

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Horse Racing Supporters to Organize Larger Counter Demonstration, Call for Civility and Protections for Horses, Industry & Jobs

Animal Rights Extremist Arrested During Last Week's Demonstration at Del Mar Race Track

Del Mar, Ca.- Horseracing supporters, trainers, owners and workers will organize a larger counter demonstration on **Saturday, August 31, 2019 from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the front entrance of Del Mar Race Track -2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd, Del Mar, Ca. 92014**. The demonstration comes as a response to an incident of violence last week from those who are advocating an extreme ban on horse racing in California. The incident was caught on video that shows an animal rights protester arrested and detained by personnel from the San Diego County Sherriff's Department.

http://www.calracingcares.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Del-Mar-Counter-Protest-Aug.-31st_v2.2_HiRez.mp4

The demonstration is being led by horse racing advocate, Oscar de la Torre who organized a historic back stretch worker press conference on June 20, 2019 at Santa Anita (please see video attached <https://vimeo.com/344830775>). "We support the reform effort that will strengthen protections for the horses under our care. The compassion for horses should also extend to the workers whose livelihoods would be negatively impacted if the horse racing industry would be shut down. People need to understand that there is a human cost to a statewide ban on horse racing," stated Mr. de la Torre.

Heightened concern for the welfare and safety of race horses in California led to unprecedented reforms to ensure best practices. The California Horse Racing Board, California Thoroughbred Trainers, and Thoroughbred Owners of California, have all agreed on new protocols that set the highest horse safety standard of any track in the USA, which were enhanced still further following a recent statement by Governor Newsom. So far this season at the Del Mar Race Track there have been zero accidental horse racing fatalities during a race, proving that safer horse racing is possible.

"We support the implementation of these best practices to strengthen protections for the horses we love and that are under our care. These reforms have established a new standard for the humane treatment of race horses and we have already seen a positive impact at Del Mar. We welcome the change to protect our horses, our industry, our jobs and our lives," stated trainer Kim Marrs.

"We all have a right to freedom of speech and expression. It is unfortunate that people who claim to be compassionate towards animals choose violence against peaceful demonstrators. We hope that people can choose civility in this next demonstration, stated counter demonstration organizer Oscar de la Torre.

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