



88 Beech Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452  
(802) 878-6888 voice • (802) 878-2871 fax  
www.vtvets.org • info@vtvets.org

## VVMA Position Statement

### Compensatory Value for Animals Beyond Their Property Value

The Vermont Veterinary Medical Association recognizes and supports the legal concept of animals as property. However, the VVMA recognizes that some animals have value to their owners that may exceed the animal's market value. In determining the real monetary value of the animal, the VVMA believes the purchase price, age and health of the animal, breeding status, pedigree, special training, veterinary expenses for the care of the animal's injury or sickness, related to the incident in question, and any particular economic utility the animal has to the owner should be considered. Any extension of available remedies beyond economic damages would be inappropriate. Therefore, the VVMA opposes the potential recovery of non-economic damages.

**Adopted by the VVMA Executive Committee 4/3/08**