

OFFICIAL COMPLAINT

CHRB-65 (Rev. 08/23)

COMPLAINT

The California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) hereby files an official complaint against Manuel Garcia for violation of 1890 Rule(s) Possession of Contraband.

The person named in this complaint is licensed by the CHRB as a Groom and Owner, under license number 408400 & 412988. The alleged offense occurred on or about 08/19/2026 and is described as follows:

On 08/19/2026, I was notified by Steward Tom Ward and Safety Steward Paul Atkinson that owner Sammy Valeriano shipped approximately 10 horses into Los Alamitos Racecourse (LARC) on 08/18/2026 and that Groom Manuel Garcia was also at LARC. Groom Garcia was suspended in New Mexico (Ruling 2026-RUI-105) and CHRB suspended him for reciprocity (Administrative Ruling CHRB062). I contacted Garcia in the west parking lot of LARC and conducted a search of his vehicle. During the search I found (2) 12ml syringes with the hub and (2) plastic encased needles with dried blood on open end of the container, (2) 1.0ml syringes with the capped needle attached, (8) encased syringe needles, (1) small clear glass injectable bottle containing a trace amount of unknown clear liquid, (2) packaged 12ml/cc syringes, and (2) empty packages for 12ml/cc syringes. Additionally, I found (1) 1.0ml syringes with the capped needle attached, (2) clear tubular cases and (2) clear orange caps. I took custody of the items and sent some of the items to be tested at the Maddy Lab which yielded no adverse findings. Based on the above, Garcia is in violation of CHRB Rule 1890.

Pursuant to California Business and Professions Code Sections 19420 and 19440, as well as the authority outlined in the CHRB Rules, the Board of Stewards are empowered to impose penalties for violations of any provision of a CHRB Rule, or HISA Rule, where authorized. Such penalties may include suspension of any CHRB-issued license, monetary fine, assessment of penalty points, and/or exclusion from any/all racing enclosures under the jurisdiction of the Board, or any combination of the penalties listed above.

Investigator Name: Racowschi Date of Filing: 10/07/2026 Case Number: 26LA0098

NOTICE TO APPEAR

You are hereby ordered to appear before the Board of Stewards as noted below.

Location: Los Alamitos

Date: 12/10/2026

Time: 9:00 AM

You are entitled to reasonable notice of this hearing and reasonable time to prepare for the hearing. If you require additional time to prepare for the hearing, you must contact the Board of Stewards within 72 hours of receipt of this notice. All requests for continuance must be submitted in writing and fully justify the need for continuance. The granting or denial of a request for continuance rests with the Board of Stewards. The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the attached "Governing Procedures for Hearing Before the Board of Stewards."

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

☐ In Person ☐ Certified Mail (Tracking #): _____ ☒ Other: Email
Documents Served: ☐ Complaint Packet ☐ Governing Procedures ☐ Other: _____
Served By: Kitishima Date: 10/15/2026 Time: _____ ☐ 10 Day Time Waived

DISPOSITION

The Board of Stewards took the following action on the aforementioned case.

☐ Ruling Issued ☐ Formal Warning ☐ Case Dismissed ☐ Withdrawn

Steward_____
Steward_____
Steward