



New Mexico Racing Commission
4900 Alameda NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Ruling #: 2025-ZIA-33
Track Zia Park
Ruling Date: 12/6/2025

Licensee: CHAVEZ, HECTOR
License Type: 2023 3 Year Trainer Applicant Id: 33662
License Number: 310384

Ruling # 2025-ZIA-33
Action Type: Final Outcome
Ruling:

RE: 2025-ZIA-33 - Ruling Final Outcome 1/27/26

Trainer/Owner Hector Chavez, currently under summary suspension since December 5, 2025, was duly notified and appeared for his disciplinary hearing before the Sunland Park Board of Stewards on January 27, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. [per Rule 15.2.1.9 A. (3)(a)(b)(c) Summary Suspension], regarding a lab report from Industrial Laboratories (the official testing laboratory for the NMRC) for a confirmed positive for the drug Albuterol, a Class 3 Penalty A drug, found in the urine test sample E549337 taken from first place finisher "Latigo Ellis" following the first race on November 16, 2025, at Zia Park Racetrack.

Hector Chavez was listed as the Trainer of record for the horse "Latigo Ellis" on November 16, 2025. Alicia Andrade was listed as the Owner of record for the horse "Latigo Ellis" on November 16, 2025.

Split sample rights were afforded to and requested by Hector Chavez. An affidavit from Equine Integrity and Anti-Doping Sciences (EQIAS Labs) dated January 5, 2026, confirmed sample E549337 tested positive for Albuterol, per Rule 15.2.6.10 D.

At the hearing, no witnesses or evidence was presented to disprove the test results at issue or the resulting findings of the New Mexico Racing Commission.

Aggravating factors considered:

1. Hector Chavez had three (3) Out-of -Competition-Test (OOCT) positives for Class 3 Penalty A drugs (2 Albuterol and 1 Zilpaterol) in 2023.
2. Hector Chavez had an Out-of -Competition-Test (OOCT) positive for a Class 3 Penalty A drug (Albuterol) in 2021.

After hearing testimony and viewing evidence presented, license is found in violation of the following provisions of NMRC:

- 15.2.5.13 B.(1) Horses Ineligible
- 15.2.6.9 Medications and Prohibited Substances
- 15.2.6.9. A. (1)(2)(4)
- 15.2.6.9 C. (1) (8)(a)(c) Medication Restrictions;
- 15.2.6.11 (A) Trainer Responsibility



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16.47.1.8 L. (1)(i)(o) Grounds for disciplinary measures for a licensee, and refusal, denial, suspension, or revocation of a license

16.47.1.8 U. Protection of Horses

16.47.1.10 B. Absolute Insurer

For these violations the Board of Stewards hereby issue the following penalties:

1. For the presence of Albuterol, Hector Chavez shall have all licenses issued by the Commission suspended for a period of two (2) years, per Rule 15.2.6.9 B. (1), retroactive from his Summary Suspension December 5, 2025 through December 4, 2027 (inclusive.)
2. For the presence of Albuterol, a fine of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), per Rule 15.2.6.9 B. (1) which must be paid on or before February 16, 2026, in accordance with NMAC 15.2.3.8 B. (3) (e). Failure to pay the fine within the prescribed time may result in immediate suspension. Pursuant to NMAC 15.2.1.9. A. (7f) all fines imposed by the Stewards shall be paid to the Commission within 14 days after the Ruling is issued, unless otherwise ordered.
3. Hector Chavez has accumulated "0" Multiple Medication Violation (MMV) points prior to this infraction, "6" points in connection with this Ruling for the Class A penalty violation under the MMV point system, in accordance with Rule 15.2.6.9 (O).
4. In order to be restored to good standing, Hector Chavez shall be required to take and pass all sections of the New Mexico Racing Commission written Trainer's exam, in accordance with Rule 16.47.1.10 A. (4) Trainers.

In accordance with 15.2.1.9 B. (21), Hector Chavez is hereby excluded from all areas of the grounds under the jurisdiction of the NMRC. Additionally, effective upon applicable suspension dates, all horses owned, trained, or under the care of Hector Chavez are ineligible to be entered or start in any race in this jurisdiction, per 15.2.1.9 B.(21)(c). All transfers and sales of horses trained, owned, or in the care and custody of Hector Chavez must be done in accordance with 15.2.6.9 A.(13)(a)(b)(c) (d) Medication and Prohibited Substances, 15.2.1.9 A.(8) Due Process and Disciplinary Action, and 16.47.1.10 D. (7) Assistant Trainers.

This Ruling is written in accordance with NMAC:

- 15.2.1.8 B. Commission General Authority
- 15.2.1.9 A. Proceedings Before the Stewards
- 15.2.2.8 V. Ejection and Exclusion
- 15.2.3.8 B. Stewards
- 15.2.6.11 E. Trainer Responsibility
- 16.47.1.3 Statutory Authority
- 16.47.1.8 A. (1)(2) License Required
- 16.47.1.8.L. Grounds for Disciplinary Measures



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16.47.1.8 N. Changes in Application
16.47.1.8 T. Knowledge of Rules
16.47.1.10. C. Trainer – Other Responsibility

15.2.1.9 A. (9)(b): Which states in pertinent part that "An appeal under this section must be filed not later than 10 days after the date of the ruling. If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the period is extended to include the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. The appeal must be received by noon, at the main commission offices or with the stewards who issued the ruling and must be accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$400. The fee must be in the form of a cashier's check, money order." The last day to file an appeal is February 12, 2026.

By Order of The Zia Park Stewards

Ronald Frazier

Julie Farr