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PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Texas Racing Commission Executive Director Set to Retire**  
*Career Includes more than 30 Years State Service*

Austin — Charla Ann King, Executive Director of the Texas Racing Commission, has announced her retirement. Ms. King's last day with the Commission will be November 30, 2010.

Ms. King had been considering retirement for some time. Members of the Commission asked Ms. King to consider remaining Director through the upcoming legislative session. However, concerns about potential changes to the state employee retirement system and family considerations prompted the move now.

Ms. King said, "I've spent 30 years in state government. I believe I've made a positive contribution to the development of sound and effective policy, particularly during my tenure working with the legislature while at the Sunset Advisory Commission.

"It has been my honor and privilege to work at the Texas Racing Commission. It is equally humbling to have had the opportunity to serve the people of Texas in various capacities for so many years. At the Racing Commission, I have worked alongside amazingly talented, intelligent people both on the board and on staff. But the time has come to go. My husband is a retired veteran. As much as I will miss the work, I'm equally excited about the prospect of being retired together."

Ms. King's 30-year career includes stints as the Senior Policy Advisor for the Employer Commissioner at the Texas Workforce Commission and as Public Services Division Director for the State Bar of Texas. Ms. King served 12 years at the Sunset Advisory Commission, rising to the level of Policy Director. Ms. King also taught in the College of Communication at the University of Texas-Austin and helped establish the Cactus Café as a live music venue.

Ms. King's final Commission meeting will be on November 16, 2010. A list of her accomplishments is attached.

For more information, please email [info@txrc.state.tx.us](mailto:info@txrc.state.tx.us), or contact Bill Childs at 512-833-6699.

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## Charla Ann King's Major Accomplishments at the Texas Racing Commission

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### Recognized with Racing Commission International's Len Foote Award

- Awarded April 2010.
- Len Foote Award is the highest award presented to an Executive Director.
- Nominated and selected by colleagues.

### Served Racing Commission International in various capacities

- Multi-year board member.
- 1-year term as treasurer.
- Multi-year Model Rules Committee member.

### Organized regional racing regulators

- South by West is a regional partnership to discuss timely regulatory issues and to develop consistent approaches for effective regulation across regional state lines.

### Focused on veterinarian and racing animal safety issues

- Led way to implementing more stringent drug testing rules, including anabolic steroids testing.
- Garnered participation from racetrack practitioners in industry discussions of relevant issues.
- Organized regional meetings to focus on animal and track safety issues.

### Developed working groups

- Improved input process for gathering information from stakeholders on a variety of topics.
- Working groups include Safety and Medication, Race Dates, Pari-Mutuel Advisory Committee and Rules Committee.

### Restructured agency

- New organizational structure implemented March 2010.
- Organizational changes to develop an integrated regulatory effort and team culture.
- New division for Racing Oversight and new division for Wagering and Racing Review better integrate field staff into the **Commission's overall racetrack enforcement plan.**
- Agency better positioned to serve its stakeholders now and into the future.

### Improved agency communication

- Information flows to personnel appropriately.
- Agency work accomplished at the highest available level of performance.

### Secured quicker criminal history reporting

- Implemented a new electronic fingerprint system on December 2008.
- Reduced time for retrieving criminal histories from about two to three weeks to about seven to 10 days.
- Identify more quickly those ineligible for licensure due to a disqualifying criminal violation.

### Developed process to ensure consistent oversight from racetrack to racetrack

- Began conducting random, unannounced inspections at each track during live race meets.
- Inspections help capture, catalog and report information about tracks.
- Compliance with beginning of race meets inspections continues to improve.