

**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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**Postmortem Examination Review Summary #2024L05**

Horse Information: Three-year-old Thoroughbred.

Incident Summary: While working, the right front leg was injured when the horse changed leads on the turn. The horse was radiographed revealing biaxial sesamoid fractures of the right front leg.

Necropsy Summary: A necropsy examination revealed complete fractures of the medial and lateral proximal sesamoid bones (PSB) with complete tearing of several ligaments of the fetlock joint of the right front leg. The medial PSB had an osteopenic focus where the fracture line intersected.

Racing/Training History: This horse had 11 lifetime starts.

Veterinary History Summary: This horse had a chronic left front lameness in 2023 and was placed on the CHRB Veterinarian's list as "unsound." The horse had also been previously treated for a thrombophlebitis and a grabbed quarter on the right front foot. The horse wore several types of special shoes throughout his career.

Pre-race Examinations: Pre-race examinations noted joint capsule hypertrophy and a decreased range of motion in both front fetlock and carpal joints. The front feet sporadically were noted to have special shoes.

Conclusion: Historically, the horse had left front soundness issues, however both proximal sesamoid bones of the right front fetlock fractured during a work. The medial PSB had a osteopenic area which the fracture crossed. These areas are at an increased risk of injury.