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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **ROOD & RIDDLE RELEASES STATEMENT ON TENNESSEE WALKING HORSES**

**Rood & Riddle enthusiastically supports the efforts of the AAEP and AVMA to eliminate soring and other intentional methods of inducing pain in the training and performance of Walking Horses.**

Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital is unequivocally opposed to the soring of horses and fully supports the efforts of the AAEP and the AVMA to end this inhumane practice. It has come to the attention of Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital that TWSHO released a statement that Dr. Hopper has been "retained by TWSHO" to attend the recent Tennessee Walking Horse Celebration. This is not accurate. Dr. Hopper was not retained by TWSHO or any other organization to attend the Celebration. Dr. Hopper was invited by TWSHO to attend the Celebration horse show. He has no working agreement with the show or any other organization, has not and will not receive any compensation for his attendance, and has not agreed to any future obligations. Rood & Riddle is working with TWSHO to correct this error.

Dr. Hopper's presence is testament to our belief that there is value in the restoration of the horses of the Tennessee Walking Breed to their original, once proud, plantation heritage. It is our belief that active veterinary involvement is paramount in bringing about positive change in the care of all horses.

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### **#About Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital [www.roodandriddle.com](http://www.roodandriddle.com)**

Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital is a full-service equine hospital established in 1986 as a referral center for horses requiring specialized medical and surgical care. Today Rood & Riddle is known and respected throughout the world for innovative and highly skilled treatment of horses. The hospital facility offers a full range of services including surgery, internal medicine, advanced diagnostic imaging, a focused Podiatry Center and specialized Reproductive Center. The practice also provides ambulatory services for emergencies, preventative care, general reproduction, radiography, medical care and treatment of your horse at your farm or stable. Rood and Riddle's reputation stems from an unwavering commitment to quality, both in the care of horses and in the relationships with clients and community.