

Lisa Lee
Acting Gaming Inspector General

Office of the Gaming Inspector General

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Office of the Gaming
Inspector General

December 4, 2019

Robert Williams
Executive Director
New York State Gaming Commission
One Broadway Center
Schenectady, New York 12305

Re: Vernon Downs Raceway -
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Williams:

This Office was informed that a potential conflict of interest exists between [REDACTED], a veterinarian at Vernon Downs Racetrack ("Vernon Downs"), and [REDACTED], a horseman who races at the track. Specifically, it is alleged that [REDACTED] is allowed to treat [REDACTED]'s horses even though they are domestic partners.

According to [REDACTED] County property records and Accurint reports, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] own and reside at [REDACTED] NY. Both also list the same post office box ([REDACTED] NY) and phone number [REDACTED] on their Commission licensing applications. Although Commission officials contend that they are unaware of any personal relationship between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Vernon Downs [REDACTED] admitted that he knew, but added that it did not violate any policies.

As [REDACTED]'s relationship with [REDACTED] may conflict with her duties as the track veterinarian, or at a minimum, be perceived as such and reflect negatively upon the integrity of racing, consideration should be given to having [REDACTED] refrain from treating or administering medication to any of [REDACTED]'s horses.

The above information is being provided to you for review and whatever action you deem appropriate. If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Lisa Lee

A Division



Gaming
Commission