

The Commonwealth of Alassachusetts

Massachusetts Gaming Commission

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## PHOTO OPPORTUNITY/MEDIA AVAILABILTY

## **Massachusetts Gaming Commission Continue Tour of State Racetracks**

Gaming Commissioners Continue to Take Steps Aimed at Strengthening the Horse Racing Industry in Advance of the Arrival of Expanded Gaming

In the wake of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission's recent announcement of comprehensive regulatory reform of the state's horse racing industry, members of the MGC are touring all of the state racetracks in an effort to personally view each location, meet with the many committed employees dedicated to the sport of horse racing, and enhance MGC's complete understanding of the operational aspects of each racetrack.

## Scheduled Tours/Photo Opportunity:

• Suffolk Downs (111 Waldemar Ave. East Boston, MA): August 29, 2012 at 2:15pm

On August 16, 2012, Commissioners toured both Raynham Park (Taunton) and Plainridge Racecourse (Plainville).

On May 20, 2012, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission assumed regulatory responsibility for the state's horse racing industry from the State Racing Commission. MGC's newly created Racing Division is now the lawful authority on all regulatory matters for the industry. As a result of the creation of the Race Horse Development Fund via the state's Gaming Act, the industry is positioned to benefit from purses enhanced by casino and slot gaming revenues. In April 2012, in anticipation of its new duties and the expected impacts of expanded gaming, MGC commissioned veteran racing and gaming consultants to conduct an independent and comprehensive overview of the current status of the state's racing regulatory environment.

Pursuant to this review, MGC is adopting a number of initiatives to support the potential for industry growth which include: developing a racing committee/working group of stakeholders to create an expeditious process for implementing expert recommendations to ensure best practices and new operational standards; implementing best practices to include the Association of Racing Commissioners International (ARCI) Model Rules of Racing and upgrade of the audit/financial/licensing system technology to enhance and streamline information management.

As a further step toward professionalizing and expanding Racing Division operations, MGC is currently seeking a highly motivated Director of Racing with at least 5 years of relevant management experience and regulatory

experience, preferably in the racing industry. The Director of Racing is appointed by the MGC and will report directly to the Executive Director. The Director of Racing will be the operational and administrative head of the MGC Racing Division and will be responsible for executing, administering and enforcing the provisions of law relative to the MGC Racing Division. The complete job description for MGC's Director of Racing is available at www.mass.gov/gaming.

MGC continues to take proactive measures supporting the highest standards in both integrity and safety as the horse racing industry prepares to co-exist with casinos. In advance of the 2013 racing season, MGC anticipates that the new regulatory measures will be put in place to support and stabilize the sport's potential for revitalization.