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*Lt. Governor*

*State of New Jersey*  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
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*Commissioners*

FRANCESCO ZANZUCCKI  
*Executive Director*

September 27, 2017

Mr. Mark Ford  
125 Stony Ford Road  
Campbell Hall, NY 10916

Re: Mark Ford v. NJRC, OAL Docket No. RAC 06047-2015N

Dear Mr. Ford:

This is to advise you that on September 20, 2017, the Racing Commission considered the Initial Decision of ALJ Kelly J. Kirk. On that date, the Commission determined to adopt the Initial Decision as the Final Decision in this matter. Therefore, enclosed is ruling 17TRH28 which implements the terms of the decision.

Sincerely,

Gloria J. Thayer  
Executive Assistant

Enclosure

c DAG Susan M. Scott  
Howard A. Taylor, Esq.  
ALJ Kelly J. Kirk  
Kurt Schwartz, Deputy Clerk-OAL



P.O. Box 088  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0088

## TRENTON RULING

Ruling No: 17TRH28  
Date: 09-26-2017  
Name: MARK S FORD (TRAINER)  
Address: 125 STONY FORD ROAD  
CAMPBELL HALL NY 10916  
Date of Birth: 10-12-1970  
RC ID No.: 40803

By ruling 15MDH29, the Board of Judges at the Meadowlands Racetrack found trainer Mark Ford in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.1 (Medication and testing) and 13:71-23.6 (Trainer responsibility) in connection with a post-race positive test revealing the presence of Methylprednisolone in the horse "Idealbeach Hanover" following the 3rd race on January 31, 2015. The horse finished 2nd in the race and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:71-23.7, the horse was disqualified from the purse money. Mark Ford requested a stay of the penalty and appealed the Judges' decision. A stay was granted and the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case.

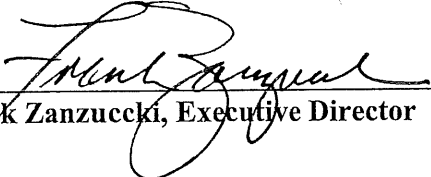
On September 20, 2017, the New Jersey Racing Commission determined to adopt the Initial Decision (dated August 28, 2017) of Administrative Law Judge Kelly J. Kirk which affirmed the Board of Judges' decision in Ruling 15MDH29.

Therefore, Mark Ford is ordered a 15-day suspension and \$500 fine. The suspension will be served on November 4, 2017 through and including November 18, 2017. During the period of suspension, Mark Ford is denied access to all grounds under the jurisdiction of the Racing Commission for any and all purposes. Payment of the fine is due on or before November 18, 2017.

The Executive Director hereby orders that the purse money for the 3rd race of January 31, 2015 be held in escrow until further notice.

Related rulings: 15MDH29 dated March 16, 2015 and 15TRH7 dated March 24, 2015

**BY ORDER OF THE NEW JERSEY RACING COMMISSION**

  
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Frank Zanzuccki, Executive Director