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The MICHIGAN GAMING Newsletter



CASINO WINDSOR CLOSES/REOPENS DUE TO LABOR DISPUTE

On Thursday, April 3, 2014, Caesars Windsor exercised a “planned shutdown” at 6:00 p.m., according to a press release issued by the casino. The shutdown came after negotiations between the casino and Unifor Local 444 did not produce a labor agreement under expected timeframes. A tentative agreement, however, was reached overnight on Thursday allowing the casino to reopen at 9:00 a.m. today.

According to statements made by Unifor Local 444, the union represents over 2,300 workers at Casino Windsor. Both the union and the casino have announced that there is a ratification meeting regarding the tentative agreement that has been scheduled for next Tuesday, April 8, with votes scheduled throughout the day to accommodate various shift workers.

Unifor is a Canadian-based labor organization representing approximately 300,000 private sector workers in various industries, including automotive, hospitality, fishing, energy, and other fields.

For more information and updates on the agreement, please visit the Casino Windsor website, here: <http://www.caesarswindsor.com/>

MGCB RELEASES REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

On Tuesday, April 8, 2014, the Michigan Gaming Control Board (“MGCB”) will hold its Regular Public Meeting.

The agenda includes the following items:

- A. Consider the Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendations Regarding Level 1 and Level 2 Occupational License Applications
- B. Consider the Executive Director's Report and Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendation Regarding the Pending Supplier License Application of
 - A. Happ Controls, Inc., Board File No. SL000543-14-001
 - B. Sachse Construction and Development Company, LLC d/b/a Sachse Construction, Board File No. SL006640-14-001
- C. Consider the Executive Director's Reports and Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendations Regarding the Pending Supplier License Renewal Requests of
 - 1. Chef Source Inc., Board File No. SL001276-14-001
 - 2. General Linen Supply Company d/b/a General Linen and Uniform Service, Board File No. SL000917-14-001
 - 3. House Advantage LLC, Board File No. SL006175-14-001
 - 4. Midwest Game Supply Company, Board File No. SL000167-14-001
 - 5. MIG East, LLC, Board File No. SL001191-14-001
 - 6. The End Zone Chicken & Ribs, LLC, Board File No. SL002059-14-001
 - 7. Women's Economic Empowerment Group Inc., Board File No. SL000600-14-001
- D. Consider the Executive Director's Report and Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendation Regarding the Suitability of New Key Person of Supplier Licensee, The United States Playing Card Company
 - 1. Michael William Slaughter, Board File No. SL000288-14-001
- E. Consider the Executive Director's Report and Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendation Regarding the Suitability of

New Key Person of Supplier Licensee, MultiMedia Games, Inc.

- 1. Todd Francis McTavish, Board File No. SL006431-14-001

- F. Consider the Executive Director's Reports and Licensing & Regulation Division's Recommendations Regarding the Pending Transfers of Interest In

- 1. The End Zone Chicken & Ribs, LLC, Board File No. SL002059-14-002

The MGCB meeting will take place at the Detroit Office Hearing Room, Cadillac Place, 3062 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Michigan at 9:30am.

BILLS INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS TO AMEND THE FEDERAL WIRE ACT

On March 26, 2014, identical bills entitled the "Restoration of America's Wire Act" were introduced in both the U.S. House of Representative and the Senate. These measures seek to amend provisions of the federal criminal code known as the "Wire Act." Enacted in 1961, the Wire Act currently makes it a federal crime to "knowingly [use] a wire communication facility for the transmission, in interstate or foreign commerce, of bets or wagers or information assisting in the placing of bets or wagers on any sporting event or contest..." 18 U.S.C. 1804. In September, 2011, and in a shift from prior policy, the U.S. Justice Department issued a legal opinion concluding that the "...interstate transmissions of wire communications that do not relate to a 'sporting event or contest' fall outside the reach of the Wire Act."

The current measures, House Resolution (HR) [4301](#) (introduced by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)) and Senate Bill [2159](#) (introduced by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)), state that their aim is to "...restore long-standing United States policy that the Wire Act prohibits all forms of Internet gambling..." These bills would amend 18 U.S.C. 1804 to remove the reference to "sporting event or contest" and instead make the statute applicable to

“any bet or wager.” The bills also explicitly provide that their provisions shall not: (i) preempt any state law prohibiting gambling, or (ii) alter, limit, or extend the relationship between the Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978 and other federal laws currently in effect, the ability of a state licensed lottery retailer to make in-person, computer-generated retail lottery sales, or the relationship between federal laws and state charitable gaming laws.

