

**Patrick Melese DVM, DACVB**

**Behavior Service Policies/Fee Schedule:**

Welcome to Dr. Melese's Clinical Behavior Service. The following list details some of our office financial and medical policies. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with them so that we can serve you better. If you have any questions or constraints regarding these or any of our policies or practices, please feel free to discuss them with us PRIOR TO YOUR APPOINTMENT!

- Fees have been explained to me clearly and I realize **that no exact representations are made or implied as to an exact fee total** since hourly charges apply, each case is different and behavior products or training aids may be recommended. To reiterate: Office call fees are currently **\$190 per hour (1.5 hr minimum but 1<sup>st</sup> hr is charged more for these \$350 "minimum" appointments-ask for details)**; House call fees currently **\$250 per hour (\$750 consult minimum)** plus \$4.5 per minute one-way travel time. Consultations that must be scheduled after regular clinic office hours with Dr. Melese (M-Th 9:30-5:00) if available are charged an *additional hourly rates*. For **Guidelines only-not a quote: Initial Office calls usually range between 2.5-3.5 hours and initial House calls 3-3.5 hours**. An in-office routine recheck appointment is currently \$190 (typically 45-50 minutes and usually appropriate for 1-2 months after initial visit). A routine telephone recheck is currently \$165(<30min) -\$190 (30-60 min.). **Recheck appointments are typically critical to the successful resolution of most cases, but how many and how often is very dependent on the problem, the patient(s), and the individual clients. AS OF 2010 ALL FEES ARE BASED ON E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE AS WE NO LONGER PRINT & MAIL OUT MATERIAL VIA USPS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FEES FOR THE SPECIAL MATERIAL AND HANDLING (CURRENTLY \$20 PER VISIT).**
- *Fees may be adjusted without notice but are usually re-evaluated every 6-12 months so the recheck fees may be modestly different than listed above for the following year.*

**Notes:**

- Appropriate family members (especially spouses) and pets should be present if possible/ practical for room size.
- **Fast** dogs for **at least** 12 hrs (24+ hrs. if not very food responsive) unless otherwise advised. **Cats only 12 hrs!**
- Bring **BEST** possible tidbits to try (human food ok); especially important if pet on special diet & to quickly tell doctor!
- If pet has relevant important medical history, labwork done within the past 6 months, or is on medications, have family vet e-mail or FAX appropriate medical records to us at least 24 hrs prior to appointment or bring them with you.
- You **MUST send us at least the 1<sup>st</sup> two (signature) pages of the intake forms within 48 hours of making your appointment for us to assure keeping your spot** since we often have more demand for new slots than we have availability. Please **return the rest of the forms** so they **arrive** at our office **at least** 24-48 hrs prior to your appointment. Plan to arrive 15 minutes early if at all possible. Please scan/e-mail, FAX or postal mail to Dr. Patrick Melese DVM, DACVB Veterinary Behavior Consultants at address below\* forms requiring signatures. The history forms that do not require signatures may be e-mailed, faxed or sent by post. **Please bring original signed copy of forms to the consult.**
- In most cases, you may lose some of your valuable appointment time if you arrive late - plan for traffic, etc.
- Please bring all halters, collars (including any electronic training collars) and other training aids you have (especially head halters e.g. Gentle Leader) for the pet even if you are not using it. Bring any medication pet is on or has been on recently.

**If you have any questions about fees, please inquire prior to the consultation. Exceptions to fees above MUST BE IN WRITING!**

- **Payment is due at time of appointment**; no billing. You may pay with **cash, check, Google Pay or Venmo but, if you choose to pay by credit or debit card (Visa, M/C or Discover), there will be an additional 4% convenience charge on amount charged to your card**. Checks not honored by bank will also incur an additional \$25 fee and you also agree to pay for any costs associated with collecting the funds to pay for the services and products you have received including an additional \$20 billing fee if your account is not paid at the appointment and must be billed.
- **Since we schedule out a large portion of the doctor's schedule for your behavior appointment, we request immediate notification of any desire to reschedule or cancel a behavior consultation so that another client can make arrangements to use the appointment time. Please give us AT LEAST 2-3 business days advanced notice of cancellation. If you do not show up for your appointment or cancel with less than 2 business days (M-F) notice, you may be charged up to the full consult fee.**
- For their safety and that of others, we REQUIRE that all pets be on leashes or in pet carriers & properly restrained, especially if aggressive (basket muzzled or nylon muzzle and closely controlled on leash).

