

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information, contact:
Holley Groshek, Executive Director
Equine Land Conservation Resource
Phone: 859-455-8383
Email: hgroshek@elcr.org
www.ELCR.org

Sanford to be Honored with the Robert N. Clay Conservation Award

Lexington, Ky. – July 1, 2015 - Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR) is pleased to announce that Bob Sanford of Bahama, North Carolina has been named as the 2015 recipient of the Robert N. Clay Conservation Award.

The award, named in recognition of Robert N. Clay's equine land conservation leadership in the Thoroughbred industry, will be presented at the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association annual National Awards Dinner on September 11th at Hill 'n' Dale Farms in Lexington, Ky.

"TOBA is pleased to have established this award in partnership with ELCR to help increase awareness of the importance of land conservation to the Thoroughbred industry and to serve as an inspiration to others within the industry," said TOBA president Dan Metzger.

Bob Sanford was selected as this year's recipient of the Robert N. Clay Award because of his commitment to equine land conservation and ensuring equine access to public land. Mr. Sanford tackles equine land conservation on the legislative front, fighting and succeeding for legislation in North Carolina that impacts issues of the equine industry. He untiringly fights for positive change regarding legislative action, education and health issues that represent the equine community's contribution to recreation, agriculture and the economic well-being of North Carolina.

Mr. Sanford has served in numerous leadership roles within North Carolina's equine industry. He is currently vice president of the North Carolina Horse Council (NCHC), and previously served as president for many years. He also served on the seven-member Equine Study Executive Committee for the NCHC that released a series of equine industry recommendations in 2009. Bob owns and operates a breeding and racing farm in Northern Durham County, North Carolina. He is also a Foundation Board Member of the North Carolina State University Veterinary College and a past Board Member of the North Carolina Thoroughbred Association.

About the Equine Land Conservation Resource (ELCR): *ELCR builds awareness of the loss of lands available for horse-related activities and facilitates the protection and preservation of those lands. We work to ensure America's equine heritage lives on and the emotional, physical and economic benefits of the horse-human relationship remains accessible. ELCR serves as an information resource and clearinghouse on conserving horse properties, land*

use planning, land stewardship/best management practices, trails, liability and equine economic development. For more information about the ELCR visit www.elcr.org or call (859) 455-8383

About the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA): *TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred breeders and owners. TOBA's mission is to improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of Thoroughbred owners and breeders. Projects managed by TOBA include the American Graded Stakes Committee, Claiming Crown, Ownership Seminars, Breeding, Conformation & Pedigree Clinics, TOBA Owners Concierge and the Sales Integrity Program. TOBA, in collaboration with The Jockey Club, has also created a free information resource called OwnerView to provide pertinent information to new, prospective and current Thoroughbred owners. TOBA provides international representation for U.S. owners and breeders on the International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee, International Cataloguing Standards Committee and International Breeders Federation. Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA) is the charitable arm of TOBA. TOBA Media Properties, a subsidiary of TOBA, owns The Horse magazine, Eclipse Press and is co-owner of The Blood-Horse LLC. TOBA is represented on the board of directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association and the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium as founding members.*