

Message from the Chairman



In Fiscal Year 2016 Missouri Governor Jay Nixon signed into law the Fantasy Sports Consumer Protection Act. As soon as the legislative process began, Missouri Gaming Commission staff started researching and writing rules and regulations for this billion dollar industry. MGC staff is comprised of seasoned regulators who applied their experience in gaming with relevant consumer protection principles. After months of work, the preliminary rules were written and subsequently approved by the five member commission. While this is new territory for both staff and the board, I am confident we are equal to the task.

It is anticipated fantasy sports contests will bring important operating and licensing fees to the State. Estimates on how many companies will be licensed, and the amount of fees collected are preliminary as of this writing, but we will provide a complete analysis of our first year of regulation in the FY 2017 Annual Report. Stay tuned.

Speaking of fees collected, one of the MGC's most important functions is to monitor the collection of both AGR and admissions taxes. In FY 2016 riverboat gambling casinos contributed nearly 324 million dollars to the State Proceeds for Education Fund. You can see the good resulting from riverboat gambling on the following pages of this report. The back pages feature each of the 13 home dock cities and counties, the revenue received from riverboat gaming, and the way in which these valuable funds were spent.

FY 2016 brought ownership changes to some of the State's riverboat gaming casinos. The MGC gave approval to a second REIT ownership in Missouri. Although it was the second such REIT acquisition it was a first for this particular commission to review and approve such an ownership change. Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc., (GLPI) now holds all of Pinnacle Entertainment's real property assets. However, Pinnacle Entertainment will retain the operating assets.

I would like to thank the dedicated staff and specifically my fellow commissioners. We are a group of professionals who strive to regulate bingo, riverboat gaming, and coming soon, fantasy sports contests in the best interests of the gaming industry, and the people of the State of Missouri.