
News Release

For Immediate Release
Thursday, July 14, 2005

Criminal charges laid in Thoroughbred horse neglect case

A joint investigation by the Ontario Racing Commission Investigative Unit, Caledon OPP and Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) has resulted in criminal charges being laid in the case of animal abandonment involving over 30 horses at a farm in Caledon last January.

Acting on information, two individuals visited a farm in Caledon and found one dead horse and approximately 30 more neglected and distressed horses. They immediately contacted the OSPCA and a formal investigation was launched, pulling in resources from the OPP and the ORC Investigative Unit.

Individuals and organizations in the horse racing industry quickly stepped forward and worked closely with individuals from the horse industry at large to provide food, shelter, lodgings and care for the neglected animals. Today these animals are being cared for or have been placed in new homes under the supervision of the OSPCA.

As a result of the investigation, charges have now been laid against Joseph CHANG and his wife Mee-Yung CHUNG and arrest warrants have been issued for nine counts of *failure to provide adequate care for an animal* and two counts of *permitting unnecessary suffering to an animal contrary to the Criminal Code*.

Also charged with the same offences are Janey DERVENIS and her husband, Peter DERVANIS who are scheduled to appear in Brampton Court on October 12th 2005.

Anyone with information about this case or with knowledge of the whereabouts of Joseph CHANG or Mee-Yung CHUNG are asked to contact Doug ROMBOUGH from the OSPCA, or OPP Detective Constable Rasa Malinauskas attached to the ORC Investigative Unit at 705-437-4700. Information can also be left on the ORC Integrity Hotline at 1-877-668-7223.

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