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The MICHIGAN GAMING Newsletter



MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD RELEASES DETROIT CASINO REVENUES FOR AUGUST 2008

The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) has recently released the August, 2008 total adjusted revenue figures for the three Detroit casinos – MGM Grand Detroit Casino, MotorCity Casino and Greektown Casino. Aggregate revenue and taxes for all three Detroit casinos for the month of August 2008 were up by 5.67% in comparison to the same month last year. Revenue for MGM Grand casino was up by 17.14%, while MotorCity and Greektown casinos were down by .07% and 3.5% respectively, in comparison to the same month last year. The figures released by the MGCB are the gross receipts less winnings paid to wagerers.

Month in 2008	Total Adjusted Revenue 2008		
	MGM Grand Detroit	MotorCity Casino	Greektown Casino
January	\$46,637,248.81	\$39,366,692.84	\$27,534,937.58
February	\$47,021,788.41	\$38,326,971.88	\$26,999,351.20
March	\$50,217,833.17	\$41,307,354.29	\$32,230,050.35
April	\$46,864,254.06	\$40,703,507.79	\$28,572,470.64
May	\$52,973,612.49	\$41,948,166.18	\$28,131,129.20
June	\$48,671,864.67	\$38,097,328.05	\$23,227,140.19
July	\$50,536,862.66	\$39,579,086.48	\$25,423,936.01
August	\$50,078,510.07	\$41,065,015.38	\$26,823,123.82
Total	\$393,001,300.34	\$320,394,122.89	\$218,942,138.99

The figures do not include: 1) the State of Michigan share of the wagering tax; 2) the City of Detroit portion of the wagering tax; 3) any fees or other relevant city, state or federal taxes; 4) wages and benefits paid to casino employees; and 5) payments to suppliers, service providers or vendors.

For Greektown Casino, the State of Michigan's share of the wagering tax is 12.1% and the City of Detroit's share is 11.9%, for a total tax of 24%. This 24% tax has historically applied to all three Detroit casinos.

MGM Grand Detroit and MotorCity Casino have received a tax base reduction certification as a result of their facilities being declared "fully operational" by the MGCB. These properties are now subject to a wagering tax of 19%, with a 10.9% of this levy to go to the City of Detroit and 8.1% to be paid to the State of Michigan.

MOTORCITY CASINO RENOVATION COMPLETED

On Tuesday, MotorCity Casino unveiled its newly renovated and expanded 1 million square foot entertainment complex. The three year project coincides with MotorCity Casino's \$300 million transformation, which has occurred continually over the past three years.

The expanded gaming floor adds 25,000 square feet, bringing the total gaming space to 100,000 square feet. Other additions include a 400-room hotel, theater and convention center.

The casino has also added a 1,886 seat, state-of-the-art entertainment theatre to attract various venues and shows.

MotorCity CEO Gregg Solomon commented to *WWJ NewsRadio 950* on the various and new attractions Detroit has to offer, "[y]ou've seen advertising for MotorCity Casino in Chicago, and it's inviting you to come see a concert, stay at the hotel, go to Comerica Park and watch the Tigers game or go see the Red Wings, and essentially make an entire weekend getaway package."

MotorCity Casino's 100,000 square feet of gaming space features over 2,500 slot machines, 70 table games and a smoke-free poker room.

Future plans for the casino are rumored to include an additional hotel tower.

For more information on MotorCity Casino, please visit: www.motorcitycasino.com.

PINNACLE RACE COURSE ON TRACK AS CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Since its opening in mid-July, attendance numbers at the new Pinnacle Race Course located in Huron Township, Michigan have been exceeding expectations.

According to *The Detroit News*, current attendance is double what was expected for the opening season. Weekend estimates are around 4,000 patrons for the track. The thoroughbred race track is scheduled to complete phase two of construction near the end of next year's racing season.

When completed, the \$142 million project will feature a four-story, 60,000 foot club house, 30 horse barns, 1,200 stalls and a 7/8 mile turf track, in addition to its existing dirt track.

The opening of Pinnacle Race Course marked the return of thoroughbred horse racing to Metro Detroit after a 10-year absence following the closure of the Detroit Race Course in 1998.

Located on 240 acres of land in southwest Wayne County near the Detroit Metropolitan Airport, Pinnacle Race Course is the only thoroughbred racetrack in Michigan. It is expected to create over 1,000 jobs for the area and allow for total patron occupancy of over 8,000 people when completed.

Under Michigan law, horse tracks in the state are limited to live and simulcast wagering and do not offer slots or video lottery terminals.

(Continued on page 3)

MGCB LICENSING DIVISION RELOCATES

Yesterday, the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) announced that as of next Monday, September 15, its Licensing Division will be relocated to the City of Detroit. Previously, the MGCB's licensing office was located in East Lansing, Michigan.

The MGCB is responsible for licensing and regulating Detroit's commercial casinos. It is also responsible for licensing and regulating casino suppliers and employees.

The new location for the MGCB Licensing Division will be at:

**Michigan Gaming Control Board
Licensing Division
3062 West Grand Blvd.
Suite L-700
Detroit, Michigan 48202-6062**

NEW LEGISLATION PROPOSED TO REQUIRE CASINOS TO WITHHOLD CHILD SUPPORT

Legislation introduced by Michigan Senator Jud Gilbert (R-Algonac) would impose new burdensome withholding requirement on Detroit casinos.

Introduced yesterday, Senate Bill 1502 would require Detroit casinos to perform checks on customers with winnings over \$1,000 to verify whether or not they currently owe child support. If the casino discovers the patron does owe, the casino would be required to pay toward the debt and award the difference to the winner.

"Deadbeat parents should not be allowed to profit at their children's expense," said Gilbert, "if they want to gamble, their winnings should go to paying their child-support debts."

If the legislation passes, it would require the Department of Treasury to provide access to a list of individuals with known child support debts.

In addition, as written, in Senate Bill 1502 would require the Michigan Gaming Control Board to attempt to make agreements with Michigan's Native American tribes for them to voluntarily comply with these checks.

For a copy of SB 1502 please click [here](#).