



**To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors**

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## **Delaware Thoroughbred and Harness Racing Commissions host the Racing Officials Accreditation Program (ROAP) at Delaware Park, November 7 and 8, 2011**



On November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011, racing industry officials attended a ROAP continuing education meeting at Delaware Park. “There were officials in attendance from , California, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, the National Steeplechase Association, international jurisdictions of Canada and Trinidad-Tobago, West Indies.” stated John F. Wayne, the Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission (DTRC) Executive Director. The two-day, sixteen hour program included a panel of key note speakers that was facilitated by Delaware Harness Racing Commission Executive Director, Hugh J. Gallagher, who is also a board member of ROAP, and John F. Wayne.

DTRC Chairman Bernard Daney welcomed all of the attendees to the first state and said, “Officials that participate in continuing education programs such as this display a commitment to excellence by themselves personally, and their jurisdictions, that helps ensure the highest quality of officiating in the sport of horse racing.” John E. Mooney, Executive Director of Racing for Delaware Park also welcomed the officials and gave an overview of the racing industry in Delaware and at large.

On the panel of key note speakers were the following:

- J. Curtis Linnell, Director of Wagering Analysis for the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau (TRPB)
- Joseph J. Strug, Laboratory Director, Dalare Associates Inc.
- Kathleen Picciano, DVM, Associate Commission Veterinarian
- G. Jack Houghton, Chief State Steward, Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission
- Andrew J. Kerber, Esquire, Deputy Attorney General, State of Delaware
- Lance Morell, Corporate Director of Security, Parx
- John T. Peters, DVM, Chief Commission Veterinarian, Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission
- W. Duncan Patterson, Secretary-Commissioner, Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission

According to Wayne, “Delaware continues to be an educational hub in hosting yearly ‘round tables’ where officials can gather to find solutions to common problems that face regulators.”