

## **Water Hay Oats Alliance** **Stop Drugs in Racing**



### **Park Equine Hospital Announces Support of the Horse Racing Integrity Act**

The Partners of Park Equine Hospital announced today that it is in full support of the Horseracing Integrity Act (HIA) currently working its way through Congress. "It is our belief that the passage of this legislation is essential in ensuring the health and well-being of the Thoroughbred." said Dr. John Park.

Dr. Gary Priest agreed, "The legislation would create a uniform standard across state lines to protect the horse and restore integrity and confidence in our industry. A key component of the bill is the installment of an independent body in USADA to oversee drug use. We see this as a positive step for the future of horse racing and encourage others to join us in support of the bill."

"Support from the veterinary community for the HIA is essential, as these practitioners are our first line of defense in ensuring the well-being of our equine athletes. Vets take an oath, just like human MDs, to protect their patients. Ethical behavior starts at the top and when the veterinarians with the highest amount of peer respect support the cause, the rank and file hopefully will want to emulate their behavior and actions." added WHOA Supporter Barry Irwin.

Park Equine Hospital, established in 2001, provides comprehensive equine medical and surgical services at locations in Paris and Woodford County Kentucky. The practice was built upon one simple principle: *to provide the very best care to our clients and their horses.*

### **[The Horseracing Integrity Act](#)**

### **[The Water Hay Oats Alliance Membership Roster](#)**

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**The Water Hay Oats Alliance (WHOA) is a grassroots movement of over 1,900 like-minded individuals** who support the passage of federal legislation to prohibit the use of performance-enhancing drugs in the sport of horse racing. The appointment of an independent anti-doping program run by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) will resolve the problem of widespread drug use in American racing and put U.S. racing jurisdictions in step with international standards.

**Doping destroys public confidence in racing, defrauds the betting fan, weakens the genetic pool and, most importantly, puts the life and limb of our equine athletes and their jockeys at risk.** It is obvious that after years of committee review and discussion, America's racing industry

cannot police itself by eliminating the proliferation of performance-enhancing drugs in our sport, nor does it possess the power to adequately punish the purveyors of these drugs.

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