



March 25, 2022

Chuck Coolidge, Chair
Rory S. Goreé, Vice Chair
Tracy Olson, Racing Commissioner
Arizona Department of Gaming Division of Racing

Via e-mail: publicaffairs@azgaming.gov

Dear Messrs. Coolidge and Goreé and Ms. Olson:

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals U.S.—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters globally—to urge you to suspend horse racing in Arizona immediately and begin implementing lifesaving changes.

Had you responded to our previous request—sent to you on February 25, 2022—horses' lives could have been spared at Rillito Park Racetrack and Turf Paradise. So far this season, at least seven horses have died at Rillito Park and 24 have died at Turf Paradise. It is suspected that many others have sustained fatal catastrophic injuries.

You may recall that in 2019, California racing was experiencing a significant increase in horse deaths at Santa Anita Park. Stakeholders in the racing industry met with PETA, immediately suspended racing, and implemented some of our recommendations as well as additional improvements, sparing many horses. And there's no doubt that more horses would have been spared if all our recommendations had been implemented.

Although racing can never be entirely safe for horses, simple changes could make a world of difference. The Arizona racing industry must not ignore this but must be open to communication with stakeholders—or it risks losing its social license to operate.

May I hear from you?

Sincerely,

Kathy Guillermo
Senior Vice President
Equine Matters Department

PEOPLE FOR
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