

JOEY'S



LEGACY

SEEKING TRUTH AND INTEGRITY IN VETERINARY MEDICINE



AUTHOR JL ROBB

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ISBN: 9781513678788 Digital

ISBN: 9781513678795 Hard Cover

ISBN: 9781513678801 Soft Cover

Printed in the United States of America

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|---------------------|----------------------------|
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| The End Part Five: | The Two Witnesses |
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Dedication

This book series is dedicated to our shining star, Joseph Russell Fine, and all of his feline, canine and equine brothers and sisters that met an unexpected fate at the hands of another: veterinarians that committed acts of negligence that resulted in their untimely demise.

May we all see an end to veterinary negligence and the deceitful conduct of some veterinarians in the aftermath.

Joey's Legacy

Seeking Truth And Integrity In Veterinary Medicine

ENDORSEMENT

I cannot believe that it has been a few years since Scott Fine called on me during the very early stages of his founding of Joey's Legacy, and his nonprofit, ground up movement for justice, regarding those "bad actors" Scott refers to, and who are guilty of negligence, malpractice, and/or purposely doctoring and/or altering medical records, in order to hide errors in case workup, case management or clinical judgement. And while I have stated to both grieving clients, and those other professionals involved with Scott's movement, we all are human and make mistakes, and forgiveness is indeed a very important part of the healing process, even in the face of such tragic loss. But when medical professionals go to such extreme measures as to lying, hiding mistakes or altering medical records, then it is my strong view that the tragic passing of these victimized animals does deserve justice. One of the biggest areas of frustrating negligence and malpractice I have seen over many decades of clinical veterinary practice has been the wanton overuse, or inappropriate use of both core and noncore vaccinations in our animal companions. Very often their use provides absolutely no clinical benefit to the animal, and in many cases does both short- and long-term immune system damage. Every medical and veterinary physician has taken an oath on graduation from medical or veterinary school that states, "Above all, do no harm". In my experience, this specific issue is one of the most often overlooked areas of negligence and malpractice in the conventional veterinary profession, especially when administering these vaccinations to chronically ill animals with immune mediated disorders and/or cancers. There is plain and simply no excuse for such practices. In my work with Scott and the grieving clients over the years, I have often found that while the client was pursuing negligence or malpractice for different reasons, that the widespread clinical practice of over vaccination was often the key component in the timeline history of these cases that often triggered or accelerated patient decline. I am proud to be part of Joey's Legacy, both in their quest for accountability of the "bad actors", as well as hopefully working with state legislative bodies in legal reform, relative to characterization of animals as much more than property, in addition to

allowing for recovery of more than just property value damage when an animal companion falls victim to negligent or poor medical practice. Ultimately, the goal for all of us in this movement, as well as the entire veterinary profession, should be for all of us to work as hard as we can together, while learning from our errors or mistakes, in providing the most competent and skilled medical care possible. After all, it always should have been about, and hopefully always will be about the health and wellbeing of the animals FIRST.

Michael Dym, VMD.

Dr. Michael Dym is a Presidential Scholar graduate of Cornell University where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Animal Science in 1986.

Dr. Dym received his veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania where he was a top graduate. His veterinary degree came from the prestigious University of Pennsylvania where he was a top graduate. Dr. Dym has been treating pets since 1991.

Dr. Dym is one of 250 veterinarians in the United States trained in classical veterinary homeopathy by Richard Pitcairn, DVM, PhD. He is an active member of the Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy and the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association. He also offers progressive integrative conventional veterinary medicine.

A message from Thomas Nicholl, attorney and veterinarian

I have had the benefit of seeing veterinarian interactions with animals and clients from two different perspectives. The reason for this is that I practiced as a Veterinarian for over 20 years in both the companion animal and equine areas. Then someone I didn't know decided to run a stop sign at about 50 m.p.h. while drunk and try to put his car where mine was. When I came out of hospital about a week later, I was advised to "find something different to do." Therefore, I went to Law School, and have been in practice as an attorney for 16 years.

As an attorney, I see a lot of Veterinary malpractice cases (all for the owner of the animal, as all veterinarians are required to carry malpractice insurance, and the respective companies defend them, either by attorneys on staff, or given to a few regularly used outside firms). In SOME cases, there has, indeed, been malpractice – the vet did something below the standard of care which also caused the injury. In ALL cases, the owner is at the very least upset, and perhaps distraught. Even in the cases where there actually was malpractice, a few of these may never progress, but a vast majority of those where there was not malpractice, but the owner is nevertheless (and quite understandably) upset, would not progress if the veterinarian was caring and sympathetic.

