



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Gaming Commission

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Gaming Commission Receives Additional Application As Final Deadline Approaches

Additional Applications Expected with Background Investigations Underway

Today the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) is pleased to announce that four gaming applicants have officially submitted the first application (Phase 1) in a two-phase application process toward the award of an expanded gaming license. MGC's teams of investigators have already begun executing background investigations on the submissions. In late October 2012, MGC officially released the first application providing gaming applicants 90 days to complete applications and pay a non-refundable \$400,000 application fee. The final deadline for submission is **January 15, 2013 at 5:00 PM**.

MGC has received Phase 1 applications and the \$400,000 application fee from the following entities:

- **MGM Springfield**
- **Penn National Gaming, Inc.**
- **Plainridge Racecourse**
- **Hard Rock MA**

MGC has also received the \$400,000 application fee from **Sterling Suffolk Racecourse** (Suffolk Downs), but they have not yet submitted an application.

MGM, Penn National and Hard Rock have indicated interest in competing in Western Massachusetts for one of the state's three resort-casino licenses. Plainridge Racecourse, located in Plainville, Massachusetts, has indicated interest in competing for the state's single slots-parlor license.

In addition, a total of **11** entities to date have participated in 'scope of licensing' meetings with MGC investigators and representatives. The intent of these meetings is to discuss the Phase 1 application process, which is designed to determine an applicant's suitability in matters related to finance and integrity. The 'scope of licensing' meeting reviews a gaming applicant's key employees and investors and determines who is subject to the Phase 1 background investigation.

In an effort to expedite licensing, MGC developed a bifurcated process, Phase 1 and Phase 2, to first allow for the determination of background qualifications and suitability of applicants for Category 1 (casino) and

Category 2 (slot machine) gaming licenses in advance of the review of an applicant's entire or 'site specific' application.

MGC has already begun planning the regulations necessary for the Phase 2 process, which will focus on an applicant's site specific plan. Phase 2 regulations are expected to be released Summer 2013.

MGC has also made a determination to first proceed with the issuance of the single slots-parlor license in an effort to speed the licensing process. It is anticipated that the slots-parlor license will be awarded by the end of 2013. MGC anticipates the first resort-casino license to be awarded on or before **February 26, 2014**.

About MGC

The mission of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is to create a fair, transparent, and participatory process for implementing the expanded gaming law passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in November, 2011. In creating that process, the Commission will strive to ensure that its decision-making and regulatory systems engender the confidence of the public and participants, and that they provide the greatest possible economic development benefits and revenues to the people of the Commonwealth, reduce to the maximum extent possible the potentially negative or unintended consequences of the new legislation, and allow an appropriate return on investment for gaming providers that assures the operation of casino-resorts of the highest quality. For more information on MGC, please visit www.mass.gov/gaming or connect and share on Twitter (@MassGamingComm) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MAGamingComm).

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