



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

Office of Marketing, Animal Industries, Consumer Services & Maryland Horse Industry Board



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
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MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD

Filing Complaints

The Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB) is in part the unit of State government charged with regulating horse facilities in the State.

Please use the attached form for filing a complaint against a licensed stable or facility in need of licensing in this State. After completing the attached form, please send it to:

Maryland Horse Industry Board
Maryland Department of Agriculture
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Room 203
Annapolis, MD 21401

Shortly after receiving the complaint, the MHIB shall notify the complainant whether the subject of the complaint falls within its regulatory authority (e.g., whereas a complaint alleging substandard care is within the MHIB's regulatory authority, a fee dispute is not). If the complaint falls within the MHIB's regulatory authority, the MHIB, when appropriate, may take the following steps:

1. Inspect the facility to establish the current operating conditions;
2. Send a copy of the complaint to the facility operator, and request the operator to provide a written response to it;
3. Send a copy of the operator's response to the complainant, and provide the complainant an opportunity to submit a written rebuttal to the operator's response;
4. After obtaining this information, determine whether there is sufficient evidence to believe that the facility is in violation of the provisions of Agricultural Article 2-7, and if so, take appropriate action; and
5. Subject to certain statutory limitations, notify the complainant of its intended action.

If you have any questions, please contact the MHIB at **(410)841-5798**
