

# IN THE MISSOURI GAMING COMMISSION

In Re: )  
 ) DC-17-110  
Gaming Partners International USA )

## PRELIMINARY ORDER FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Comes now the Missouri Gaming Commission acting in its official capacity pursuant to 11 CSR 45-13.050, and states as follows:

1. The Missouri Gaming Commission (the "Commission" or "MGC") is a state commission created under Chapter 313, RSMo, 2000,<sup>1</sup> with jurisdiction over gaming activities, including riverboat gambling activities, in the State of Missouri.
2. Gaming Partners International USA (the "Company") is a supplier of gaming equipment, including playing cards.
3. The Commission issued a Supplier license to the Company to provide playing cards or other items directed by the Commission to a Class A or Class B licensee or to the Commission.
4. As the holder of a Supplier license, the Company is subject to the provisions of §§ 313.800 to 313.850, RSMo, and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Commission.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS<sup>2</sup>

5. On January 31, 2017, the MGC conducted a regulatory investigation involving 4,297 defective teal decks of cards shipped from GPI to Ameristar Casino Kansas City (hereafter, the "Casino" or "ACKC").
6. Each deck of cards had the same deficiency on the 10 of diamonds; the printed portion of the card was not centered.
7. The defect was caused by human error in the manufacturing process.
8. Upon order setup on the automation line, the line operator failed to set the registration of the slitting machines correctly pursuant to required card specifications.
9. This failure caused the cards to be miss-cut prior to being packaged and sent to ACKC.
10. Similar findings relating to defective cards and/or manufacturer errors by the Company have recently been noted by the MGC on multiple occasions, specifically, the following:

<sup>1</sup> All statutory references are to RSMO 2000, unless otherwise specified.

<sup>2</sup> 20170204009

- a. On March 27, 2016, the Company shipped decks of cards missing the black four of spades to ACKC. Upon investigation, the Company determined that the defect was caused by equipment failure on the automated counting system combined with a mis-collation in the automated line;
- b. On April 20, 2016, the Company shipped defective cards to ACKC. Upon investigation, the Company determined that the defect was caused by human error in its manufacturing process, in that the operator failed to remove setup/startup sheets used to calibrate the registration camera system; and
- c. On December 13, 2016, the Company shipped decks of cards missing the 10 of clubs to the Isle of Capri Casino, Kansas City. Upon investigation, the Company determined that the defect was caused by equipment failure on the automated counting system combined with a mis-collation in the automated line.

### LAW

11. Under § 313.805(6), RSMo, the Commission may assess any appropriate administrative penalty against a licensee, including, but not limited to, suspension, revocation or penalties of an amount determined by the Commission.

12. Section 313.812.14, RSMo, states, in pertinent part, as follows:

A holder of any license shall be subject to imposition of penalties, suspension or revocation of such license, or if the person is an applicant for licensure, the denial of the application, for any act or failure to act by himself or his agents or employees, that is injurious to the public health, safety, morals, good order and general welfare of the people of the state of Missouri, or that would discredit or tend to discredit the Missouri gaming industry or the state of Missouri unless the licensee proves by clear and convincing evidence that it is not guilty of such action. The commission shall take appropriate action against any licensee who violates the law or the rules and regulations of the commission. Without limiting other provisions of this subsection, the following acts or omissions may be grounds for such discipline.

- (1) Failing to comply with or make provision for compliance with sections 313.800 to 313.850, the rules and regulations of the commission or any federal, state or local law or regulations;
- (2) Failing to comply with any rule, order or ruling of the commission or its agents pertaining to gaming[.]

13. Title 11 CSR 45-5.183 states, in pertinent part, as follows:

- (1) Unless otherwise approved by the commission, all cards used for gambling games must meet the following specifications:

(A) Cards used to play table games and poker shall be in standard decks of fifty-two (52) cards each with each card identical in size and shape to every other card in such deck or as otherwise approved by the commission;

\* \* \*

(D) The backs of each card in the deck shall be identical and no card shall contain any marking, symbol, or design that will enable a person to know the identity of any element printed on the face of the card or that will in any way differentiate the back of that card from any other card in the deck[.]

### **VIOLATIONS**

14. The actions or omissions of employees or agents of the Company as described above constitute the shipping of defective playing cards to the Casino, which is a violation of 11 CSR 45-5.183.
15. The Company is therefore subject to discipline for such violations under §§ 313.805(6) and 313.812.14 (1) and (2), RSMo.

### **PENALTY PROPOSED**

16. Under § 313.805(6), RSMo, the Commission has the power to assess any appropriate administrative penalty against the Company, as the holder of a Supplier license.
17. THEREFORE, it is proposed that the Commission fine Gaming Partners International USA, the amount of \$2,500 for the violations set forth herein.

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Herbert M. Kohn  
Chairman  
Missouri Gaming Commission

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that he caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing to be mailed, postage prepaid, this \_\_\_\_ day of August, 2017, to:

Debra Gorman, Director of Compliance  
Gaming Partners International USA  
3945 W. Cheyenne Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89032

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Herbert M. Kohn  
Chairman  
Missouri Gaming Commission