

**Ontario
Racing
Commission**

**Commission
des courses
de l'Ontario**

9th floor
20 Dundas Street West
Toronto ON M5G 2C2
Tel (416) 327-0520
Fax (416) 325-3478

9e étage
20 rue Dundas ouest
Toronto ON M5G 2C2
Tél (416) 327-0520
Télé (416) 325-3478



September 28, 2005

Notice to the industry

Advisement to All Licensees – Dr. John Flanigan

All Ontario Racing Commission licensees and participants involved in horse racing in Ontario are advised that two rulings have been issued today prohibiting horses treated by veterinarian Dr. John Flanigan from entering racing in Ontario.

On September 21, 2005, the Executive Director issued a lifetime suspension and a Notice of Proposed Order to Revoke the licence of Dr. John Flanigan for the following reasons:

- a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that, while the Licensee carries out the activities for which a licence is required, the Licensee will not act in accordance with the law, or with integrity, honesty, or in the public interest, having regard to the past conduct of the applicant;
- b) the licensee's conduct has placed the integrity of the horse racing industry in Ontario in question and, in particular, the quality and integrity of veterinary care of horses; and
- c) the public interest requires that the licensee be suspended immediately.

Dr. Flanigan held an ORC Standardbred licence in the capacity of veterinarian, providing services at the racetrack for Ontario licensees. Dr. Flanigan was found to have purchased controlled substances from Mr. Fred Rogers since deceased. Fred Rogers was not licensed as a veterinarian and was not authorized to possess or sell controlled substances or other substances regulated under the *Food and Drugs Act* and the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. Some products purchased from Mr. Rogers by Dr. Flanigan were unlabelled products and not approved for sale or use in Canada. Dr. Flanigan admitted that he permitted Fred Rogers to use his name and registration number with the College of Veterinarians of Ontario for the purposes of obtaining pharmaceuticals and veterinary supplies. Dr. Flanigan has admitted that he treated horses from products purchased from Mr. Rogers.

Further to the actions to suspend and revoke the licenses of Dr. Flanigan, **a ruling has been issued to notify participants that any horse treated by Dr. Flanigan on or after September 30, 2005 will be ineligible to be declared to race at any raceway in Ontario.** Any participant entering or attempting to enter a horse for whom Dr. Flanigan provided such services on or after September 30, 2005 may be found to be in violation of the Rules of Standardbred or Thoroughbred Racing, whichever applies.

Copies of the rulings are attached for the information of participants.

John L. Blakney
Executive Director