

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary #2025L04**

Horse Information: Six-year-old Thoroughbred.

Incident Summary: Shortly after shipping, the horse spiked a fever and was diagnosed with pleuropneumonia. Despite treatment the horse continued to deteriorate and developed secondary laminitis. The horse was humanely euthanized.

Necropsy Summary: A necropsy examination revealed chronic-acute, fibro necrotizing pleuropneumonia, and both front feet had moderate subacute laminitic changes. The chest had 7 liters of fibrin filled fluid, that tested positive for several bacteria. The right lung had 60% consolidation, and the left had 30% consolidation marked by abundant caseous exudate frequently found abscessed within the tissue. While neither front foot showed evidence of ventral rotation of the third phalanx (P3), the lamellae distally were irregular, tortuous, and non-parallel with fibrous connective tissue on dorsal aspect of P3.

Racing/Training History: The horse had 25 lifetime starts and had 2 recent works recorded prior to becoming ill.

Veterinary History Summary: The horse was placed on Kentucky's Vet List for bleeding in May of 2022. The left front fetlock was radiographed on 6/12/2024, and both front fetlocks were injected intra articularly in 2024.

Pre-race Examinations: Pre-race examinations had noted mild joint capsule hypertrophy and a decreased range of motion in both front fetlock joints, and a slightly thickened left front suspensory ligament.

Conclusion: This was a case of pleuropneumonia rapidly progressing and causing secondary laminitis, which yields a grave prognosis.