Now putting on my Veterinarian hat, I have said, and I know many of my friends have said something similar, "I am sorry about..... I know he/she meant a lot to you. We did everything we could, but unfortunately it just didn't work. Is there anything I can do to help out" Also, when something did go wrong, hopefully not my fault, I would continue to see the animal without charge for that problem, until it was resolved. I'm not making myself to be a saint – I know of many others who do the same. I do know veterinarians who 1) are not perceived to be sympathetic 2) continue to charge full amounts for any conceivable treatment as long as the animal is still alive 3) make a bill dauntingly large (whether intentionally or not), and make a priority of getting paid, sometimes to the detriment of the animal. Although there are some veterinarians who manage well enough on their own, there are their malpractice carriers, who strongly advocate to their client veterinarians 1) admit nothing 2) never apologize 3) never refund any

money 4) as soon as you get wind of anything, tell us first, and we will handle it. There is an overwhelming majority of veterinarians who are caring and sympathetic but are also somewhat under the repeated warnings similar to “failure to follow advice may result in us refusing to cover you.” I find this a totally unacceptable mandate. Furthermore, some of the adjusters are so obnoxious, any settlement is rendered impossible.

Back to being an attorney. I had one case where the vet. really did mess up, and left the dog on a heating pad, which caused burns so severe that the dog needed many skin grafts.

The veterinarian contacted his malpractice carrier, who I spoke to. When I explained the situation, he said “We are denying the claim because without a skin biopsy, there is no proof that the heating pad caused the burn.” I couldn’t resist but ask that if the paramedics came to a burning house and pulled out a person in need of treatment, they would not do anything without the results of a biopsy. I had another case where the vet. was a total jerk. However, he was not guilty of malpractice.

Wearing both hats, I see a much greater proliferation of young veterinarians who have a huge student loan debt. (In 1975 there were 13 vet schools in the country – now nearly every state has one, and they usually have over 200 students per year graduating). Because of the plethora of graduates, many of these veterinarians have spent minimal time with an older “mentor,” and have set up their own practices. These veterinarians are not like the “old school” vet. many are used to, but instead are younger looking (hey anybody under 40 looks young to me,) are crippled with a vast debt which they must recover to pay both themselves, their loans, and their overhead. As a result, they are stressed, often perceived to be uncaring and money-hungry, and not spending enough time or interacting with patient. Of course., there are some clients who will be dissatisfied regardless of anything.

It’s probably hopelessly optimistic, but where possible, it would be helpful to reduce the cost of veterinary education. It is, however, very easy to provide a course (even 1-2 lectures) about client relations. In addition, a letter from the AVMA to the veterinarian insurance carriers explaining to them how difficult their CYA policy makes for good client / veterinarian

relationships. You don't have to say, "I'm sorry, I messed up, and as a result your pet died and I'm not going to charge you." But you can say "I'm sorry, I know they meant a lot to you, we did everything we could, but it wasn't enough I know you're upset, but we will take care of the cremation (or something else) as a humanitarian gesture for you. If veterinarians would start to behave like normal people, then I think their previous perception in the public eye can be recovered.

Thomas Nicholl is both an attorney and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. He graduated from Veterinary Orlando School in 1975 and has practiced for over 20 years. He also holds a law degree and practices in the Central Florida area. He is a former State of Florida Prosecutor with extensive trial experience and is licensed with the Florida Bar Association as well as being a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. Nicholl is originally from Ireland and has resided in the United States since 1975. He enjoys playing golf and has a Black Belt in Martial Arts. His office is located in Orlando, Florida.

FORWARD

Scott and Debbie Fine

Joey's Legacy

THE FIRST 60 YEARS OF MY LIFE were uneventful with all of my pet companions. All of the veterinarians were caring and compassionate people. Some visits were for vaccinations, some were sick visits, but none were as a result of life-threatening illness or injury. They all lived healthy, happy lives.

It was a different time.

I never experienced, nor heard any others talk about, the subject which is the basis for this book. It was never an issue brought into the public light, as far as I can recall.

The majority of veterinary practitioners today are loving, gentle professionals who entered the profession for the right reasons. They genuinely care about their patients. They want to make sure their patients live happy, healthy lives. They treat their patients like they treat their own loved ones, both human and animal.

