

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Massachusetts Gaming Commission

> 84 State Street, Suite 720 Boston, Massachusetts 02109

> > TEL: (617)979-8400 FAX: (617)725-0528 www.mass.gov/gaming

CHAIRMAN STEPHEN P. CROSBY COMMISSIONERS GAYLE CAMERON JAMES F. MCHUGH BRUCE W. STEBBINS ENRIQUE ZUNIGA

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Media Contact: Elaine Driscoll (MGC) 617-571-2964 Press release: 12-023

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission Completes Review of Charitable Gaming Rules and Regulations

Commission Provides Recommendation for Oversight

In accordance with the statutory requirements, of the Expanded Gaming Act, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission has promptly completed the review and analysis of charitable gaming in the Commonwealth called for by Section 103 of Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011. The Commission's completed report will be delivered to the legislative leadership today.

MGC Commissioner James McHugh stated, "The report states that the Commission recommends that responsibility for oversight of all charitable gaming be placed in the Massachusetts Lottery which today is responsible for regulating more than 73% of charitable gambling, receives reports and collects taxes arising out of every charitable gaming event held in the Commonwealth. Commissioner McHugh added, "In addition, the Massachusetts Lottery has an efficient staff devoted to its regulatory effort. The Commission makes that recommendation after extensive consultation and discussion with staff of the Lottery, Treasury and Attorney General. As the report suggests, the Commission will work with all three to draft and recommend to you legislation designed to effect the consolidation and will propose regulations to support the consolidated oversight."

Below please find facts about Charitable Gaming in Massachusetts:

- In accordance with Mass. Gen. Laws 23K, Section 4(11), and Section 111 of Chapter 194 of the Acts of 2011, on July 31, 2012, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission becomes responsible for regulation of charitable bazaars licensed pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws 271, Section 7A. Bazaars are the Las Vegas, casino or Monte Carlo nights charitable organizations sometimes run in order to raise money for their charitable works.
- Bazaars licensed pursuant to Mass. Jan. Laws 271, Section 7A are also regulated by the Attorney General pursuant to her general oversight of all Massachusetts charitable organizations. The Attorney General has enacted regulations for bazaars. Those regulations can be found at 940 Code of Massachusetts Regulations, Sections 13.00 through 13.11. The Attorney General's regulation of those bazaars will continue to operate in parallel with that of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

- At present, MGC intends to make no changes of any kind in the regulations governing the operation of charitable bazaars in the Commonwealth. Later in the year, the Commission may recommend legislative changes and may promulgate some new regulations but, well before doing so, will notify the public, the charitable gaming community, city and town officials and other affected state agencies of its recommendations and the reasons for them.
- At present, bazaars run by charitable organizations that also hold a license to run beano games are regulated by the Lottery. The Lottery has promulgated regulations dealing with those bazaars. The Gaming Commission has no authority over those bazaars or those regulations.
- Helpful information about the requirements for conducting charitable gaming in the Commonwealth is available on the Lottery's website http://www.masslottery.com/games/charitable-games/) and at the Attorney General's (http://www.masslottery.com/games/charitable-games/) and at the Attorney General's (http://www.mass.gov/ago/doing-business-in-massachusetts/public-charities-or-not-for-profits/soliciting-funds/raffles-and-other-gaming-activity/).
- Questions for the Commission may be e-mailed to the Commission at mgccomments@state.ma.us with "charitable gambling" in the subject line."

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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