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read the policies put forth above and understand them fully. I agree to adhere to these policies as a client of Dr. Melese's practice and my signature below authorizes any credit card charges I incur with VBC (e.g. phone appointments) or as per policy above (e.g. missed appointments).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Patrick Melese DVM, DACVB

**LIABILITY WAIVER**

**Thank you for caring enough to obtain help with your pet's behavior!**

As the representing owner, agent or handler for the individuals who will be working with the pet(s) indicated below, I understand that many behavior therapies recommended by the doctor may involve some level of risk to the pet(s) and/or the handlers, or other people or property in spite of our best efforts to minimize them. In **some** cases medications may be recommended as **part** of the treatment; most are human medications being used "off-label" for pets (i.e. not FDA approved for that use in that species) and it is rare for a medication alone to solve most pet behavior problems. I understand these issues and assume these risks freely and do not hold Dr. Patrick Melese DVM, DACVB, Veterinary Behavior Consultants, Pathway Vet Alliance, Convoy Eye Care for Animals or associated clinicians, agents, employees, or owners/agents for facility used to see cases liable for any injury which may occur to handlers, pet, other people, other animals or property while using their training and medication treatment recommendations. I will use my own judgment and common sense when following the recommendations to not place people, pets and property at undue risk and understand that, ultimately like any pet owner, I am exclusively responsible for my pet's actions.

**FURTHERMORE, I REALIZE THAT DR. MELESE, VETERINARY BEHAVIOR CONSULTANTS AND IT'S AGENTS CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT A PET WILL NOT BE AGGRESSIVE OR CAUSE INJURY TO PEOPLE OR PROPERTY IN THE FUTURE AND THAT THE PET'S OWNER(S) AND HANDLER(S) CONTINUE TO ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY FUTURE AGGRESSION.**

Owner's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mails: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Species (dog/cat): \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pet's Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Pet's color/description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Species (dog/cat): \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pet's Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Pet's color/description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

***I certify that I have read and agree with above statements:***

Owner of Pet(s): \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse, Other pet owner/handler(s): \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

***RECHECK APPOINTMENTS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED AND USUALLY CRITICAL TO LONG TERM SUCCESS!***

*Please e-mail ([info@sdvetbehavior.com](mailto:info@sdvetbehavior.com)), Fax or call office with a progress report 2-3 weeks after your appointment*

**Dr. Patrick Melese DVM, DACVB**

**BEHAVIOR HISTORY**

*(Note: This information is for practice use only and your private information will not be given out without your permission except as required to communicate with parties such as your referring doctor after the appointments)*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (include zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Type & size of residence (e.g. 2 story 1800 sq ft house) \_\_\_\_\_

Yard size & fencing (e.g. medium yard- 6 ft solid wood fence) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \*\*Home: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*e-mails: \_\_\_\_\_

Family veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Behavior problems can sometime be difficult, frustrating problems to correct. The information you provide is very important for diagnosing and treating your pet's behavior problems. Please fill out this form as completely & accurately as possible ("help us help you"). If questions clearly do not apply (e.g. obedience training for cats) you are welcome to skip the question, but please answer all those possible, even if you feel it may not be relevant! Compose answers to assist the doctor in picturing what is happening (descriptive details). Please be sure to get this and other paperwork (e-mail to [info@sdvetbehavior.com](mailto:info@sdvetbehavior.com) or FAX) to Dr. Melese ASAP (at least 24 hrs prior to appointment) and **bring the originals with you to consultation**. Videotape problem behaviors if possible if you feel they are important for doctor to see and they are likely not to be seen during the appointment. Bring tape/DVD/video file and a way to play it if not a standard DVD format! **Bring a way to audio-record the appointment (most "smart" phones have this function e.g. "Voice Memo/Voice recorder" app)**! Thank you.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Pet's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dog: \_\_\_\_\_ Cat: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ years Sex: M F Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

**Neutered / Spayed:** [ ] yes [ ] no. **At what age?** \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you obtain this pet? friend, breeder, pet shop, shelter, rescue, other: \_\_\_\_\_

At what age: \_\_\_\_\_

For what purpose was this pet obtained? Companionship, protection, breeding, show, other: \_\_\_\_\_

Time spent indoors: \_\_\_\_\_ % outdoors: \_\_\_\_\_ %

Is this pet left alone during the day? \_\_\_\_\_ How long? \_\_\_\_\_

In precisely what area of the house or yard is the pet kept:

- a. during the **day**: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. during the **night** (describe exactly where pet sleeps); \_\_\_\_\_
- c. when pet is left **alone** (where is pet?): \_\_\_\_\_
- d. when **guests** visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the pet's **personality**: \_\_\_\_\_

Diet: \_\_\_\_\_ % dry Brand: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ % canned Brand: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ % table scraps Supplements: \_\_\_\_\_

When is the pet fed? morning noon night other \_\_\_\_\_ By whom? \_\_\_\_\_

How long is food left down for pet? \_\_\_\_\_ N/A: pet gulps down immediately: \_\_\_\_\_

Describes the pet's behavior:

- a. just prior to your departure: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. just after your return: \_\_\_\_\_

List all **major surgical or medical problems** and approximate **dates**: \_\_\_\_\_