There is a minority of veterinary practitioners that choose to follow a different path. Perhaps their practices have been bought by large conglomerates; entities whose bottom line is more important than the proper care of our loved ones. The practitioners, who are now controlled by others, must abide by the demands of their corporate bosses' new policies which often do not consider the welfare of their patients.

Part of this book will contain actual victim stories and photos. Nothing here is enhanced, embellished, or exaggerated for effect. It doesn't have to be. The reality of veterinary malpractice is that it exists. It will always exist because veterinarians are human, just like the rest of us. We accept that. Unexpected things happen to everyone in life. It's part of life.

We want to stop all the lying and deceit these "bad actors" feel is necessary to escape accountability. Ironically, 73% of the members of my Facebook group, Joey's Legacy-VetMal Victims, said that if the practitioner had only been honest with them about the events that led to the death of their pet

companions, they could have eventually found a path to forgiveness, and they wouldn't feel the need for "revenge" by seeking justice through legal action and exposure of the bad actor through social, print and television media. What creates the need for a Joey's Legacy is all of the duplicity and dishonesty these otherwise revered members of a very beloved profession feel compelled to engage in. Maybe one day, there will be a change.

I pray...

JOEY'S LEGACY



It was the summer of 2017 when we lost our shining star, our boy Joey, to whom this book is dedicated. He didn't die as a result of injury or natural causes, like the majority of his sisters and brothers. Joey, our dachshund, was given a drug that was contraindicated for his condition, according to its manufacturer. His condition was unknown at the time because no blood tests were performed to determine organ health. Two days later, we made the impossible decision to put an end to Joey's suffering, and so he was euthanized. We soon learned how many others were lost due to negligence, and so we decided to turn the worst experience of our lives into a place of comfort and solace for other victims of negligence. Joey's Legacy was born.

My vision was to form a non-profit organization that would include veterinary experts and animal law attorneys from around the country. The vets would review medical records and determine if veterinary malpractice occurred. If so, the vet would write an opinion letter that would be forwarded, along with all medical records, to an attorney in the state where the malpractice occurred to pursue legal action.

Simple, right? Not so fast

I contacted a number of vet experts around the country. Most were unwilling to call out their unprincipled colleagues in writing. They contribute to the problem. The “sin of silence”. Eventually, I found several vets who liked the idea of a “Joey’s Legacy” because they, too, were disgruntled and frustrated with the actions of those practitioners who lacked an ethical and moral compass. They agreed to join our team, on a trial basis. So now I have the first part in place: the vet experts. What about the attorneys?

I contacted a number of animal law attorneys in different states to see what kind of spin they put on my idea. As you might imagine, their responses were similar citing the “pets are property” laws and it wouldn’t be economically feasible for them to handle such cases.

Getting nowhere...shot down, over and over again. I wasn’t done yet. One of the victims in our group told me about an attorney that might be interested in what I wanted to do. I contacted her, and she was on board with the idea within a few minutes.

Finally, attorney #1 was on board.

Slowly, we added one attorney after the other and we now have 31 attorneys that can assist members in all 50 states, who work with our 10 veterinary experts to assist our member victims seek justice.

Part of the age-old philosophy of convoluted thinkers like the AVMA and other vet-friendly organizations is trying to convince you that your dog or cat is only worth \$100 in court, so suing your vet doesn’t make sense. We now know that was part of the indoctrination we all fell for. That’s why there were very few attempts to sue veterinarians for negligence. After all, if your potential damages are \$100 in court it wouldn’t make sense to proceed against a vet.

But Joey’s Legacy found a better way in the last three years.

Not only do our attorneys sue for out-of-pocket costs and “replacement value” of your pet companion (still don’t know what “replacement value”

really means), our attorneys now also may sue for violations of consumer law, deceptive practices and common law fraud . This may include instances like when your veterinarian tells you that there will be someone at the clinic overnight to monitor your pet companion, who just had surgery and.....guess what.....nobody will actually be there. Happens more than you know.

Some victims damage awards have since increased substantially from the \$100 promised by the veterinary propaganda machine. In fact, some damage awards have reached into the thousands are commonplace. Joey's Legacy has demonstrated, over and over, that if you're a veterinary professional it doesn't pay to lie to one of our members.

