

Patrick Melese DVM, MA, DACVB:

Dr. Melese is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists and director of VETERINARY BEHAVIOR CONSULTANTS, a Southern California based veterinary practice dedicated to preventing and solving behavior problems in animals since 1988. In 2002 Dr. Melese reactivated his San Diego based private behavioral specialty practice after several years as clinical faculty with the University of California School of Veterinary Medicine. While with UC Davis he was also a lecturer in Animal Behavior at U.C. Davis and in that capacity supervised and mentored residents in Clinical Behavior, helped teach veterinary students and performed clinical research. Dr. Melese has since been seeing clients and their pets with behavior problems privately at his Kearny Mesa specialty clinic and provides local and national continuing education for veterinarians.

Dr. Melese's training includes a B.S. in Zoology and a Master's degree from the Department of Zoology at the University of California, Davis in 1980 where his subjects were Animal Behavior and Neuroscience. Afterwards, Dr. Melese worked with Professor Benjamin Hart, D.V.M., PhD. doing behavioral research and publishing several papers in physiological psychology at the U.C. Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. He continued to work with Dr. Hart through veterinary school and assisted with the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Behavior Service until graduating in 1986.

Since receiving his Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.) from U.C. Davis in 1986, Dr. Melese has been active in the field of Clinical Animal Behavior. He keeps abreast of recent advances in the behavior literature, attends seminars and consults with colleagues in the field throughout the world. He works as a consultant to practitioners, clients, breeders, rescue groups and institutions with specific behavioral problems. Dr. Melese also regularly serves as an expert witness in animal bite cases in Superior Court cases in the Southwest and has testified as an expert in Federal court as well. Dr. Melese also evaluates pets for shelters and rescue groups and for aggression such as those impounded by Animal Control Departments or involved in legal cases. He provides regional and national/international continuing education for veterinarians and has been a regular invited lecturer to Veterinary Medical Association meetings, other major national and international veterinary conferences, universities, kennel clubs, professional dog training meetings, and Animal Health Technology programs. Dr. Melese has been a featured speaker at local (San Diego Human Society and S.P.C.A., Escondido Humane Society, Helen Woodward Animal Center) and national (American Humane Association) humane organizations. Dr. Melese participates in studies to test new treatments for animal behavior problems and has worked with several of the major pharmaceutical companies to run clinical trials to test new products for treating behavioral disorders. Dr. Melese also writes publications for both professional journals and for the public including the new 2014 book on dog behavior written by Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Behaviorists: "Decoding Your Dog."

Over the years Dr. Melese has been featured on numerous television news segments and special reports on the local, regional and national stations (local Networks, EXTRA,

PBS Television, etc.) in the San Diego Union/Tribune, several regional newspapers in California and other states and on several radio talk shows. He has even been featured on international programs shown in Japan and Korea.

Dr. Melese was founder of the first Human/Animal Bond club at a veterinary school and served as founding president of the San Diego Chapter of the Delta Society (an umbrella organization of professionals and pet owners interested in animal, people and their interaction in the Human/Animal Bond). Dr. Melese is an active and longstanding member of the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior, and the Animal Behavior Society where he has given presentations at both of their national meetings. He is also a member of the San Diego County Veterinary Medical Association, California Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association as well as the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT). Dr. Melese founded Veterinary Behavior Consultants, a veterinary referral and consulting practice limited to animal behavior problems, in 1988 and has also been a respected general practice veterinarian (medicine and surgery) for many years. In addition Dr. Melese owned and operated the Tierrasanta Veterinary Hospital in San Diego for a number of years until it was sold to a general practitioner in 1999. For the first 15 years of his career Dr. Melese was the only board-certified Veterinary Behaviorist in private practice based in Southern California. Dr. Patrick Melese was born in Versailles France to French parents but then moved to San Diego as a 3 yr. old child in 1960 and lives here with his wife and teenage son along with 2 dogs, 3 cats and a horse.