



State of Indiana Indiana Horse Racing Commission

Michael R. Pence, Governor

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**For Immediate Release
February 18, 2015**

Appointments Made to Indiana's Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee

Governor Mike Pence has re-appointed Wendy Brown, and newly appointed Peter Sacopulos and Jonathan Schuster to serve on the Thoroughbred Breed Development Advisory Committee. This committee makes annual recommendations to the Indiana Horse Racing Commission on its Thoroughbred Breed Development Program. All appointees will serve a four-year term through January 31, 2019.

Wendy Brown has served as Chairwoman of the committee since her appointment in 2011. She has owned thoroughbred racehorses for over thirty years and has participated in Indiana's pari-mutuel racing program since its inception in 1995. She also served as a Director of the Indiana HBPA from 1996 – 2008 and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Friends of Ferdinand. Mrs. Brown owns and operates Sawmill Run Farm on the northwest side of Indianapolis.

Peter Sacopulos, Esq., is a partner in the law firm of Sacopulos, Johnson & Sacopulos in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he represents clients in a wide range of equine matters. He also owns and manages Green Gables Stud, located in Clay County, Indiana. Mr. Sacopulos is a member of the American College of Equine Counsel and serves on the Board of the Indiana Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. Mr. Sacopulos has written extensively on equine law issues in numerous publications including *The Horsemen's Journal*, *Midwest Thoroughbred Magazine*, *Equestrian Professional Newsletter*, *Al Badia Magazine* and *the Horse Resource*. He is a frequent speaker at equine conferences and has presented at the National Equine Law Seminar in Lexington, Kentucky, and earlier this month at the National HBPA 2015 Winter Convention in Carefree, Arizona and the Saratoga Institute on Racing & Gaming in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Jonathan Schuster is Vice President and General Manager of Racing for Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, where he oversees all racing operations at the Shelbyville, Indiana racetrack. He has been with the racetrack since 2002, when Indiana Downs was constructed and opened to the public. Mr. Schuster holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Arizona and is a graduate of the prestigious University of Arizona Race Track Management Program. He has also held leadership positions in the horse racing industry for several decades, including posts at Penn National Race Course in Pennsylvania as Pari-mutuel Manager and Simulcast Coordinator.

The new appointees replace Paul Tinkle (deceased) and Steve Stults, both who served with distinction and whose terms have expired.