The practical effect of these amendments would likely serve to ban all forms of internet gambling in the U.S. that would occur across state lines.

These bills are supported by billionaire Sheldon Adelson, the chief executive officer of the Las Vegas Sands Corporation. Mr. Adelson has been an outspoken critic of internet gambling, arguing that it is bad for casinos and for gamblers.

[H.R.4301](#) has been referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary, while [S.2159](#) has been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AWARDS MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

On April 2, 2014, the U.S. Department of Defense (“DoD”), through its Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (“ESGR”) office, awarded MGM Resorts International (“MGM”) the Extraordinary Employer Support award during a special ceremony with Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval.

The award—the highest honor bestowed by the ESGR in Nevada—recognizes employers for “sustained support to the Reserve Component of the United States Armed Forces. “

The ESGR seeks to foster a culture in which all employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve in the United States--encouraging employment of Guardsmen and Reservists who bring integrity, global perspective and proven leadership to the civilian workforce—by cooperatively developing mutually beneficial initiatives with employers, recognizing outstanding employer support, creating public

awareness of applicable laws and policies, resolving potential conflicts between employers and their service members, and acting as the employers’ principal advocate within the DoD.

Also individually, MGM’s Executive Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer, Phyllis A. James, received the Patriot Award, which recognizes individual supervisors who provide their Guard- and Reserve-member employees outstanding support.

MGM offers a myriad of programs aimed at providing benefits to military veterans and members of the Guard and Reserve. The programs range from initiatives to provide employment opportunities to veterans as they transition to civilian life, special professional training and networking opportunities for veterans and members of the Guard or Reserve, and a Military Leave of Absence program providing eligible employees with supplemental pay and continued benefits for employees called in to combat during a declared military action. Also, each Veterans Day MGM hosts dozens of Wounded Warriors for a complimentary weekend of accommodations, recreation, and entertainment at an MGM property.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AGA ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE GAMING HALL OF FAME

The American Gaming Association (“AGA”) is now accepting nominations for the 2014 Gaming Hall of Fame. The Gaming Hall of Fame ceremony is an annual event to honor achievements in industry leadership and entertainment. More than 80 people have been inducted into the Gaming Hall of Fame since its inception in 1989.

The deadline for applications is April 5. For questions about the Gaming Hall of Fame, contact

the AGA at (202) 552-2675. [Submit](#) your nominee today.

SOUTHERN GAMING SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6-8, 2014 IN BILOXI

The Southern Gaming Summit will be held in Biloxi, Mississippi on May 6-8, 2014. The event will be held jointly with BingoWorld, the world's largest bingo conference and trade show, at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center.

The summit will consist of conferences, networking, and exhibit space featuring information and products related to all facets of the gaming industry. The event will begin with the Southern Gaming Summit/BingoWorld Golf Tournament on May 6, 2014 for exhibitors. Conference events begin on Wednesday and include discussions, presentations, and workshops on current issues facing the gaming industry. Featured speakers include Tilman Fertitta, CEO and Owner of Landry's, Inc. and Geoff Freeman, President and CEO of the American Gaming Association. Other events include the Global Gaming Women Luncheon, an Executive Roundtable, and numerous networking opportunities for attendees.

Gaming and hospitality industry executives, regulators, legislators, and consultants are likely to express interest in the event. For more information on the event, as well as registration information, please visit: <http://www.sgsummit.com/>.

SIGN UP FOR RMC'S DAILY GAMING NEWS FEED

Regulatory Management Counselors, P.C. (RMC Legal), authors of *The Michigan Gaming Newsletter*, would like to extend an invitation to sign up for the complimentary *RMC Daily Gaming News Feed*. The Daily News Feed delivers Michigan and gaming-industry specific news links directly to you each morning.

To sign up to receive the RMC Daily Gaming

News Feed, simply visit: <http://rmclegal.com/media-publications> and complete the form.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Blaine DeGracia at 517-507-3857 or degracia@rmclegal.com.