

Ohio State Racing Commission



Chairman William Koester was appointed in May 2008, to fill the remainder of former Chairman Charlie Luken's term, through March 31, 2009. Mr. Koester is the past business manager of the Plumbers, Pipefitters and Mechanical Equipment Service Local 392. He is currently employed as political consultant for the Ohio State Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters. Mr. Koester is a member of the Thoroughbred Club of America. He currently resides on the west side of Cincinnati, where he was born and raised.

Commissioner Ted Brown is a native of the Dayton area and currently resides in Tipp City where he plans to launch a consulting business. For five years, he served as Governor Bob Taft's labor liaison and chairman of the Labor Advisory Council. Prior to that Brown served for seven years as the secretary's representative for the U.S. Dept. of Labor in Chicago. Overall, he has spent over 30 years in labor-related work. Brown has also been active in Ohio political and civic organizations for a similar period of time.



Commissioner Jerry Chabler, of Sylvania, was appointed by Governor Ted Strickland on April 6, 2007. His four-year term will end on March 31, 2011. Chabler has also served on the Ohio State Lottery Commission and Ohio Employment Compensation Board. Chabler has also worked for the Ohio Department of Transportation as administrative assistant to the deputy director of ODOT District 2. Also, he has been appointed to the Toledo/Lucas County Port Authority Board of Directors.

Commissioner Gerald Holland was appointed to the Commission on April 6, 2007, shortly after he retired as Akron's deputy mayor for labor relations. He held this position since 2000. Holland also serves on the Akron Board of Building Standards as the designee with background in fire prevention and fire suppression. Holland has worked in fire inspection, fire prevention and labor relations for more than 35 years. He also owned race horses prior to his appointment. Holland currently resides in Cuyahoga Falls.



Commissioner Tom Zaino was appointed in 2004, and was reappointed to a four-year term by Governor Ted Strickland on April 6, 2007. He is currently Shareholder-in-Charge of the Columbus office of McDonald Hopkins Co. and Chairman of that firm's Multi-state Tax Practice Group. Zaino, a 1989 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Law, served as Ohio Tax Commissioner from 1999 to 2003 and on Governor Bob Taft's Blue Ribbon Task Force for Financing Student Success.