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Nicole Earle Named Chair of Maryland Racing Commission, Making History as First Woman and First African American to Lead Agency

JUNE 5, 2026



NICOLE EARLE

CHAIR, MARYLAND RACING COMMISSION

Nicole Earle is a Baltimore developer and community investment leader with nearly three decades of experience in real estate development, finance and community revitalization.



President & CEO, Dominion Real Estate and Dominion Community Development Corporation



Developed or financed more than \$1 billion in real estate projects



Former Vice President of Commercial Community Development Lending at Fulton Bank



Former Chief Operating Officer of TRF Development Partners (now ReBUILD Metro)



M.S., Management and Public Policy, Carnegie Mellon University Graduate, Leadership Baltimore



Recognized as one of Baltimore Magazine's "Women Who Move Maryland" and an I95 Business Woman of Influence

As chair, she becomes the first woman and first African American to lead the Maryland Racing Commission.

Nicole Earle, a Baltimore real estate developer, financier and community investment leader, has been appointed by **Gov. Wes Moore** to serve as chair of the Maryland Racing Commission, becoming the first woman and first African American to lead the agency.

Earle will assume the role on June 10, succeeding **George Mahoney**, who is stepping down as chair but will remain a member of the nine-member commission. Her appointment comes at a transformative moment for Maryland's horse racing industry, as Pimlico Race Course undergoes a \$400 million redevelopment and Laurel Park is converted into a regional training center.

A member of the commission since 2024, Earle brings nearly three decades of experience in real estate development, finance, community development and construction management. She is



ocused on affordable housing, mixed-use development and economic revitalization in underserved communities.

Over the course of her career, Earle has developed or financed more than \$1 billion in real estate projects and has become a leading figure in community development finance. Her expertise includes low-income housing tax credits, tax-exempt bonds, New Markets Tax Credits and public-private partnerships that support neighborhood revitalization and economic growth.

Before launching Dominion, Earle held senior leadership positions in banking and development, including serving as vice president of Commercial Community Development Lending at Fulton Bank, where she helped finance high-profile projects such as Lexington Market and Northwood Commons. She also served as chief operating officer of TRF Development Partners, now ReBUILD Metro, overseeing large-scale redevelopment initiatives throughout Baltimore and the region.

Her career has also included leadership roles in public housing and urban redevelopment, giving her extensive experience navigating the intersection of public policy, economic development and community investment.

Earle earned a bachelor's degree from **Carnegie Mellon University** and a master's degree in Management and Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon's Heinz College. She is a graduate of Leadership Baltimore and has received numerous honors for her contributions to business and community development, including recognition as one of Baltimore Magazine's "Women Who Move Maryland" and an I95 Business Woman of Influence.

The Maryland Racing Commission oversees Maryland's thoroughbred and standardbred racing industries, including licensing, regulation and issues related to horse and jockey safety. Earle's appointment comes as state leaders work to reshape the future of horse racing in Maryland through a sweeping modernization effort centered on Pimlico and the Preakness Stakes.

Moore called the appointment "a historic milestone for Maryland," adding that Earle is "the right leader at the right time" to guide the commission through one of the most consequential periods in its history.



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