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# The MICHIGAN GAMING Newsletter



## MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD RELEASES DETROIT CASINO REVENUES FOR AUGUST, 2014

The Michigan Gaming Control Board (“MGCB” or “Board”) released the August, 2014 total adjusted revenue figures for the three Detroit casinos—MGM Grand Detroit Casino, MotorCity Casino and Greektown Casino. Overall, the revenue for the Detroit market was down 0.2% compared to the same reporting period last year. Through August 31, the Detroit casinos’ revenue year-to-date aggregate revenue was down 2.9%. Specifically, revenue for MGM Grand Detroit Casino and MotorCity Casino was down by 0.4% and 2% respectively, while revenue for

Month in 2014	Total Adjusted Revenue 2014		
	MGM Grand Detroit	MotorCity Casino	Greektown Casino
	Total Adjusted Revenue	Total Adjusted Revenue	Total Adjusted Revenue
January	\$41,231,507.57	\$31,710,276.19	\$23,106,523.77
February	\$47,575,032.11	\$37,245,026.02	\$25,788,555.32
March	\$50,756,665.25	\$42,961,184.96	\$31,218,833.96
April	\$46,974,038.53	\$38,240,494.81	\$27,058,910.49
May	\$47,385,946.12	\$39,070,816.47	\$28,051,733.40
June	\$49,682,916.37	\$34,026,664.62	\$25,298,039.91
July	\$46,343,669.19	\$36,460,812.42	\$28,531,147.02
August	\$47,205,939.88	\$37,911,812.76	\$27,545,154.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$377,155,715.02</b>	<b>\$297,627,088.25</b>	<b>\$216,598,898.00</b>

Month in 2014	Total Adjusted Revenue and Taxes 2014		
	All Detroit Casinos		
	Total Adjusted Gross Receipts	Total State Wagering Tax	Total Detroit Wagering Tax
January	\$96,048,307.53	\$7,779,912.91	\$10,469,265.52
February	\$110,608,613.45	\$8,959,297.69	\$12,056,338.87
March	\$124,936,684.17	\$10,119,871.42	\$13,618,098.57
April	\$112,273,443.83	\$9,094,148.95	\$12,237,805.38
May	\$114,508,495.99	\$9,275,188.18	\$12,481,426.06
June	\$109,007,620.90	\$8,829,617.29	\$11,881,830.68
July	\$111,335,628.63	\$9,018,185.92	\$12,135,583.52
August	\$112,662,906.77	\$9,125,695.45	\$12,280,256.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$891,381,701.27</b>	<b>\$72,201,917.80</b>	<b>\$97,160,605.44</b>

Greektown Casino was up 2.7%, during August 2014 compared to the same month last year.

All three casinos are 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.

The market shares for MGM Grand Detroit, MotorCity Casino, and Greektown Casino for June 2014 were 42%, 34%, and 24%, respectively.

The figures released by the Board are the gross receipts less winnings paid to wagerers. The figures do not include: 1) any fees or other relevant city, state or federal taxes; 2) wages and benefits paid to casino employees; 3) payments to suppliers, services providers or vendors; and 4) other normal business expenses.

## **MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD RENEWS DETROIT CASINO LICENSES, REVISES MEETING SCHEDULE**

In consecutive unanimous votes, the casino licenses for all three of the Detroit Casinos (Greektown, MGM Grand Detroit and MotorCity Casinos) were renewed by the Michigan Gaming Control Board (“MGCB”) during its September 9, 2014 regular public meeting. Under Section 6 of the Michigan Gaming Control and Revenue Act, MCL 432.206, a casino license is issued for a one-year period. All casino licenses are renewable annually upon the payment of the license fee and the filing of an annual report that includes all information required under the MGCB’s Administrative Rules.

At its September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the MGCB also adopted a new regular public meeting schedule that it will use moving forward. Instead of meeting on or about the second Tuesday of every month (except for the months of January and July), as has been the traditional meeting schedule, the MGCB will now change to holding its regular public meetings on or about the second Tuesday of every other month. During the

discussion on this topic at the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, MGCB Board members agreed that they may still need to be available for special meetings as circumstances warrant.

Accordingly, the next meeting of the MGCB will be held at 9:30 am on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at its Detroit office located in the Cadillac Place at 3062 West Grand Boulevard, Suite L-700, Detroit, MI 48202. A schedule of the MGCB regular public meetings can be found on the Board's website at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mgcb/0,4620,7-120-57615\\_57616---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mgcb/0,4620,7-120-57615_57616---,00.html)

## **DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR NEARS END OF FEDERAL RECOGNITION COMMENT PERIOD**

On Wednesday, September 3 and Friday, September 5, 2014, the Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA") held conference calls to receive and address comments related to its current proposed rulemaking for 205 CFR 83, the federal regulation governing the federal recognition process for Native American tribes. Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ("IGRA"), federal recognition is a key component for Native American tribes seeking to develop tribal gaming properties.

On July 25, 2014, the US Department of the Interior ("DOI"), the parent agency of the BIA, issued a press release noting that it had extended the comment period for proposed changes to 205 CFR 83 due to its receipt of numerous comments and public interest in the proposed changes. Written comments will now be accepted until September 30, 2014.

The proposed changes would reduce and/or streamline many of the requirements for tribes seeking federal recognition. For example, under prior practice, documentation was required to be provided proving that a tribe showing "community and political authority...[from the] time of first sustained contact with non-Indians or 1789." The proposed changes would amend this look back period to 1934, the year that the Indian Regulatory Act was passed into law that establishes the recognition process, a change which the BIA states "will reduce the documentary burden on the

Department, and will avoid potential problems with locating historical records while maintaining the integrity of the process." Other changes include the removal of certain documentary evidence requirements, bring the regulations into line with current BIA policies and procedures, and establish more objective or transparent review policies.

Last week's calls were made to further clarify portions of the rules and to respond to public questions. During Friday's call, Mr. Larry Roberts, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the BIA, noted that "over the years, many have criticized the process as broken and some of the criticisms that the department has heard is that it takes too long, that its burdensome and its expensive, that its unpredictable and that it's not transparent." The regulatory changes seek to address these concerns, as well as to make the process more modern and efficient.

For more information on the proposed changes to 205 CMR 83, please visit the BIA's website at: <http://www.bia.gov/>

## **EXTENDED: GLOBAL GAMING EXPO EARLY BIRD SPECIALS EXPIRE TODAY!**

Early Bird Discounts for the 2014 Global Gaming Expo (G2E), to be held at The Sands Expo and Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, from September 30 to October 2, expire today, September 12.

Early Bird Discounts include group discounts, Native American Casino Registration packages and special hotel and travel deals which registrants may take advantage of on the G2E website.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to apply for Express Badges for G2E 2014. Expo organizers say the new badges will expedite registration and check-in time, thus creating more ease and convenience.

Over 30,000 gaming professionals from around the world are scheduled to attend this year's G2E from all gaming industry trades and sectors. To register, or for more information about G2E, please visit [www.globalgamingexpo.com](http://www.globalgamingexpo.com).