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**HORSEMEN'S BOOKKEEPER ACCOUNTS  
DELTA DOWNS RACE TRACK  
MEETS ENDING IN 1996, 1997 AND 1998**

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the audited, or reviewed, entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date NOV 2 5 1998

October 20, 1998

The Board of Directors  
**Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent &  
Protective Association, 1993, Inc.**  
1535 Gentilly Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70119

We were engaged to apply certain investigative procedures to the financial records of Louisiana Horsemen's bookkeeper accounts at Delta Downs Race Track.

The procedures performed by us involved a review of canceled checks for Delta Downs Quarterhorse and Mixed Meets for race meets ending in 1996, 1997, and 1998. More specifically, we applied the following procedures as regarding the canceled checks provided:

- Identified the payee on the front of each check.
- Compared the named payee to the endorsed signature on the back of the check.
- Reviewed each check for evidence of Ms. Penny Barlow's bank account number at Cameron State Bank and/or endorsement of a check through the use of her signature stamp that she uses to sign each check as payor.
- Compared endorsement signatures to other checks with the same named payee for consistency of the signatures. Noted those checks whose endorsement signatures were not consistent and resembled the endorsement of Check 6278 that was confirmed deposited into Ms. Penny Barlow's bank account at Cameron State Bank, and those endorsements on checks made payable to Logan H. Cormier, who is Ms. Penny Barlow's son, as represented to us by your management, that included Ms. Penny Barlow's account number with Cameron State Bank.
- For those checks whose endorsement signatures resembled the endorsement on Check 6278, mentioned above, we obtained a copy of that payee's license application filed with the Louisiana State Racing Commission for comparison of signatures.

The scope of our investigation was limited, at your request, to the canceled checks issued by the Delta Downs bookkeeper, Ms. Penny Barlow. These checks were identified and provided by you and maintained at the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, 1993, Inc. office located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The following findings are a result of our procedures: the referenced checks are on file in your office, as our files only include copies.

1. The following checks include either or both an endorsement by Ms. Penny Barlow, by use of her signature stamp, or her account number at Cameron State Bank:

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
6278	4/7/98	\$ 322.00
2018	6/24/97	700.00
1548	5/21/97	600.00
5165	8/6/96	100.00
5062	7/30/96	<u>75.00</u>
		<u>\$ 1,797.00</u>

2. The following checks were noted because the endorsement on the check resembled that on Check 6278 and the endorsement on those checks made payable to Logan H. Cormier that included Ms. Penny Barlow's account number with Cameron State Bank, and the endorsement on the checks did not resemble that signature on the license application filed with the Louisiana State Racing Commission.

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5020	1/29/98	\$ 490.20
3929	7/5/98	475.10
5255	2/13/98	400.00
2509	7/8/97	98.00
1492	5/17/97	1,434.00
1389	5/9/97	1,640.50
3151	5/9/98	250.00
3064	5/1/98	250.00
4024	5/16/96	40.00
4025	5/19/96	<u>14.00</u>
		<u>\$ 5,091.80</u>
Total 1 and 2		<u>\$ 6,888.80</u>

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We are not handwriting experts and we do not hold ourselves out as such experts. Our staff selected the above referenced checks using their professional judgment.

This report is intended solely for use by management for the purpose of investigating whether fraud may have been committed by the Delta Downs Bookkeeper.

Sincerely,

**LaPORTE, SEHRT, ROMIG & HAND**  
**A Professional Accounting Corporation**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory P. Romig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the left.

Gregory P. Romig  
Certified Public Accountant

GPR/mp