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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABVP CERTIFIES DIPLOMATE IN EXOTIC COMPANION MAMMAL PRACTICE

NASHVILLE, TN – **Bruce S. Levine DVM** of San Clemente, CA has been certified as a **Diplomate by the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners (ABVP) specializing in Exotic Companion Mammal Practice.**

Dr. Levine has mastered a rigorous and demanding application process and certification examination in order to obtain Diplomate status. To qualify to sit for the extensive, two-day examination, a veterinarian must complete either a residency program or six years of clinical veterinary practice. In addition, two case reports, references, descriptions of practice procedures, and professional education records must be submitted and pass review. This year's examination was given November, 2009 in Chicago, IL.

Dr. Levine is a graduate of the University of Illinois and has a special interest in bird and exotic animal medicine and surgery. Dr. Levine practices at the **Bird and Exotic Animal Clinic of Orange County located at San Clemente Veterinary Hospital, 1833 S. El Camino Real, San Clemente, CA, (949) 492-5777.** He is a member of Association of Exotic Mammal Veterinarians, Association of Avian Veterinarians, Association of Reptile and Amphibian Veterinarians, American Association of Zoo Veterinarians, Association of Sugar Glider Veterinarians, American Veterinary Medical Association, Southern California Veterinary Medical Association (past president Avian and Exotic Animal Chapter and Orange County Chapter) and the Huntington Beach Host Lions Club. He has served as consulting veterinarian for various Orange County wildlife rehabilitation projects and was a veterinarian of record for the Orange County Zoo and the Honolulu Zoo. **He is also an ABVP Board Certified Specialist in Avian Practice and Companion Animal Practice.**

The American Board of Veterinary Practitioners was established in 1978 and is accredited by a special committee of the American Veterinary Medical Association to recognize excellence in clinical practice through the certification of species-oriented specialists. Over 800 veterinarians worldwide are certified in one of ABVP's nine practice categories: Canine and Feline (Companion Animal), Avian, Exotic Companion Mammal, Food Animal, Equine, Dairy, Swine Health Management, Feline, and Beef Cattle. Exotic Companion Mammal Practice is the newest ABVP category started in 2009 and covers rabbit, ferret, rodent, all other pet exotic mammal medicine and surgery. There are currently 11 Board Certified Exotic Companion Animal Specialists in the United States. **For more information on ABVP visit www.abvp.com.**