

Keynote Speaker

Friday, August 15, 2014

9:15 – 9:30 am

National HBPA 2014 Summer Convention

The Skirvin Hilton, Oklahoma City, OK



Ed Martin, President, Association of Racing Commissioners International

For the past seventeen years, Ed Martin has been a leading figure in the regulation of horse racing in the United States. Now in his ninth year as President/CEO of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI), Martin previously served as Executive Director of the New York State Racing and

Wagering Board. In that capacity, he oversaw investigations that:

- Resulted in the indictment of the New York Racing Association on federal felony conspiracy charges;
- Solved the computer hacking scheme that turned losing wagers into winning ones during the 2002 Breeders Cup; and,
- Triggered a management overhaul at the Capitol Region Off-Track Betting Corporation.

He also was instrumental in formalizing the Medication Advisory Panel with horsemen and track representatives, enacting rules to expand wagering on horse races to NY bars and restaurants, and mediating horsemen-track disputes. A non-lawyer, Martin has served as a Hearing Officer on many racing regulatory cases and his decisions have been upheld in both the state and federal court systems as high as the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

As President of RCI, Martin is credited with the reuniting of North American racing regulators into one unified group and working to expand the professionalism of the association through greater involvement of regulatory attorneys, lab directors, regulatory veterinarians, pari-mutuel auditors, and Executive Directors. RCI now conducts professional training sessions each year for new racing regulators and has formalized its Model Rules process.

During Martin's tenure, RCI has advanced uniform standards for totalizator systems, wagering security, drug testing laboratories, and national medication policy.

Martin comes to racing with an extensive background in communications and marketing. As COO of Empire State Development, he was responsible for the multi-million dollar "I Love NY" tourism campaign as well as all business marketing programs for the State of New York. He founded and served as President of a strategic communication company that advised the cable television industry, Health Insurance Association of America, the Pepsi Bottling Group, Inc., and a variety of other interests.

He developed political communication strategies for candidates seeking office in New York and served as Press Secretary to United States Senator Alfonse D'Amato in the 1980s when he also served in the Reagan Administration as Director of Industry and Congressional Relations at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Martin, a former popular radio talk show host for Clear Channel Communications, is an articulate and aggressive spokesman and advocate for "What's Right with Racing". He is a lover of horses and racing and makes a compelling and passionate case that all should hear.