



SUMMARY DECISION OF HIWU

COVERED PERSON: FELISSA DUNN ALLEGED VIOLATION: RULE 3214(a) POSSESSION OF BANNED SUBSTANCES

On May 27, 2025, a search was performed of Trainer Felissa Dunn's assigned area of Barn 33 at Parx Casino and Racing ("Parx") in Bensalem, Pennsylvania by investigators acting on behalf of the Pennsylvania State Horse Racing Commission ("PSHRC").

Nine (9) syringes capable of accepting needles were found in Trainer Dunn's assigned area of Barn 33. Two (2) of these syringes were later submitted for forensic laboratory analysis, and the Equine Integrity and Anti-Doping Sciences Laboratory in Lexington, Kentucky reported that the substances in both syringes contained the category S0 Banned Substances Chlorpromazine and Propionylpromazine.

In the aftermath of the search, HIWU understood from statements made by investigators working on behalf of the PSHRC that only one investigator conducted the search on May 27, 2025 that led to the discovery and confiscation of the syringes. Based on HIWU's understanding at the time, Trainer Dunn, as the Responsible Person for her assigned area of Barn 33 at Parx, was formally charged with Anti-Doping Rule Violations pursuant to ADMC Program Rule 3214(a) based on the identified contents of two (2) of the nine (9) syringes.

On November 3, 2025, proceedings in the case were commenced through JAMS under the ADMC Program's Arbitration Procedures, with Hon. Hugh L. Fraser (Ret.) serving as the arbitrator. A preliminary hearing was held virtually before the Arbitrator Fraser, during which a preliminary scheduling order was adopted. By agreement of the parties, a new scheduling order was subsequently adopted. Both parties filed written submissions. A hearing was scheduled to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 7, 2026.

As part of its case, HIWU obtained signed witness statements from two of the investigators working on behalf of the PSHRC, who both stated that only one investigator conducted the May 27, 2025 search of Trainer Dunn's barn area. The relevant chain of custody for the syringes was established through evidence identified by a lone investigator.

On May 6, 2026, HIWU learned for the first time that one of the investigators who provided a written statement intended to testify at the hearing -- contrary to the written statements that were previously provided -- that two investigators (not one) were involved in the search and seizure of the syringes.

The new and contradictory evidence discovered on May 6, 2026 was materially at odds with the chain of custody evidence initially provided by the PSHRC witnesses, which HIWU had relied on in charging Trainer Dunn. Specifically, HIWU had relied on an understanding that all of the syringes were seized by a single investigator who photographed the items as he had found them, and then took the syringes to another investigator who placed the items in evidence bags, sealed the bags, filled out all information on the bags (including the Chain of Custody section), and logged them on a HIWU Evidence Report/Receipt. As a result, HIWU could not rely on an unbroken chain of custody or the earlier statements of these witnesses.

In light of this new and contradictory evidence, HIWU filed a Notice of Withdrawal of Charge that same day (May 6, 2026), pursuant to ADMC Program Rules 3249(a) and 3249(c). On May 8, 2026, HIWU formally withdrew the Charge that had been filed against Trainer Dunn. HIWU explained that it had determined there was not a sufficient basis to proceed with adjudication of a Possession Charge in light of the newly discovered evidence regarding the chain of custody.

Arbitrator Fraser subsequently issued an order terminating the case against Trainer Dunn, which closed the ADMC Program proceedings. This decision confirms the withdrawal of the Charge that was issued against Trainer Dunn and the full resolution of this matter.

THE HORSERACING INTEGRITY & WELFARE UNIT
MAY 27, 2026