



## Leone Equestrian Law LLC

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➤ Simple Steps to Avoid Unnecessary Doping Charges

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### TIP OF THE MONTH:

#### Retain an independent veterinarian.

When planning to purchase a horse, get a fresh set of eyes to examine the horse. Most commonly, buyers use their current veterinarian to perform the pre-purchase examination, but often times, horses are bought and sold within the same barn. A veterinarian without prior experience treating and evaluating the horse may offer the most unbiased evaluation of the horse. Sellers should identify the horse's existing veterinarian and offer the buyer to select a vet of their own choosing. Insert this information into the bill of sale.

### KEEP IN TOUCH:

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## Avoiding the Foreseeable: Simple Steps to Avoid Unnecessary Doping Charges

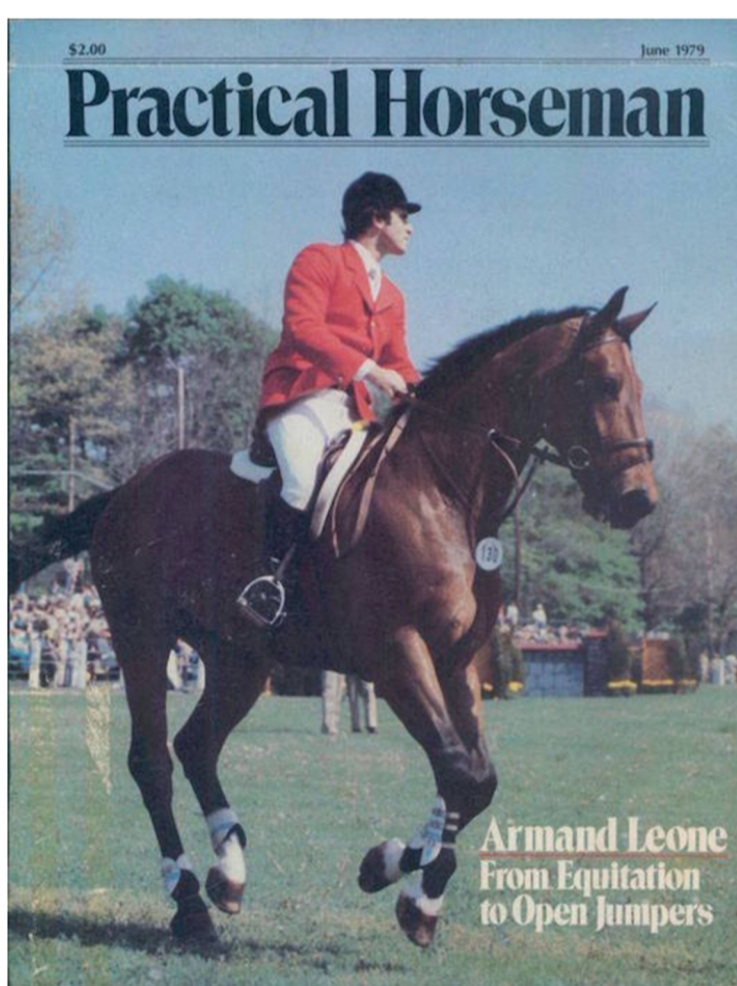
Today's competition horses are under constant scrutiny to avoid even perceptions of doping and training abuses by competition officials and the public. The inability of a horse to protect itself from unscrupulous practices makes strict oversight of training and competition mandatory. This can create an adversarial atmosphere between riders, trainers, stewards, and equestrian regulatory bodies. Positive tests for forbidden substances degrade the athlete, the horse, and our sport's reputation. Some violations involve doping with drugs that have no role in horse care: use of these drugs is intentional and dangerous for horses. These violators deserve the full force of sanctions and fines imposed.

Other times, doping violations are unintentional and occur with controlled medications because of negligent horse care. Negligence is failing to exercise the necessary care to prevent foreseeable violations. Even though the athlete or trainer may not have intended to administer or compete on a prohibited substance, the strict liability standard still applies and penalties will be levied.

Athletes and trainers can prevent inadvertent doping violations by avoiding situations that create risk of a competition horse ingesting a prohibited substance that causes a positive doping test. Most of these preventative steps are relatively simple to follow.

**[Find out what those steps are from Leone Equestrian Law in the current issue of \*The Competitive Equestrian\*! Click to read here!](#)**

## From the Archives



*Armand Leone on the June 1979 cover of Practical Horseman*

Leone Equestrian Law's Armand Leone and Jessica Choper both come from their own unique and strong equestrian backgrounds. Recently, the Leone Equestrian Law team has enjoyed digging through their archives and revisiting their show ring moments on the [Leone Equestrian Law Facebook page](#). [Visit the page to view more every Thursday!](#)

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*Jessica Choper*

## About Leone Equestrian Law

Leone Equestrian Law LLC provides legal services and consultation for equestrian professionals ranging from riders and trainers to owners and show managers in the FEI disciplines on a wide variety of issues. With a wealth of experience in the equestrian industry, Leone Equestrian Law LLC gives their clients personalized care with the utmost respect for confidentiality. Visit [www.equestriancounsel.com](http://www.equestriancounsel.com) to learn more!