned to the case. Similarly, students not assigned to the case should not discuss patient care with anyone other than CVM faculty, staff or students.
2. Making derogatory or unprofessional remarks about referring DVMs regarding case management.
3. Taking photographs of patients, laboratory animals or clients. Faculty members and house officers must take any photographs needed for student presentations or publications and provide these to the student.
4. Convincing an owner to relinquish an animal to the student for personal gain or gratification.
5. Posting client or patient information, including pictures of any kind, on social media will be considered as professional misconduct. In addition, posting derogatory remarks on social media about classmates, clinical personnel, externship facilities and personnel, and instructors will be considered as professional misconduct.

