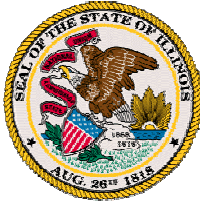


CHICAGO, IL 60601



ILLINOIS RACING BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5, 2008

GOVERNOR APPOINTS MICHAEL MURPHY TO RACING BOARD

CHICAGO, IL – Governor Rod Blagojevich announced the appointment of Mr. Michael E. Murphy to serve as a commissioner of the Illinois Racing Board effective immediately. Mr. Murphy will fill the term vacated by former Chairman Lorna Propes.

A resident of Normal, Illinois and a retired insurance professional, Mr. Murphy was the owner and general agent of the Van Gundy Agency from 1959 to 2000. Under his guidance, he built and maintained a large block of equine related business including livestock mortality, workers' compensation and various accident/health coverages. In 2000, he sold his interest in the agency.

A graduate of Florida Southern College, Mr. Murphy was a Director of the United States Trotting Association from 1978 to 1990, served on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association from 1972 to 1975, was the Director of Racing at the DuQuoin State Fair from 1968 to 1980, and was Secretary of the Hambletonian Society from 1968 to 1975. In addition, he is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Illinois Trotting/Pacing Colt Association and the Illinois Colt Association. A former racing official, he also owned, raced and bred Illinois-bred standardbreds from 1980 to 1995. His term expires July 1, 2010.

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