

**BEFORE THE INTERNAL ADJUDICATION PANEL**

**HIWU**

**Case Number:** ECM2024-324/ECM2024-325  
**IAP Member** Anne Mitchell

v.

Amador Sanchez

*[Insert Name of Covered Person]*

**FINAL RULING OF INTERNAL ADJUDICATION PANEL**

**Section One – Parties**

Date of Hearing: 2/11/25 (hearing waived, check here)

Date of Decision: 2/17/25

HIWU Counsel: Ms. Christy Heath

Covered Person: Mr. Amador Sanchez, HISA #P000164600

Counsel/Representative of Covered Person: Mr. Enric Ripoll

Any Third Parties: Witnesses for Mr. Sanchez: Dra Cecilia Echeverria; Dr. Alex Rendon; Mr. Wilson Seaman

**Section Two - Charges**

The Covered Person is charged with violating the following Series 3000 Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control (ADMC) Program Rules (“Protocol”):

Rule 3312. Presence of a Controlled Medication Substance

### Section Three – Burdens of Proof and Evidence

A. Pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3121 (Protocol), HIWU has established the following evidence, set forth in detail below, to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel:

On October 4, 2024 following Race 2 at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Florida, blood Sample #B100936913 taken from Mayheminthepalace was submitted to Industrial Laboratories in Denver, Colorado for post race analysis. The A Sample contained 0.0548 ng/ml 3 hydroxylidocaine, a metabolite of Lidocaine, a Class B Controlled Medication Substance. On October 6, 2024 following Race 1 at Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, Florida, blood Sample #B100937291 taken from Excuses was submitted to Industrial Laboratories in Denver, Colorado for post race analysis. The A Sample contained 0.11 ng/ml 3 hydroxylidocaine, a metabolite of Lidocaine, a Class B Controlled Medication Substance. The Controlled Medication Rule Violations are being treated together in accordance with ADMC Program Rule 3323(d)(1).

This is Trainer Sanchez’s second Class B Controlled Medication violation in the year 2024. On March 8, 2024, his horse Grey Princess, and on March 22, 2024, Dontkissdaminister, both tested positive for Capsaicin following post race blood analysis. The circumstances were remarkably similar to this case, as the same groom, Mr. Wilson Seaman, admitted he was using Capsaicin on his arthritic knees. However, Mr. Sanchez did not educate his employees concerning all precautions, nor did he take reasonable and practical steps to prevent future contamination.

B. Pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3121 (Protocol), the Covered Person has established the following evidence, set forth in detail below, by a balance of probability:

Mr. Sanchez maintains the contamination is the result of, his groom, Mr. Wilson Seaman’s use of lidocaine spray and patches for arthritis in his knees. However, Mr. Sanchez also claims to have not known Mr. Seaman was using the medication, a clear speculation of evidence. Furthermore, the attending veterinarian, Dr. Rendon, produced records on both horses devoid of lidocaine use. However, the HISA submissions of Dr. Rendon did not accurately match his records, therefore casting doubt on his testimony.

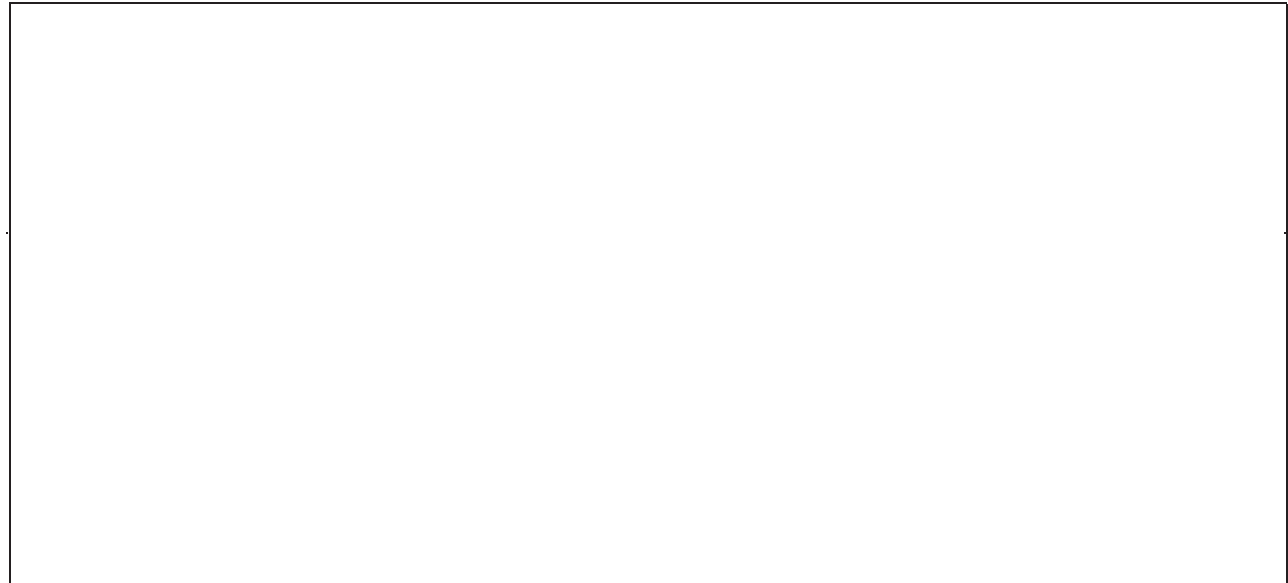
**Section Four – Violations Determined**

