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The _____ MICHIGAN GAMING _____ Newsletter



RMC LEGAL AND RESORT ADVANTAGE PRESENT FREE ONLINE WEBINAR SERIES, *COMPLIANCE ALERT: KEY ISSUES FOR 2010*

This Thursday, February 25, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. EST attorneys David D. Waddell and Douglas L. Minke of Regulatory Management Counselors, P.C. (RMC Legal) will be presenting part one of a three part series entitled, “*Compliance Alert: Key Issues for 2010.*”

The program will provide relevant information for commercial and Native American casinos in Michigan and across the United States.

The Webinar Series is being produced through the joint efforts of RMC Legal, Resort Advantage, and Convey Computer Systems, Inc.

Series 1, entitled “*BSA, OFAC and FACTA—They’re Not Mutually Exclusive, and Your Compliance Plan Shouldn’t Be Either*” will focus on the BSA and OFAC standards and gaming compliance requirements. In addition, it will take a look at FACTA/Red Flags rule and give an overview of new regulations, proposed enforcement, and potential application to the gaming industry.

Persons who should consider attending include: casino operators; compliance managers and directors; accountants; regulators; and lawyers.

To register for the free online Webinar Series, please visit www.resort-advantage.com/events-news/events-webinars/bsa-ofac-facta-series.html.

MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD RELEASES DETROIT CASINO REVENUES FOR JANUARY 2010

The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) released the January, 2010 total adjusted revenue figures for the three Detroit casinos – MGM Grand Detroit Casino, MotorCity Casino, and Greektown Casino. Overall, revenue was up by 5.32% from the same reporting period last year. Specifically, revenue for MGM Grand and Greektown Casinos was up by 3.8% and 15.2% respectively, while revenue for MotorCity Casino was down by 2.4% in comparison to the same month last year.

Month in 2010	Total Adjusted Revenue 2010		
	MGM Grand Detroit	MotorCity Casino	Greektown Casino
	Total Adjusted Revenue	Total Adjusted Revenue	Total Adjusted Revenue
January	\$47,468,319.04	\$35,923,997.65	\$28,023,801.67
Total	\$47,468,319.04	\$35,923,997.65	\$28,023,801.67

Month in 2010	Total Adjusted Revenue 2010		
	All Detroit Casinos		
	Total Adjusted Gross Receipts	Total State Wagering Tax	Total Detroit Wagering Tax
January	\$111,416,118.36	\$10,145,657.65	\$13,258,518.09
Total	\$111,416,118.36	\$10,145,657.65	\$13,258,518.09

The figures above do not include: 1) wages and benefits paid to casino employees; and 2) payments to suppliers, service providers, or vendors.

For Greektown Casino, the State of Michigan’s share of the wagering tax reflected in the numbers released by the MGCB is 12.1% and the City of Detroit’s share is 11.9%, for a total tax of 24%. This 24% tax historically applied to all three Detroit casinos. Greektown Casino has applied for a tax reduction effective as of the opening of its permanent facility earlier last year.

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 10.9% of this levy to go to the City of Detroit and 8.1% to be paid to the State of Michigan.

ROM APPOINTED CHAIR OF MGCB; KASSAB RESIGNS

The *Detroit Free Press* has reported today that the chairperson of the Michigan Gaming Control Board (“MGCB”), Damian Kassab has resigned. Following the announcement, the *Michigan Gaming Newsletter* confirmed the resignation with Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm’s office and was advised that Ms. Barbara Rom had been appointed by the Governor as the new chairperson.

Mr. Kassab served on the MGCB since 2003. In 2008, he was reappointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm for a term that expires in 2012.

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Ms. Rom was originally appointed to the MGCB in 2004 and was reappointed by Gov. Granholm on January 30, 2008 to a term expiring December 31, 2011. Rom was previously a partner of the Pepper Hamilton, LLP law firm, past-president of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association and has been actively involved with numerous groups and committees working on a wide range of legal issues and community service matters. *Crain's Detroit Business* has selected Rom as one of "Detroit's Most Influential Women."

The other two current board members include the Honorable Benjamin Friedman of Huntington Woods and Mr. Michael Watza of Northville.

Mr. Kassab's resignation leaves two of the five seats open on the MGCB, which is responsible for implementing the Michigan Gaming Control & Revenue Act.

Pursuant to the *Michigan Gaming Control & Revenue Act, as amended* (Public Act 69 of 1997; MCL 432.201) or ("the Act"), Section 432.204 states "[i]n the event of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall appoint in like manner a successor to fill the expired term."

Also, Section 432.204 (17) (i) of the Act states that three members of the board are required to constitute a quorum, except when making determinations on applications for casino licenses, where four members are required to constitute a quorum. It further states, "[t]hree votes shall be required in support of final determinations of the board on applications for casino licenses.

