

In December of 2020, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act was signed into federal law. This law granted powers to one regulatory body (Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority, "HISA") that will set uniform standards for participants within the Thoroughbred Racing industry. Participants include owners, trainers, veterinarians and racetrack facilities. If participants (aka "covered persons") hold a license from their respective state Racing commissions, they must register by July 1, 2022. This registration is part of the Racetrack Safety Program, a program "aiming to standardize operational safety rules and racetrack accreditation in order to enhance equine welfare and minimize injuries to equines and jockeys". Failure to comply will result in prohibition from Racing activities. A second program, the Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC), set to launch in Jan 2023, seeks to implement a centralized prohibited substance testing process and enact/enforce rules on prohibited substances. Several outside agencies have been contracted to help facilitate this program as it is a heavy lift from an implementation standpoint. For more information regarding HISA, please go to www.hisau.org

Submitted by Sade Conway-Johnson, Mid-Hudson Regional Director