

Press Release

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GAMING COMMISSION AUDITS HELP BINGO OPERATORS COMPLY

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri - The Missouri Gaming Commission has enhanced its audit program for charitable gaming operators as part of its *Managing for Results* initiative. Rather than using unannounced field audits exclusively, the Gaming Commission now relies predominantly on pre-arranged audit visits that allow licensees to gather the appropriate documentation and have their most knowledgeable volunteer staff present to interface with auditors. This process allows auditors to meet with bingo organizations during business hours and in the absence of the frenzied environment of the bingo game. It also gives auditors time to work with bingo volunteers to help explain regulatory goals, objectives and procedures and suggest ways to make compliance efforts more efficient. Finally, the scheduled visits allow the Gaming Commission to significantly increase the number of organizations it visits each year, thus providing more efficient and cost effective service to Missouri's citizens.

"This new procedure is another example of the Gaming Commission's *Measuring for Results* initiative and the CORE (Community Oriented Regulation and Enforcement) philosophy that hinges on making sure the regulated community understands the rules and is fully involved in the regulatory process," said Gaming Commission Executive Director, Kevin Mullally. "The new audit procedures meet the goals of both the charitable gaming industry and the Gaming Commission while providing more efficient and cost effective service to taxpayers." Mullally points out that ordinary tax revenue does not fund the Gaming Commission's activities. The Commission is funded exclusively through user fees, license fees and taxes paid by its licensees.

Mullally also notes that the Gaming Commission will continue to conduct unscheduled audits in response to consumer complaints, in the event of suspicious activity or randomly as a part of its enforcement program.

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