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AN OPEN LETTER TO JUDGE SARA ZABEL

August 9, 2010

Honorable Sara Zabel
Richard Gerstein Justice Building
1351 NW 12th Street – Room 209
Miami, FL 33125

RE: Case # FO 9-30542 (A and B)

Dear Judge Zabel:

On Monday, August 23, Luis Cordero and Santiago Cabrera are scheduled to appear before you for a pre-trial hearing.

On behalf of myself and my organization, I urge you to see that these defendants be punished to the fullest extent that the law permits.

I have witnessed firsthand the bloody, gruesome aftermath of the slaughter of both horses by Cordero and Cabrera. I have read the arrest affidavits. Both horses were beloved pets and were stolen out of their stalls. In the case of the Stone City mare, the defendants broke her front legs and began to butcher her while she was still alive. She was killed in front of her own foal, who had innocently followed her out of the stall. In the case of the Thoroughbred, King Quizi, his throat was cut and he, too, was butchered while still alive. The defendants have admitted to doing this for the purpose of illegally selling the meat for human consumption.

Horses are sensitive, sentient, trusting animals used to kindness from their handlers. The fear and suffering endured by these beautiful animals is beyond imaginable.

I have enclosed extremely heartbreaking, graphic photographs of the two horses in question that I myself took. Although I know it will be difficult, I urge you to look at them to help you arrive at your decision.

Due to the extreme cruelty of these crimes, I believe our community will tolerate only the harshest penalty that the law permits. And our nightmare is not over. Another horse in our community was slaughtered just a few weeks ago. We need you to send a message that crimes this heinous against animals won't be tolerated.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Jordan, President