



FOR RELEASE: Immediately, Monday, September 4, 2007
CONTACT: Scott Johnson (518) 487-9138

**STATEMENT BY SARATOGA SPRINGS MAYORAL CANDIDATE SCOTT JOHNSON
REGARDING NYRA'S RETENTION OF THE RACING FRANCHISE**

“Today is a great day for the residents of Saratoga and for those who love our fantastic racetrack. Governor Spitzer just recently recommended that the New York Racing Association retain the rights to run the racing franchise in New York, and thus, preserving our high quality racing meet and many of the traditions associated with the track. We know that NYRA will continue to be a great partner and work with the City as we further our success.

Last week, I presented the Governor with over 2,700 signatures of people who agreed that NYRA was the best choice for Saratoga Springs. The residents spoke and the Governor listened. Although the specific details have not been finalized yet, I expect that the Governor and State Legislature will preserve Saratoga's rightful share of revenues and property taxes, regardless of the issue of land ownership.

I want to thank the Governor for making the right decision and everyone who signed the petition for showing their support. Together we made a difference to ensure that the quality of racing and the traditions of the Race Course will remain intact.”

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