THE "GOOD GUYS" IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

All professions have members that are competent at what they do. Let's call them the "good guys". They are ethical, professional, honest, and true. They don't lie, they don't deceive, and they don't play games with their clients. If something goes wrong, they tell the truth. They tell it like it is. They take their medicine, learn from it, and move on. They are professionals in every sense of the word. The same applies to veterinarians. There are 60,000+ veterinarians in small animal practice in the United States. This paragraph applies to most of them. They provide compassionate care for their patients. Pet parents rely on their expertise to ensure a great outcome during a pet visit to the animal hospital. Once in a great while, something unexpected occurs as a result of negligence. Sometimes the vet tech was negligent; perhaps the anesthesia dial was on "5" when it should have been on "2". The patient is overdosed with anesthesia, goes into cardiac arrest, and dies. Nothing done intentionally: just pure negligence. The vet was not present, but he must take the "hit", in most cases, because he is responsible for the actions of his employees. The good guy confronts the pet parent, in what will be a difficult conversation. He/she knows how this situation must be handled: be straightforward, truthful, and transparent no matter how difficult it is. Remorse and contrition must be conveyed in a genuine fashion. Assistance to the pet parent must be offered in the aftermath. The good guy has executed his responsibilities appropriately. The pet parent is

now left to deal with grief, despair, shock and presumably anger at the loss of the loved one. If the pet parent decides to take legal action against the vet, the vet must consider it as part of the aftermath that he/she must endure: a relatively small price to pay in light of the emotional turmoil and unnecessary mayhem caused by his animal hospital. However, my experience is that most pet parents in this situation are willing to find a path to forgiveness if the veterinarian was honest about what happened.

THE “BAD ACTORS” AND THEIR PLAYBOOK

Enter the bad actor.

In our group, a bad actor is a veterinarian who is super-motivated by the almighty dollar, someone who is usually a narcissist, is disinterested and insensitive to the needs of his/her clients and their pets and will lie in a heartbeat to protect himself/herself. This is the same misfit that would throw a staff member under the bus to save his/her own ass.

Bad actors are unprincipled misfits. Their depravity knows no bounds. They are trained to admit nothing if they commit negligence. Accountability, responsibility, and liability are words that are non-existent in their vocabularies. They won’t think twice about altering medical records, if the pet parent files a complaint with the state board of veterinary medicine, in order to cover up their negligence. Serial offenders, some with a history of disciplinary action that dates back 10 years or more, are sharp enough to begin the process of scrubbing the records right away. The amateurs, those who haven’t had an experience with the vet board tend to do nothing, expecting that they are in the clear. Then comes the letter from the vet board, and the race to scrub records begins. Scrubbing records can be done in a variety of ways, like changing lab results to reflect normal values or adding fictitious vital signs to present the appearance of a healthy patient. Just part of their playbook. It is stunning what levels the bad actor will go to in order to protect himself/herself. Nobody is safe, nothing is sacred. The irony of their conduct is that when a death occurs in their care as a result of negligence, they really have little to be concerned about.

Here's why:

1. If the pet parent decides to file a complaint with the vet board, the investigation begins with the vet board sending the veterinarian a letter notifying him/her that the pet parent filed a complaint alleging negligence in the death of their pet companion. The good guy will respond with truth and integrity, sending copies of the deceased's medical records, untouched, unaltered, and appearing as it did after the original vet visit. The good guy responds promptly to any correspondence from the vet board and accepts his punishment. Case closed.
2. The bad actor will typically scrub records after receiving word of the complaint, then respond to the state's request. They contact a defense lawyer, in most cases, to represent them. In reality, they could handle their cases pro-bono since the final order is almost always a joke of a plea deal, constructed well in advance of the final hearing date. For the second and subsequent offenses, while you may think the level of disciplinary action would escalate, in most cases it is the same ineffective discipline as was imposed the first time.
3. Many victims are threatened by the bad actors and their staff, telling them that if they go to the media about what happened, they will be sued. In my experience and opinion, the best defense against being sued is to provide irrefutable facts and pure opinions. Nevertheless, the victims heed the threat and are forced to suffer in silence.

AMERICA'S BOARDS OF VETERINARY MEDICINE-THE ACCOMPLICES THAT DRIVE THE GETAWAY CARS

Let's recap. We have the good guys: veterinarians who entered the profession for the right reasons...NOT for money, but because of a genuine love for animals. These good guys provide great care and compassion for their patients and are truthful and transparent with their clients at all times, regardless of the situation. These are true professionals in every sense of the word. And then, of course, there are the bad actors. If something goes wrong and the patient suffers permanent injury or death, job one is to cover the negligence, deceive the pet parent about what happened, and scrub the medical records to make sure there are no signs of wrongdoing in case the pet caregiver files a complaint with the state veterinary board.