Based on the applicable ADMC Program Rules (Protocol) listed above in Section Two, and based upon the established evidence as set forth in Section Three above, the hearing panel has determined that the Covered Person has violated the following ADMC Program Rules (Protocol):

Rule 3312. Presence of a Controlled Medication Substance

**Section Five – Finding of No Fault/Negligence or No Significant Fault/Negligence**

Pursuant to ADMC Program Rules 3324 and 3325 (Protocol), a Covered Person is entitled to elimination or reduction of any period of Ineligibility if the hearing panel determines that the Covered Person has established that he or she bears No Fault or Negligence, or No Significant Fault or Negligence for the Violation(s). Based on the foregoing evidence, the IAP Member finds that the Covered Person  has  has not (check one) established that he or she bears **No Fault or Negligence**; or the Covered Person  has  has not (check one) established that he or she bears **No Significant Fault or Negligence** for the Violation(s). Where the Covered Person has established that he or she bears No Fault or Negligence or No Significant Fault or Negligence for the Violation(s), the following evidence supports this conclusion:



**Section Six – Elimination, reduction, or suspension of period of Ineligibility and/or other Consequences for reasons unrelated to degree of Fault**

Pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3326(b) – (d) (Protocol), the Covered Person is entitled to elimination, reduction, or suspension of a period of Ineligibility and/or other Consequences if he or she has satisfied any of the following (*check all that apply*):

- Rule 3326(b): Voluntary Admission of a Controlled Medication Rule Violation in the absence of other evidence.
- Rule 3326(c): Application of multiple grounds for reduction of a sanction; where the Covered Person has established entitlement to a reduction or suspension of period of Ineligibility under two or more of Rules 3324, 3325, or 3326.
- Rule 3326(d): Reductions for certain Controlled Medication Rule Violations based on early admission and acceptance of sanction; where the Covered Person admits Violation(s) and accepts Consequence(s) within seven (7) days of receiving Charge Letter.

Based on the application of these Rules, the Covered Person is entitled to the following elimination, reduction, or suspension of a period of Ineligibility and/or other Consequences:

**Section Seven – Aggravating Circumstances**

HIWU has established the following aggravating circumstances to the comfortable satisfaction of the hearing panel (*write N/A if none*):

Based upon the Aggravating Circumstances, the Covered Person’s period of Ineligibility is increased by \_\_\_\_ months (up to 6 months), and an additional fine in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is imposed (up to \$5,000.00 USD or 5% of the purse, whichever is greater).

## Section Eight - Consequences

The following Consequences are imposed upon the Covered Person for each violation that has been established in this case:

- 1) a period of Ineligibility of 30 days for Trainer Sanchez as the Responsible Person pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3323;
- 2) a fine of \$2500 USD pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3323(b);
- 3) the automatic assignment of 2 Penalty Points pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3328;
- 4) the automatic Public Disclosure of the violation pursuant to ADMC Program Rules 3620 and 3331; and
- 5) the automatic disqualification of Mayheminthepalace's Race Results obtained in Race 2 at Gulfstream Park, on October 4, 2024, the automatic disqualification of Excuses' Race Results obtained in Race 1 at Gulfstream Park, on October 6, 2024, and forfeiture of all purses and other compensation, prizes, trophies, points, and rankings, and repayment or surrender to the Race Organizer pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3321.

## Section Nine – Penalty Points

The total penalty points issued against Covered Person as a result of this final decision are: 2.

The Covered Person has 3.5 prior penalty points, bringing his or her current total penalty points to 5.5.

Subject to ADMC Program Rule 3364 (Protocol), this decision is final and binding pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3363 (Protocol).

/s/ Anne G. Mitchell

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Signature of IAP Member