VMB Electronic Fingerprint Requirement for License Renewal

Veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians renewing their California licenses with the Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) may be directed to submit electronic fingerprints as a condition of license renewal. California license renewal is done online using the Department of Consumer Affairs BreEZe system. This requirement is pursuant to the California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2010.05 which states, in part, the following:

As a condition of renewal of a license, a veterinarian who was initially licensed prior to January 1, 1960, a registered veterinary technician who was initially licensed prior to January 1, 2004, or any licensee for whom an electronic record of the submission of fingerprints no longer exists or was never created, shall furnish to the Department of Justice a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting a criminal history record check and to undergo a state and federal level criminal offender record information search conducted through the Department of Justice.

This regulation took effect in 2012 after a legislative change to the California Business and Professions Code section 144 required fingerprint database checks for both the California Department of Justice (DOJ) and the FBI (only DOJ was required prior to that). Since then, the BreEZe system has been updated to check for or hold renewals in the absence of fingerprint results from the FBI.

This means that if you receive a notice from the VMB that Livescan® electronic fingerprints are required for license renewal, that you either have never submitted Livescan® fingerprints to the VMB for licensure, or submitted Livescan® fingerprints prior to the state licensing system checking for FBI results.

To obtain Livescan® fingerprints, complete the VMB Request for Livescan® Service form and take this form to any Livescan® California location. Your electronic fingerprints will be transmitted directly to the VMB.

If you renew your license online using BreEZe, the renewal should be instantaneous. If you check your renewal status on BreEZe and notice that the status is pending, it likely means that there is an issue with your license renewal, such as the VMB does not having current Livescan® prints. If this occurs, you may choose to submit new electronic fingerprints to the VMB or contact them for further direction. The VMB may be reached at (916) 515.5220.