



PRESS RELEASE

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SALES INTEGRITY TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES RECOMMENDATIONS

LEXINGTON, Ky. - The Sales Integrity Task Force announced today its recommendations on licensing bloodstock agents and consignors and transparency in ownership and medication in the sales arena at a public forum held at Keeneland.

The recommendations by the 36-member task force arise from an agreement between the Consignors and Commercial Breeders Association, Fasig-Tipton, Inc., Horse Owners' Protective Association, Keeneland Association, Inc., Kentucky Thoroughbred Association and Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, and Representative Larry Clark.

"The entire task force should be commended. Everyone compromised. It was a large, diverse group representing all segments of the sales sector. After countless meetings and healthy dialogue and debate, the group was able to reach consensus on a number of important issues and practices that will further strengthen the integrity of the sales process," said Alex Waldrop, moderator of the Sales Integrity Task Force and president and CEO of the NTRA.

"The task force has sent a clear message to the sales companies that self-regulation through their conditions of sale was the best way to address these issues," said Nick Nicholson, president of Keeneland Association. "We welcome this responsibility and believe these recommendations will lead to a more healthy and vibrant marketplace."

"With the broad representation from the Thoroughbred industry and other major breeds in Kentucky, the equine industry has taken a major step forward," said Walt Robertson, president of Fasig-Tipton Company, Inc. "Despite having varying opinions, the members of the task force worked diligently to reach a consensus on these issues."

"Since the time the Sales Integrity Task Force reconvened in May, we have witnessed a remarkable collaboration of the industry working together to improve and enhance the transparency and integrity standards at public auctions," said Dan Metzger, president of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. "This has been a tremendous opportunity for both buyers and sellers to unite and address the relevant issues and to recommend the necessary steps to enable the sales industry to prosper."

The task force intends to finalize the recommendations in early November after receiving and considering comments from the industry. The recommendations are posted on the Sales Integrity Program's website (www.salesintegrity.org) and those who wish to submit comments may do so through the site. Comments will be collected until October 31, 2007 and all signed comments will be posted on the website shortly thereafter.

TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred breeders and owners. TOBA's mission is to "*improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of Thoroughbred owners and breeders.*" Projects managed by TOBA include the American Graded Stakes Committee, Sales Integrity Program, The Racing Game and the Claiming Crown. TOBA is also represented on the Board of Directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association as a founding member. TOBA owns The Blood-Horse, Inc. More information on TOBA appears on www.toba.org.