## JAMES CROMWELL

June 4, 2013

Carmine Donofrio, Steward David J. Skorton, Chair Belmont Park 2150 Hempstead Tpke. Elmont, NY 11003

Dear Mr. Donofrio and Mr. Skorton:

As you prepare to host the third leg of the Triple Crown, I ask that you commemorate the 35 thoroughbreds whose lives ended after training or racing at Belmont Park in the year since the 2012 Belmont Stakes. Their names appear below.

Horseracing is the only sport in America with a regular, predictable death toll, and New York has been heavily criticized recently for the staggering number of breakdowns and deaths on its tracks. While I understand that the New York Racing Authority has taken steps to reduce these numbers, it does not change the fact that hundreds of horses have suffered catastrophic breakdowns at Belmont in recent years—and dozens in the last year alone. When their bodies are hauled away, they seem to be considered no more than collateral damage, discarded and forgotten by the racing industry.

Will you, amid the festivities of the Belmont Stakes day, remind racegoers that these horses were once as alive and full of energy as the thoroughbreds they will see racing on June 8? I ask that you consider paying respect to the horses who have died on the Belmont Park track in the last 12 months by printing their names on a special memorial tribute page in the June 8 racing program. It would be a small gesture and would cost you little, but it would honor those who paid the highest possible price for your industry.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Cromwell

Horses who died while racing or training at Belmont Park from June 2012 to June 2013:

Star Lillie

Deluxe Package

Karma Shield

**Imaging** 

Matties Warrior

**Imhotep** 

Sunday At Nipper's

In Te Domine

Salsa Mambo

Professor Weston

Highland Crown

Join Forces

Thirty Minutes

Birthday Beau

Dr. Wheat

Seattle Appeal

Logical Order

Joy Rising

No Cat Like That

Liston

Korat

Five Sixteen

Si Phi Rebel

Baltimore Jack

Kid Flatter

Lady Legion

Datts Appealing

Whistleblower

Triple Brook

Spit Ball

Parasol

Live Lively

Jocosity

Kitten Goes Pro

Shockemagain