

## BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES, AND HOUSING AGENCY

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**CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

JULY 31, 2015

**ENFORCEMENT UPDATE 7-31-15**

SACRAMENTO, CA – This is an update of all complaints, stewards' rulings, and Board decisions involving Class 1, 2, and 3 medication violations and other significant matters.

In the matter of the fitness for licensure of Patrick Valenzuela, by vote of the Board during closed session on July 17, the proposed decision of the hearing officer was rejected. The Board itself will hear the matter on the record at a future closed session after which the Board will make public its final decision.

In accordance with a settlement agreement between the California Horse Racing Board and Michael Pender, the stewards at Del Mar fined the trainer \$5,000 for benefitting financially during two periods of suspension for medication violations in 2014. A CHRB investigation determined that Pender instructed his bookkeeper to continue billing clients as usual even while Pender was serving suspensions June 2-8 and Sept. 22-Oct. 12. CHRB Rule 1843.3 (i) prohibits a licensee from benefitting financially while suspended for medication violations.

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