

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary # 2025C04**

Horse Information: Five-year-old Thoroughbred.

Incident Summary: While breezing in the morning the right hind leg was injured. Radiographs revealed a spiral fracture of the right hind third metatarsal bone, a proximal sesamoid bone, and the first phalanx. With complete fetlock failure of the leg the decision was made to humanely euthanize the horse.

Necropsy Summary: A necropsy examination revealed complete fractures of the third metatarsal (MT3), medial proximal sesamoid bone (PSB) and the first phalanx (P1) of the right hind leg.

Racing/Training History: The horse had 27 lifetime starts. The horse had a gap in racing from November 2021 to July 2022. There was a gap in working from August 10th to August 29, 2024.

Veterinary History Summary: In 2021 the horse had a nuclear scintigraphy study and left hock radiographs completed. In 2022 the left hock was again radiographed, and the right front had a low-grade lameness attributable to the high suspensory. In December 2023 both hocks were injected intra articularly with corticosteroids.

Pre-race Examinations: Pre-race examinations had noted joint capsule hypertrophy and a decreased range of motion in both front fetlock joints. A July 2024 exam noted the right front lateral suspensory branch was enlarged.

Conclusion: This horse suffered catastrophic fetlock failure of the right hind leg with fractures of MT3, the medial PSB, and P1.