



Auditor of Public Accounts
Mike Harmon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Michael Goins**
Michael.Goins@ky.gov
502.564.5841
502.209.2867

**Auditor Mike Harmon Announces Special Examination of the
Kentucky Horse Park**

Exam will look at financial activities of park for Fiscal Years 2014, 2015, 2016

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 3, 2016) – Mike Harmon, Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts, announced today his office will conduct a special examination into the operation and financial activities of the Kentucky Horse Park for Fiscal Years 2014, 2015, and 2016.

Auditor Harmon notified State Senator Damon Thayer, R-Georgetown, William Landrum, III, Secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, and Don Parkinson, Secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, by letter after receiving requests from them to conduct a special exam of the Kentucky Horse Park.

“The primary focus of this examination will be to evaluate certain financial activities and other operations of the Park to determine whether proper policies, procedures, legal and contractual requirements, and appropriate accounting standards were followed,” Auditor Harmon wrote in his letter. “These procedures will include, but not be limited to: procurement policies and procedures, equine and campground rental operations, and other operational activities.”

In his letter, Auditor Harmon wrote that as part of the exam auditors will review financial information, accounting ledgers, invoices, contracts, minutes of meetings of the Kentucky Horse Park Commission, and prior audit reports.

“We know and understand there has been great attention given in recent months to the Kentucky Horse Park and its operations,” Auditor Harmon said. “Ultimately, our auditors will simply follow the data, and how we proceed will depend on where the information we uncover leads us.”

Auditor Harmon also notified Jamie Link, Executive Director of the Kentucky Horse Park, about the decision to conduct a special examination. No time table has been set on completion of the exam.

The letter can be found on the [auditor's website](#).

-30-



The Auditor of Public Accounts ensures that public resources are protected, accurately valued, properly accounted for, and effectively employed to raise the quality of life of Kentuckians.

Call 1-800-KY-ALERT or visit our website to report suspected waste and abuse.