Most complaints are seemingly dismissed by vet boards...statistics show up to 80%. In contrast, Joey's vet team finds malpractice in 70% of the records that are submitted to them by our members.

Why is that?

There is an inherent bias toward forgiveness and leniency by the vet boards toward their "falsely accused" colleagues, so that could explain the massive number dismissals of complaints. A few complaints make it to the probable cause panels of the vet boards, which usually consists of 2-3 board members who screen cases and decide if there is reason to move the case to the next level, which in Florida is the Office of General Counsel. The case then proceeds to a final hearing, although the plea deal outcome is already known. The vet board does have discretion to modify the plea deal and I have seen boards either reduce the recommended sentence or enhance it. First time offenders receive a fine, perhaps a reprimand, continuing education requirements and a period of probation, none of which fazes the average veterinarian:

1. The fine usually isn't much more than an upscale Saturday night out.
2. The reprimand appears on the vet board's public website which most people, even vet mal victims, don't even know exists. It's just

a formal description of what the pet parent writes on Yelp or Google. The difference is they can say whatever they want without fear of reprisal, as opposed to the pet parent who must stick with facts and pure opinions in order to mitigate the risk of being sued for defamation. Of course, any animal hospital that is dumb enough to sue for defamation exposes themselves to a very public lawsuit, which the astute pet parent will exploit to the max by providing all of the tragic details, many of which will not endear the public to the animal hospital. In addition, what pet parent would bring their loved one to a vet that might, one day, sue them?

3. CEUs (continuing education units) are perhaps the most valuable part of the disciplinary action because, as it turns out, education is greatly needed in some cases especially with the vets that have been practicing for 30-40 years who are not up to date on modern veterinary techniques.
4. Probation doesn't impede the vet's ability to generate income. He may practice "under supervision".

Disciplinary action for serial offenders is often the same, or similar, to first time offenders.

Why, you ask?

Think of the vet board members as the drivers of the getaway cars for the bad actors, who commit the negligence and count on the accomplices to help them "escape". Rarely will a veterinarian's license be suspended or revoked. Being that the vet board member is complicit, the act of suspending or revoking a license for something as "insignificant" as negligently causing the death of a pet companion is almost unheard of. They recognize that they can't suspend or revoke on a consistent basis for the same thing because they would be suspending the licenses of dozens of colleagues in their jurisdiction and, you know, that wouldn't do good things for their reputations in the community. However, if you want the reason given to me by one of the consumer advocates on the Florida Board of Veterinary Medicine...this is the official reason: "Who would take care of the dogs and cats if we suspended all of those licenses?"

Spineless cowards.

Even if a pet caregiver proves fraud and deceit to the board, they typically ignore the fact that the bad actor altered medical records to erase the appearance of negligence. Recordkeeping violations by vets, along with practice below the standard of care, are the two most commonly charged violations by the board and the two least deterred by disciplinary action.

The outrageous lack of morals and ethics will continue. The vet boards enact laws to insulate them from legal jeopardy. The veterinary justice system is broken, it's corrupt and is in massive need of reform.

One of the reasons for this book is to educate and enlighten you that vet board exists, the maltreatment of bereaved caregivers is an old story and will sadly continue on and without meaningful, impactful changes I believe this level of injustice will continue. The vet boards allow serial offenders to continue to offend.

It's more than enough to make you vomit.

PREFACE

Dear Bad Actor,

Perhaps you have already heard of *Joey's Legacy*: you may be one of the defendants involved in civil litigation as a result of the groundbreaking work of our animal law team. If you are, you've made mistakes that caused the permanent injury or death of the loved one that lived with our member. You've profoundly impacted a life. The bereaved animal guardian is now overwhelmed with intractable grief, anger and despair caused by your slipshod, "shotgun-style" practice of veterinary medicine. The legal costs that you (your insurance company) incur as a result of your negligence is considered by many bad actors to be just "a cost of doing business", like the electric bill or payroll expenses.

Were your ethics and morals ever respected? If so, what changed you? When did you abandon your professional conduct? Or were you always amoral, devoid of ethics, motivated by the great motivator: the almighty dollar? Was it the influence of a large corporation purchasing your practice, whose primary focus is the bottom line and who has little concern about providing great care for your patients? Do you have a monthly quota to perform 20 ultrasounds or 20 dental cleanings? Maybe you don't have the time to perform these types of procedures yourself, but want to meet such quotas, so you engage your unskilled, untrained office staff to perform veterinary care, many times leading to unexpected, dire consequences.

