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Massachusetts Gaming Commission

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Massachusetts Gaming Commission Receives 11 Pre-Qualifying Applications for Expanded Gaming License

Today the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) announces that **11** gaming applicants have officially submitted the first application (Phase 1) and the non-refundable \$400,000 application fee in a two-phase application process toward the award of an expanded gaming license.

MGC Chairman Steve Crosby stated, "The Massachusetts legislation drafted the Expanded Gaming Act prioritizing competition as key criteria. The gaming commission has vigorously carried that charge forward resulting in the achievement of a gaming competition that is robust and primed to obtain that absolute maximum benefits in job creation and economic growth to the residents of the commonwealth."

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**
- **Wynn, LLC**
- **Mohegan Sun**
- **Sterling Suffolk Racecourse**
- **Raynham Park**
- **Mass Gaming & Entertainment, LLC**
- **PPE Casino Resorts**
- **Crossroads Massachusetts, LLC**

The background investigations of all applicants for Category 1 (resort casino) and Category 2 (slots-parlor) gaming licenses will begin immediately. Each applicant for a gaming license, as well as their qualifiers, will undergo the extensive background investigations to ensure they meet the high standards for good character, honesty, integrity and financial suitability.

MGC has established multiple investigative teams to execute the substantial background investigations. The teams are comprised of gaming experts from the consulting firms, Spectrum Gaming and Michael & Carroll and collectively includes former FBI agents, state investigators, prosecutors, Massachusetts state police troopers,

and accountants, all of who have vast experience in all types of investigations, including, but not limited to, background, corruption, organized criminal enterprise and racketeering as well as corporate due diligence and gaming industry backgrounds for the largest gaming entities in the industry.

The due diligence investigations for Massachusetts entity applicants will cover their regulatory history in other jurisdictions, financial stability, compliance plan and history, and recent litigation, among other areas. The investigations for qualifiers – those individuals who are officers, board members or key investors of the applicant – will cover their employment history, criminal record, education, stockholdings and financial suitability, among other areas.

Investigations may take up to six months to complete, dependent on the complexity and number of qualifiers for each applicant.

MGC will later announce when public versions of the applications will be made available. The applications must first be reviewed and processed by the investigators for completeness and areas of confidentiality.

MGC has already made significant progress in 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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