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## RAY MARTIN **JOINS PRIME7 NEWS**

## **ACCLAIMED AUSTRALIAN JOURNALIST** TO TELL THE STORY OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIA'S ICE ADDICTION

Respected journalist and television presenter, RAY MARTIN, has joined PRIME7 NEWS to present a major public affairs special on ice addiction.

ICE: THE SCOURGE OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIA exposes the dramatic public consequences of an increasing ice epidemic in regional and rural Australia.

PRIME7's Head of News Paul Patrick said, "Ice use in regional Australia has soared a staggering I50% since 2007, in comparison to 16% in metro centres\*, so we have a responsibility to highlight the devastating impact this addiction is having on families in regional communities."

Ray Martin began his media career as a cadet journalist with the ABC in 1965 and was a founding reporter on 60 Minutes before launching his own daily variety show, Ray Martin at Midday, in 1985. A five time Gold Logie Award winner, Ray Martin has recorded over 12,000 interviews, making his journalistic career one of the most successful in Australian TV history.

"Telling a story of this magnitude needs the very best people, and we are delighted that Ray Martin accepted our offer to join the team to bring this story to the people of regional Australia," Patrick added.

ICE: THE SCOURGE OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIA, a PRIME7 NEWS production, will air in December.

\*Source: Flinders University's National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction Research Report by Ann Roche, November 2016

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