

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 263-6000
Fax (916) 263-6042

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD



Los Alamitos Race Course
4961 E. Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Contact: Mike Marten
(714) 820-2748
Cell: (714) 240-1870
Fax (714) 821-6232

CHRB NEWS RELEASE

MARCH 5, 2007

CHRB INVESTIGATORS ATTENDING SPECIALIZED COURSE

SACRAMENTO, CA – California Horse Racing Board investigators will attend a specialized, four-day training course this week to enhance their understanding of the horse-racing industry, the enforcement of CHRB medication regulations, and the adjudicatory process.

The program will take place Wednesday through Saturday (March 7-10) at the University of California, Davis, in the Ken Maddy Laboratory, which conducts all primary equine drug testing for the CHRB. Arrangements are being made with operating racetracks for their own security personnel to handle all security matters in the absence of CHRB investigators on those four days.

“Many of our investigators came to work for us after retiring from other law enforcement agencies, such as the Los Angeles Police Department, and they brought a wealth of experience in traditional law enforcement,” explained CHRB Executive Director Ingrid Fermin. “The course will afford them the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the specialized horse-racing industry, and more particularly, their knowledge of medications being administered to racehorses and the appropriate usage of those medications.

“This is also an opportunity for the investigators to provide input and help us improve the entire process. It works both ways. On the one hand, this training is really going to add to the depth and breadth of knowledge of our investigative staff. At the same time, given their expertise, we expect them to provide us with insights and suggestions that will make the regulatory process more effective.”

Darrell Vienna, a thoroughbred trainer and attorney who serves as a consultant to the CHRB, is organizing the curriculum and will be a principal speaker, along with Dr. Rick Arthur, the CHRB equine medical director, and Dr. Scott Stanley, director of the Maddy Laboratory.

The course will include a thorough discussion of medications in horse racing, including modes of drug administration, veterinary practices, testing procedures, and medication policies. Other major categories for discussion include barn inspections, interviewing techniques, report writing, administrative hearing procedures, and the investigator’s responsibilities in presenting cases.

“It is going to be a comprehensive review of the regulatory process relating to medications in California horse racing,” explained Vienna. “We’re going to talk about the essential role of the investigators, stressing their importance in the regulatory process. We are looking forward to a constructive exchange and learning opportunity.”

Dr. Arthur said the course will “provide us with a good opportunity to enhance the coordinated efforts of the drug-testing laboratory and investigators in order to improve the efficiencies of the system. They will better understand what we are looking for (at the laboratory) and how the system works, and we will better understand their issues.”

Arrangements have been made with Peace Officer Standards and Training program for the 24-hour course to qualify for POST’s continuing education and accreditation requirements for law enforcement officers.

#

