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For more information on Michigan's gaming industry, please visit [www.michigangaming.com](http://www.michigangaming.com)

*Editor in Chief:*

**David D. Waddell, Esq.**

Phone: 517.507.3859

[waddell@rmclegal.com](mailto:waddell@rmclegal.com)

*Senior Gaming Analyst*

*& Editor:*

**Robert R. Russell, II**

Phone: 517.507.3858

[russell@rmclegal.com](mailto:russell@rmclegal.com)

*Reporter*

**Douglas L. Minke**

Phone: 313.221.9380

[minke@rmclegal.com](mailto:minke@rmclegal.com)

*Reporter*

**Blaine R. DeGracia**

Phone: 517.507.3857

[degracia@rmclegal.com](mailto:degracia@rmclegal.com)

*Subscription information:*

[info@michigangaming.com](mailto:info@michigangaming.com)

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**RMC Ventures, LLC**

University Place Center  
333 Albert Ave, Suite 450  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
Phone: 517.507.3860  
Fax: 517.908.0235  
[www.rmclegal.com](http://www.rmclegal.com)

# The \_\_\_\_\_ MICHIGAN GAMING \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter



## **RESPONSIBLE GAMING EDUCATION WEEK AUGUST 3-7**

The issue of problem gambling is one that is of concern to everyone involved with the gaming industry. As a way to draw attention to this important issue and assist individuals that need help, the U.S. commercial casino industry will be holding the 12th annual Responsible Gaming Education Week (RGEW) this week. The theme of this year's campaign, organized and sponsored by the American Gaming Association (AGA), is "Know the Code." The theme expresses the industry's continuing dedication to providing employees with the education and training they need to promote and ensure responsible gaming. This year's event recognizes the fifth anniversary of the implementation of the AGA Code of Conduct for Responsible Gaming. It seeks to encourage employers of the gaming industry to educate their employees about how the Code affects every aspect of their operations.

The AGA developed the *Code of Conduct for Responsible Gaming* in September of 2004. The Code details specific guidelines presiding over underage gambling, alcohol service, advertising, research and education.

"Responsible gaming is something that all casinos think about 365 days a year, and it is the AGA Code of Conduct that drives many of their responsible gaming policies and procedures." stated Frank Fahrenkopf, AGA President and CEO. This year's RGEW is a fantastic opportunity for gaming companies to reinforce with employees how their jobs are influenced by the guidelines laid out in the Code of Conduct."

Responsible Gaming Education Week was developed by the AGA in 1998 and is held annually during the first week of August. The event was designed to create awareness of responsible gaming and disordered gambling among employees, customers and the general public. It is part of the AGA's

*(Continued on page 2)*

Responsible Gaming National Education Campaign, created in 1999 as an industry-wide program focused on promoting and expanding responsible gaming education.

For more information on the AGA's Responsible Gaming Education Week, please contact Brian Lehman, AGA communications manager, at 202-552-2680 or via e-mail at [blehman@americangaming.com](mailto:blehman@americangaming.com).

## **STATION CASINOS INC. FILES CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY: GUN LAKE CASINO PROJECT NOT TO BE AFFECTED**

On Tuesday, July 28, 2009, Las Vegas based Station Casinos Inc. voluntarily filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy after failing to reach agreements with company's unsecured creditors. According to the filing, most of the company's assets are maintained in casino-operating subsidiaries and affiliates and were not included in Tuesday's filing. Station Casinos Inc. is currently working with the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians ("The Gun Lake Tribe"), located in Bradley, Michigan, to develop a proposed \$200 million Class III casino project in Wayland Township, Michigan.

Station Casinos spokesperson Lori Nelson told *The Michigan Gaming Newsletter*, that the Chapter 11 filing will have no impact on the relationship between Station Casinos and The Gun Lake Tribe, and they are committed to continuing the Gun Lake casino project.

The Chapter 11 filing is in efforts to negotiate the company's reported \$5.7 billion to \$6.4 billion debt.

"This is a global economic issue that has forced us to have to go back and reset our debt," stated Chief Operating Officer Kevin Kelly in an interview with *The Las Vegas Sun*.

Station Casinos owns and manages 18 casinos and resorts, mostly in Nevada and California. The company announced in February that it may file a prepackaged restructuring deal, but it never

reached a deal with creditors.

In January of 2009, the Gun Lake Tribe announced the federal government had approved 147 acres of land had been placed into trust for a proposed \$200 million Class III gaming facility to be built in Wayland Township, Michigan. The Gun Lake Tribe's plans for the facility include a \$200 million casino with an estimated 2,500 slots and 80 table games in Wayland Township, south of Grand Rapids in Western Michigan. The casino is projected to employ over 1,800 people and create more than 3,100 indirect jobs.

## **CASINO WINDSOR LAYS OFF 100**

Last Monday, July 27, 2009, Caesars Windsor, located in Windsor, Ontario, laid off 100 full-time and part-time employees, citing recently implemented U.S. passport requirements at the border among the reasons for the reduction. The indefinite lay offs came from the casino's food and beverage department. Windsor's Canadian Auto Workers Local 444, the union representing Caesars Windsor employees, fears more job cuts may be coming by the end of summer.

Caesars Windsor spokeswoman Holly Ward told *The Windsor Star* 69 full-time and 34 part-time employees were laid off. Despite the job cuts, Ward said the casino's efforts to revise restaurant hours has created 19 new positions at the casino property.

On Monday, June 1, the United States government began requiring U.S. citizens traveling in the Western hemisphere to provide either a passport, or one of five other forms of secure identification, at land and sea ports as proof of citizenship. According to *The Windsor Star*, traffic at the Windsor-Detroit tunnel fell nearly 10 percent in the month following the implementation of the new passport rules.

(Continued on page 3)

## **FIREKEEPERS CASINO TO HOLD MEDIA DAY WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5**

On Wednesday, August 5, FireKeepers Casino officials will be holding a media exclusive preview of the casino property prior to its forthcoming opening. According to a company press release this will be the media's last opportunity to get video and photography before the class III casino's opening which is anticipated to be sometime during August.

The media day will include a walking tour of the 236,000 square foot casino complete with an overview of:

- Tribal History
- Gaming Products
- Entertainment Plans
- Technology
- Employment/Economic Impact
- Dining and Nightlife Options

The event will begin at 9:00 a.m. and be held in the FireKeepers Casino Multi-Purpose Room. For media credentials please RSVP to:

Donna Halinski or Michelle Rahl; Marketing Resource Group 517-372-4400.

Located on Michigan Avenue near Exit 104 of I-94, just outside of Battle Creek, Michigan, the \$300 million FireKeepers Casino project is owned by the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians. The actual casino will be managed by Gaming Entertainment (Michigan), L.L.C., a joint venture between Las Vegas-based Full House Resorts Inc., and RAM Entertainment, L.L.C., a privately owned investment company.