

September 1, 2022

Via e-mail

Sheriff Burnis Wilkins  
Robeson County Sheriff's Office  
sheriff@robesoncoso.org

Dear Sheriff Wilkins:

I am counsel to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and am writing to follow up on PETA's correspondence of August 23, which alerted you to unregulated horse races that were [advertised](#) to take place at Carril Red Springs (188 Jockey Ln., Red Springs, NC 28377) last weekend. It has now been reported that **two horses who were raced Sunday died** shortly after the event. We respectfully urge your office to urgently investigate these deaths, including obtaining a necropsy to determine the presence of controlled substances and/or other performance enhancing drugs that may have been administered and led to the horses' deaths.

The horses reported dead are Trump My Record, the featured horse on the card, and El Perron, also known as Hotstepper, winner of the \$1.2 million 2018 All American Derby, both of whom were racing for [Cuadra Cristo Rey](#) with jockey Alex Carrillo.<sup>1</sup> Cuadra Cristo Rey is a [REDACTED]-based LLC whose registered agent and head trainer is [REDACTED] (also known as [REDACTED]). It appears that [REDACTED]<sup>2</sup> and [REDACTED] [co-owned both horses](#) who were apparently pushed to race to their deaths.

As you know, these races were originally scheduled to be held at Rancho El Centenario in Milner, Georgia, on August 21 and were apparently moved to North Carolina in order to avoid the scrutiny of Georgia law enforcement following PETA's [recent exposé](#) of that track that revealed, among other things, race stables pushing horses past their natural limits by doping them with street drugs and controlled substances and using electric shock devices during races, which often result in injuries, including fatal ones, to both horses and jockeys.

<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Grupo Labertino, Facebook (Aug. 28, 2022), <https://www.facebook.com/laberintoofficial/posts/pfbid0dUWq5tfFXejU3v8WJBoisVFip1DTJfE8BP4LEj3ZRCLCaVfuGK9DTr1v6zdCUDB8l> ("Descansa en paz" (rest in peace)); Hombres A Caballo, Facebook (Aug. 28, 2022), <https://www.facebook.com/hombresacaballooriginal/posts/pfbid0irXaKgJG3WquWXJp5GRN6cbQPMdhVGDVYAW98PWtVsyNpPAg6Tz2fhB9joNTxBGJl> (offering condolences for Trump My Record's death); Carrileros NC, Facebook (Aug. 28, 2022), [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid0chrAxEcXfcfBwEQFDnWsv3ZNYkpfPUGZVkoGAmKD96BDmCes2zjJHvNNmoMbTQ6l&id=100066723551953](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0chrAxEcXfcfBwEQFDnWsv3ZNYkpfPUGZVkoGAmKD96BDmCes2zjJHvNNmoMbTQ6l&id=100066723551953) (showing footage of "LA ULTIMA CARRERA DEL TMR" (the last race of Trump My Record)).

<sup>2</sup> [REDACTED] appears to be the owner of [REDACTED], a Texas-based company with phone number [REDACTED] and address at [REDACTED].

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PETA FOUNDATION IS AN OPERATING  
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SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION.

ENTITIES:

- PETA U.S.
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

Specifically, PETA noted in its August 23 letter that its investigators witnessed workers from Cuadra Cristo Rey injecting horses on the tracks, and that the stable's jockey [has also been filmed](#) using electric shock devices.

It appears that two additional horses have now died in Robeson County from this widespread abuse. We believe your investigation will reveal sufficient evidence to prove that these horses were overdriven, injured, and/or killed in violation of the cruelty-to-animals law, N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 14-360, 14-361, as well as evidence of drug-related crimes. We are standing by to provide any additional information or assistance we can to assist with your investigation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

