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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

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LOS ALAMITOS SECURITY ENHANCED FOR MAJOR RACES

LOS ALAMITOS, CA – A national team of security experts has arrived to supplement already reinforced racetrack security personnel and California Horse Racing Board investigators to provide maximum protection for two major races at Los Alamitos this weekend – the Friday-night Million Futurity and the Saturday-night Champion of Champions.

Pete Lang, the special projects director for the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau, is part of the six-member “Big Events Team” that arrived Thursday for a meeting with Los Alamitos Security Captain Rick Castaneda, CHRB Supervising Investigator Michael Kilpack, and other key personnel to work out the details for the enhanced security effort.

Security personnel will be on site from 6 a.m. until midnight both Friday and Saturday, principally in the stable area and focusing on the 20 horses entered in the two races. They will be randomly visiting the barns where the horses are quartered, accompany those horses to the receiving barn for each race, and securing the entire stable area.

The purpose of the enhanced security is to both reassure the owners and trainers of the entered horses that no one else will have an opportunity to tamper with their horses and to convince other participants and the wagering public that all horses will be participating on a level playing field.

“Our team has been in place for many of the major races this year,” explained Lang, “beginning with the Blue Grass Stakes in Keeneland, then the Triple Crown series, the Travers and Haskell Stakes, the Breeders’ Cup, and several of harness racing’s biggest events. Fortunately, there has not been one drug positive in any of those races.”

CHRB investigators and racetrack security personnel routinely check in-today horses, search barns and veterinary vehicles, and take numerous other security measures on a daily basis for all horses at all California racetracks. The Big Events Team raises that ongoing effort to another level.

The Big Events Team is funded by the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium as a way to quickly improve security at North American racetracks in connection with major racing events and to help educate backside security personnel on upgraded security measures.

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