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A Message from the New Mexico Horsemen's Association.....

**THE NEW MEXICO HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION HAS DECIDED
TO CLOSE THE MAIN OFFICE**

As you may have heard, on September 12, 2023, the NMHA State Board of Directors voted to close the NMHA State Office in Albuquerque. These decisions are never easy, as they will put dedicated individuals in our family, out of their employment.

Unfortunately, there has been some false information that has circulated among our ranks since this closure. The purpose of this newsletter is to put an end to any false information and provide the horsemen with answers to some of the questions you may have.

Q: *Why close the main office*

A: The decision to close the main office results from the direct effects of the actions of the New Mexico Racing Commission's vote on June 2021, to unrecognize the NMHA as the authorized representative of the New Mexico Horsemen. At that point the NMHA's revenue stream for operations was taken away and those revenue streams have not been returned and we are now running on reserves. Because of these actions, the NMHA had to make a sound business decision for the collective best interest of our New Mexico horsemen. When your revenue stops coming in you must cut expenses or will eventually run out of money. This was a proactive decision by the Board.

Q: *Is the financial condition of the NMHA impacted from the closure?*

A: No, the closure of the office will preserve and strengthen our current financial position. Simply put, the wrongful withholding our revenue by the New Mexico Racing Commission does not allow us to continue paying expenses and salary for employees. The NMHA Board members will take on the task of handling the day-to-day operations.

Q: *What did the board do to stop the actions of the commission and track?*
A: We filed suit against the New Mexico Racing Commission. The lawsuit against the New Mexico Racing Commission for their actions is pending.

Q: *Is this the end of the NMHA Albuquerque Office?*
A: No. The decision, while difficult, was a necessary business decision stemming from the irreparable damage caused by the decision of the New Mexico Racing Commission. Once we successfully reverse the damage with our strategy moving forward, the NMHA will reconsider this decision. We fully believe this decision is temporary, but for the immediate future – indefinite and necessary.

Q: *What is the plan going forward?*
A: It is not in our legal interest to publicly disclose our strategy going forward. Rest assured, the NMHA State Board has had discussions and formulated a strategy to reverse the damage. Those actions are moving forward.

Q: *What does this mean for the future of the NMHA?*
A: We are in a monumental and unprecedented battle. Racing days continue to be cut in derogation to law and there is an effort to suffocate our rights. We have begun to rally our allies, friends and financial coffers to reverse the significant damage being collectively waged upon the horsemen of New Mexico. Our cause is noble, correct and just and we will prevail.