UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

Romney L. Harris,

Respondent

Complaint

There is reason to believe that the respondent named herein has violated the Horse Protection Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.), herein referred to as the Act. Therefore, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service ("APHIS") issues this complaint alleging the following:

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- A. Respondent Romney L. Harris is an individual whose mailing address is 1783 Thomas Moore Road, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431.
- B. At all times material hereto, respondent Romney L. Harris was the owner and trainer of the horse known as "Dollar's Worth" and entered this horse as Entry No. 33, Class No. 76, on September 22, 2007, at the 41st Annual Kentucky Celebration, Liberty, Kentucky.

II

On September 22, 2007, respondent Romney L. Harris, in violation of section 5(2)(B) of the Act (15 U.S.C. § 1824(2)(B)), entered for the purpose of showing or exhibiting the horse known as "Dollar's Worth" as Entry No. 33, in Class No. 76, at the 41st Annual Kentucky Celebration, Liberty, Kentucky, while the horse was sore.

WHEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that for the purpose of determining whether the respondent has in fact violated the Act, this complaint shall be served upon the respondent. The respondent shall file an answer with the Hearing Clerk, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250-9200, in accordance with the Rules of Practice governing proceedings under the Act (7 C.F.R. § 1.130 et seq.). Failure to file an answer shall constitute an admission of all the material allegations of this complaint.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service requests:

- 1. That unless the respondent fails to file an answer within the time allowed therefor, or files an answer admitting all the material allegations of this complaint, this proceeding be set for oral hearing in conformity with the Rules of Practice governing proceedings under the Act; and
- 2. That such order or orders be issued as are authorized by the Act and warranted under the circumstances including an order:
- (a) Assessing civil penalties against the respondent in accordance with section 6(b) of the Act (15 U.S.C. § 1825(b)); and
- (b) Disqualifying the respondent for a specified period as provided in section 6(c) of the Act (15 U.S.C. \$ 1825(c)) from (1) showing, exhibiting or entering any horse, or otherwise participating in any horse show or exhibition, and (2)

judging or managing any horse show, horse exhibition, horse sale or auction.

Done at Washington, D.C. this 10 day of August, 2011

Acting Administrator
Animal and Plant Health
Inspection Service

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