List all **medication** currently being taken by this pet: \_\_\_\_\_

List the Names, Ages and Gender (and whether neutered/spayed) of the other pets in the household:

Name	Breed	Age	Age Adopted	Gender	Spayed/ Neutered? (and at what age)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

What **toys** does your pet like to play with? \_\_\_\_\_

What amount of exercise or opportunity to **exercise** is given to your pet? \_\_\_\_\_

Does he or she **run free** in the neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_ How often? \_\_\_\_\_

Has this pet had any **obedience training**? \_ Please describe the **type of training** and the outcome including **age** when started and **with whom**: \_\_\_\_\_

What will the pet **do on command**? \_\_\_\_\_

What will the pet do on command when **distractions present**? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this pet get along with **other animals**? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

What are the **names, ages and relationship to owner** (e.g. spouse, son, roommate, etc.) **of the people** that are in the pet's environment ("family members")? What are their **daily schedules**? \_\_\_\_\_

How does this pet react to strangers? \_\_\_\_\_

How does this pet likely to **behave at the Veterinary Hospital**? \_\_\_\_\_

**BEHAVIOR PROBLEM INFORMATION**

Please describe your pet's behavior problem(s) (prioritize if multiple): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What month/year was the main problem first noted? \_\_\_\_\_

Where and under what circumstances was each problem first noted? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the situation(s) in which the main problem is most likely to occur? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The main problem occurs (check off answer): always usually rarely never (check below or %)

1. When the pet is left alone at home:
2. In the presence of the family members:
3. During the night when the family sleeps:
4. Family home but not watching pet:

**Frequency** of occurrence: \_\_\_times per day, \_\_\_times per week, \_\_\_times per month, \_\_\_times per year.

Has there been a change in the frequency or appearance of the problem? \_\_\_\_\_ Please describe:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What has been done so far to **correct** this problem? (e.g.: discipline, confine, obedience training, avoid, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What was the pet's **response** to the specific intervention(s) above? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Were there any **significant changes** in this pet's environment prior to the appearance of this problem (circle if seen and comment as needed)?

- |                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. moved or redecorated    | e. change in family schedule        |
| b. boarded                 | f. new family member/roommate       |
| c. visitors (human or pet) | g. diet change                      |
| d. type of litter changed  | h. other (new pet introduced, etc.) |

How did these changes affect your pet? \_\_\_\_\_



Directions to Veterinary Behavior Consultants office at the  
Eye Care for Animals facility in Kearny Mesa

**5040 Convoy St. Ste. B**  
San Diego, CA 92111

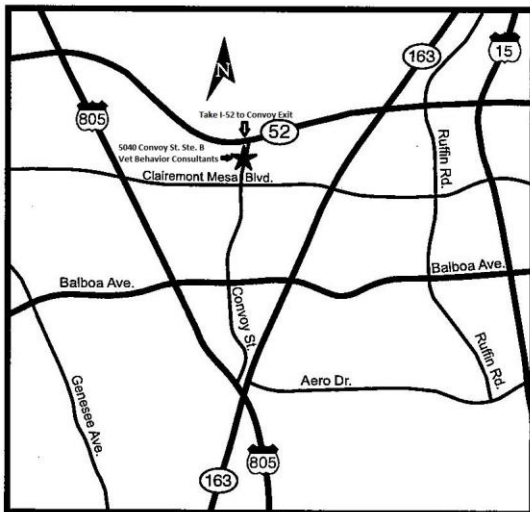
(You can get access to Convoy St. from I-52)

**From Hwy 52:**

Click here for: [Google map and directions](#)

The clinic is inside the **Eye Care for Animals** specialty facility on **Convoy Street** (Do NOT confuse this with my old clinic that was on Kearny Mesa Road). Note that since there is no way to safely get to parking lot traveling North on Convoy we suggest all clients approach from I-52 (can reach I-52 from main freeways of San Diego including I-5 and I-15) and take Convoy exit going South on Convoy then, just before the Clairemont Mesa Blvd. stop light turn Right (West) into parking lot that includes the Eye Care for Animals as well as an attached Golf Shop.

You can reach the behavior **office routinely at 858-259-6115** but *if you urgently need to reach Dr. Melese on day of your appointment once he has left his home office in the morning (for example if you are lost or unavoidably delayed, etc.) you can use his emergency cell phone at 858-692-8338 to reach him at the Kearny Mesa facility.* On the day of your appointment you can also call the Eye Care for Animal staff at 619-702-3937 for directions if you get lost or to have them intercom the doctor in the exam room. Please reserve the use of this cell phone number only for urgent contact on the day of your appointment after the doctor has left his home office or for true behavioral emergencies for Dr. Melese's patients of record as he cannot give behavioral advice until after he has seen your pet.



*Obviously you do not need to return a copy of these directions to our office with your other completed forms.*