

Message from the Executive Director



In Fiscal Year 2011, as with each year, the main focus of the Missouri Gaming Commission was steady regulation. We meted out discipline for those who violated the rules and regulations, and conducted licensing investigations which ensured those who chose to operate a riverboat gaming casino, or a supplier company, were in compliance with the laws of Missouri. The Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) played a vital role in our regulation by providing enforcement on the State's riverboat gaming casinos, and by assigning personnel to conduct background investigations. We are grateful for their assistance. It is also important to note, riverboat casinos and gaming suppliers fund these MSHP positions.

The Missouri Gaming Commission faced certain challenges over the past fiscal year. Selecting a candidate for the 13th riverboat gaming casino license took up a majority of our time. Commissioners and staff are to be commended for their hard work. Every Commissioner was in attendance at each scheduled meeting, community forum and public hearing. There was no doubting the significance of this action.

Other challenges during FY 2011 included flooding which affected gaming operations at Lady Luck, Caruthersville, and Terrible's Mark Twain, LaGrange. MGC Enforcement Division staff reworked rules to accommodate new aspects of gaming for the removal of the \$500 dollar loss limit and changing technology, including downloadable credits on electronic gaming devices, and the security of casinos' critical IT systems. Staff was also at the ready during the legislative session to respond to requests by lawmakers and to monitor possible action. I believe staff faced these issues with competence and dedication.

Another critical aspect of our operation is monitoring tax collection. In FY 2011, MGC oversaw collections of \$341,416,127 in tax receipts for education. We also monitored the collection of the two-dollar admission fee of which half garnered \$54,279,049 dollars for the State. See page 12 of this report for a list of those who benefit from this fee.

As we move into FY 2012 staff will be focused on accountability, responsibility and oversight as we monitor all phases of construction at Isle of Capri Cape Girardeau, LLC. Our purview will begin with the first shovelfull of dirt to the day the doors are open to the public. Our regulatory duty includes all steps in this progression.

Also on our to-do list for FY 2012 will be programs to increase our efficiency through automation, and restructuring. We are reviewing all individual programs IT has developed to look for ways to implement them in other areas, trim the excess and make our work efficient. It's time to reorganize and simplify, all the while continuing our day-to-day work of regulating an important industry in the State. We have goals in sight, and MGC will remain vigilant for the people of Missouri.