Did you ever stop to think that providing great care for all your patients would enhance your bottom line, if money is your guiding light, because your satisfied clients would brag about your services to others, who would do the same. Maltreating a patient by engaging unqualified, uneducated staff members invites bad outcomes, and it is your name and reputation that will be sullied by their actions.

Lying about the facts that lead to death is not only unethical and unprincipled, but it also flies in the face of what we all learn as children: that honesty is the best policy. In a recent poll I conducted, 83% of our members declared that if the bad actor involved in the death of their loved one had just been forthcoming about what happened they would not have

acted as they did in the aftermath (filing complaints, publicly exposing the bad actor and legal action) and actually would have forgiven practitioner. You alter medical records to try to exonerate yourself. What concerns do you have? Your friends at the Board of Veterinary Medicine will protect you from meaningful disciplinary action. American courts do not provide appropriate justice in veterinary malpractice cases. The nominal settlements, which are typical in these cases, are paid by your insurance company. Even if they increase your malpractice insurance premiums from the average cost of \$300 per year by a factor of 10, you can easily absorb the increase by raising your already exorbitant medical fees, which many do. Paying inflated costs for quality veterinary care is one thing; gouging a bereaved pet guardian for euthanasia and cremation costs is outrageous and contemptible. You are no different than retailers that charge \$8.00 for a bottle of water when a hurricane approaches, due to short supply. Florida imposes stiff civil penalties for those that gouge the public. As a price gouger, you should be subject to the same treatment.

Are you wondering if I have anything good to say about you? Let not your heart be troubled; here it is:

There is still time to change your shoddy, insensitive behavior. Imagine becoming an ethical professional who is revered by the veterinary community, like the ethical majority of veterinarians in the world: veterinarians who put their patients care first; veterinarians who don't charge for certain services and demonstrate their kindness and consideration for animal guardians and the dire predicaments many find themselves in; veterinarians that cry genuine tears along with the family when the time comes to say good-bye to the family's loved one. Wouldn't you like to join, or rejoin, that highly esteemed, well-regarded part of your industry?

Sadly, most of you will continue your misguided, foolish ways that are motivated by your insatiable greed and sustained by your lack of integrity and conscience.

We don't want to meet you, and you certainly do not want to hear from us. If we hear about you in an unkind way, as a result of alleged mistakes made

resulting in permanent injury or death of a beloved family member, rest assured we will investigate and, if warranted, pursue with great vigor and explore any and all legal remedies. Regardless of the outcome, we will become part of your life for a while.

In the past two years, we have assisted over 50 bereaved pet guardians. Our mission and our message continue to be heard all over the world, our membership continues to grow quickly, and with that growth more and more of you will be held accountable for mistakes made. The days of sailing along with no concern about accountability, responsibility and liability will now be replaced with accountability, responsibility and liability.

All we ask is that you treat your patients, our loved ones, with the same dignity and respect that you would hopefully treat your own pet companions, and your human family.

We fight bullies all the time, and we prevail most of the time. Don't be one of those bullies. ABOVE ALL, DO NO HARM. Make \$1MM per week if you can, but do it ethically, honestly and professionally, and DO NO HARM.

DO NO HARM

A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

I first learned of Joey's Legacy last July 2020. I was unaware of the veterinary malpractice issue.

When Scott Fine, the founder of Joey's Legacy, contacted me about his non-profit group, I was in the middle of writing a 3-part trilogy about Abe the Bartender, one of the characters in my series about the last days described by biblical prophets 2000 to 2700 years ago. Abe was the most favorite character. I told Scott I would have to finish the series' first.

I am the proud owner of my sixth Great Dane since 1976. I have had pets my entire life: dogs, cats, rabbits, skunks. My mind started working on me, and Scott was pleasantly persistent.

I have used the same veterinary clinic, Duluth Animal Hospital, since 1985; and they have taken care of all my Great Danes. I have never experienced the loss that the stories in this book series lay out. They are heart-wrenching to say the least, and the tragedy lives on through the poor victims who took their pets to the veterinarian for routine procedures and never saw them alive again. Then the veterinarian doctors the notes and the coverup begins. I am convinced that God made all the animals, domestic and wild, for a purpose; and he classified the animals as domestic and wild in the very first book of the Bible.

On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature.

Genesis 7:13-14

It was my honor to have a part in Joey's Legacy and this book!

Joey's Legacy-Seeking Truth and Integrity in Veterinary Medicine

www.TheEndtheBook.com

