

Dear Mr. Strait:

As a group of ranchers and active citizens in Gonzales, Texas, we are commissioning the creation of a documentary film about one of the most celebrated foundation sires of the American Quarter Horse association, Gonzales Joe Bailey (P4). We will be exhuming and giving this beloved horse a new, memorial gravesite in Gonzales this year and we would be extremely honored if you would agree to narrate our film.

You are our first choice to give life to this half-hour film, as you not only possess an elegant, Texas-rich voice, but you also share so many of the key values respected by the people of our community.

Through this documentary, celebrated Texas filmmaker, Chris Elley of Austin will tell the story of this beloved quarter horse and underscore the importance of our ranching heritage and lifestyle in Texas. Elley, who has produced award-winning films such as *A Projection of History: The Texas Theatre*, (narrated by John Schneider of *The Dukes of Hazard*) and *Barbecue: A Texas Love Story*, (narrated by Governor Ann Richards) will be highly flexible with you and your schedule if you agree to participate in the narration of this program. The entire process would take no more than an hour at the studio of your choice sometime late this fall or winter.

It is our hope that this invitation will be not only beneficial to our community but rewarding to you as well, for this project will help young people today appreciate the long and rich legacy of ranching in our community and learn about some of Texas' finest horses, such as Gonzales Joe Bailey and his descendants.

Passing in 1947, Gonzales Joe Bailey continues to be a great source of pride to the people of Gonzales. His direct offspring are estimated to number from 1,000 to 2,000, and his perfect physical traits could easily be seen as many as six generations deep. Gonzales Joe Bailey's descendants are known not only for their ability in terms of speed but for their incredible work ethic and agreeable dispositions.

The Gonzales Joe Bailey Memorial Committee will also erect a portrait bronze monument (sculpted by popular Texas sculptor Lisa Perry) to honor Gonzales Joe Bailey's life and legacy at our new J.B. Wells Multi-use Equestrian and Agricultural Arena on the site of what will be Gonzales Joe Bailey's final resting place. These efforts, in unison with the documentary, will help current and future generations understand the importance of a ranching and land-based way of life. We are committed to preserving the values that built Gonzales, Texas, and the United States, and we would be honored if you would lend your support to this cause as narrator of this film.

We'd be honored and pleased if you would consider being the narrator for our film, and we look forward to hearing from you soon. You or a representative may contact a committee member or Chris Elley of Electro-Fish Media at 512-351-7133 with questions or interest. For more information on Gonzales Joe Bailey, please see the Web site at www.gonzalesjoebailey.com.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully,

The Gonzales Joe Bailey Memorial Committee