

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary #2026D05**

Horse Information: Twelve Quarter Horses.

Incident Summary: The horses arrived in California from a racetrack out of state. Several horses demonstrated clinical signs of illness and were treated by a veterinarian. Various horses remained febrile despite treatment, and infectious disease testing was performed. Positive test results for Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) were reported to The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), who confirmed the results and an epidemiological investigation commenced. A total of twelve horses were confirmed positive for EIA and were humanely euthanized.

Necropsy Summary: The necropsies revealed both gross and microscopic changes that were compatible, but not necessarily specific for EIA.

Racing/Training History: The horses all shipped in from New Mexico where they had been racing and training.

Veterinary History Summary: Clinical signs, including fever and coughing, were observed in most horses. The veterinarian performed diagnostics and treated horses accordingly. Some horses remained non-responsive to treatment, thus further infectious disease testing was performed.

Pre-race Examinations: The horses had mild bilateral front fetlock joint capsule hypertrophy and decreased range of motion. Two horses had bilateral front fetlock and knee joint effusion, one horse had special shoeing, and one horse had a noted slightly thickened left front superficial digital flexor tendon.

Conclusion: The CDFA confirmed the horses were positive for equine infectious anemia, a reportable infectious disease to California state regulatory authorities. Humane euthanasia was elected based on state and federal requirements for EIA positive equids.