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF POTAWATOMI TRIBAL CHAIR LAURA SPURR PASSES

On behalf of Stephen, Nathaniel and Josiah Spurr, Marketing Resource Group, Inc. issued the following statement on February 19, 2010:

"The family of Laura Spurr is greatly saddened to report that our wife and mother died today, the afternoon of February 19, 2010, at Rancho Springs Medical Center in Murrieta, California

after suffering a massive Cardio Pulmonary Arrest on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

Spurr, Tribal Chair of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, was in California to make a presentation on the construction and design of the FireKeepers Casino at a conference at the Pechanga Casino owned by the Pechanga band of Luiseño Indians. Shortly after completing her presentation, Spurr collapsed.

Chairwoman Spurr served on the Tribal Council since May 1999. During this time, she served as Chair from 2000-2001, Treasurer from 2001-2003, and had been Chair from 2003 to the present. She also served as Chair of the Education Committee and Health Committee, and worked with the elders group. Spurr also represented the Tribe as one of two EPA Region 5 representatives to the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC).

On February 10, 2009, Laura was honored as one of two "Tribal Leaders of the Year" by the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) for her efforts to develop FireKeepers Casino. The Tribal Leader of the Year award is bestowed upon two individuals who have made a difference in their community through perseverance, creativity, and outstanding public service. Laura worked for nearly 10 years to place the Huron Band's land into federal trust and to develop FireKeepers Casino.

Chairwoman Spurr always believed it was important to contribute to the community where she lived. After graduating from Athens High School, she enrolled in the University of Michigan on an academic scholarship, and was awarded a B.S. in Nursing in 1967. She began her nursing career at the University of Michigan hospital. For more than 40 years, she worked as a nurse in different practice settings in the cities of New York, Washington, D.C, Chicago, and Grosse Pointe. In these hospitals she practiced at different levels of administration with the responsibility for supervision and directing patient care. She also taught nursing at different times in her career, and while working in Chicago she completed the course work for a master's degree from DePaul University with a double

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major in nursing administration and education. While living in Washington, she served as Chair of the Personnel Committee for Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington, was on the D.C. Government Committee of the League of Women Voters, and was active in the Metropolitan Hospital Organization.

She was also always involved in the schools of her children, serving on parents' boards, mothers' clubs, and in other volunteer positions. The Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church played a major role in her life also. For about ten years she took a youth group from the Church on Sunday to the Coalition on Temporary Shelters, a homeless shelter in Detroit.

Laura Spurr's husband, Stephen, son Nathaniel and Tribal Council Secretary Ro-Ann Beebe Mohr were at her side when she crossed over to be with the Great Spirit. Spurr, 64, is survived by her husband Stephen, and two sons Nathaniel and Josiah."

DETROIT LIGHT RAIL EFFORTS ADVANCE

On Wednesday, February 17, 2010, State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle announced that Michigan is the recipient of \$55 million in two federal grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation ("USDOT"), as part of the \$1.5 billion nationwide grant program called "TIGER," or Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery.

"TIGER grants will tackle the kind of major transportation projects that have been difficult to build under other funding programs," stated U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood.

Detroit's proposed 3.4-mile M-1 Rail Project is to receive \$25 million. Phase-one of the project would include a stretch connecting Hart Plaza to the New Center Area along Woodward Avenue, thus connecting many entertainment destinations in Detroit.

Funding for the proposed rail line is being provided by public as well as private means. Penske Corporation CEO Roger Penske, Quicken Loans Founder Dan Gilbert, Red Wings owner

Mike Ilitch, and Compuware CEO Peter Karmanos are among those covering the estimated \$125 million price tag for phase-one of the rail system.

According to State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle, "[t]he first phase of the project from the Detroit River to New Center looks promising. We look forward to working with our public and private sector partners to advance the project."

HELP SUPPORT PASSAGE OF THE TRAVEL PROMOTION ACT (S. 1023)

As introduced last year and subsequently passed by both the House and Senate, the Travel Promotion Act (S. 1023) seeks to create a public-private partnership to execute a nationally coordinated travel promotion program that will help reinvigorate the country's image as a premier travel destination.

Unfortunately, due to procedural issues, it was kept from becoming law. It has since returned in 2010 for final Senate approval, which likely will take place in the coming weeks.

To help support the passage of The Travel Promotion Act (S. 1023) in the Senate, the American Gaming Association ("AGA") has made writing letters of support to members of Congress easy and convenient through their new Gaming Advocacy Center:

www.gamingadvocacycenter.org.

The Travel Promotion Act (S. 1023) is projected to generate \$4 billion in new visitor spending in the United States. Supporters of the Act believe it will spur domestic and international tourism to the U.S., thus bringing millions of new visitors to casinos across the country.

The AGA's Gaming Advocacy Center notifies users when future federal issues arise, thus mobilizing industry support.

For more information regarding the Travel and Promotion Act (S. 1023), please visit:

www.thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d111:S.1023: