

## Labor Day weekend national fundraising days for Alliance

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Eric Wing, Special to NTRA.com 8/11/2009

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The National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA) announced today that Saturday, September 5, Sunday, September 6 and Monday, September 7 have been designated as national fundraising days for the NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance. The Alliance, formed last October with the goal of establishing national uniform standards in the areas of safety and integrity, includes 55 racetracks in North America and every major national horsemen's organization.

The three days are designed to broaden awareness of, and generate support for, such Alliance initiatives as injury reporting and prevention; creating a safer racing environment; aftercare and transition of retired racehorses; uniform medication, testing and penalties; and safety research. During the weekend, the Alliance will be seeking contributions and pledges from a broad spectrum of industry participants, including racetracks, owners, trainers, jockeys and fans.

"The mission to optimize the levels of safety and integrity for our sport's human and equine athletes is both essential and costly," said Mike Ziegler, Executive Director of the Alliance. "The financial support generated over Labor Day weekend will be dedicated solely to the goal of making Thoroughbred racing a better, safer sport for all its participants."

The NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance initially focuses on human and equine safety, but will be expanded to cover additional areas, including [wagering](#) security. Information on the Alliance, including the Alliance Code of Standards, can be found at [www.NTRAalliance.com](http://www.NTRAalliance.com).

The Honorable Tommy G. Thompson, former four-term Governor of Wisconsin and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, serves as independent counsel of the Alliance.