

# Message from the Executive Director



In Fiscal Year 2017 the Missouri Gaming Commission changed its mission statement to include the regulation of fantasy sports contests. I'm pleased to report MGC has completed its first year of regulatory duties with five pending applications and the first round of operations fees collected. You can find a summary of our activity on page 13 of this report.

One of MGC's most important functions is monitoring the collection of AGR and admission taxes. In FY 2016 riverboat gambling casinos contributed nearly \$324 million to the State Proceeds for Education Fund. In FY 2017 we collected nearly \$325 million to the State Proceeds for Education Fund. You can see how home dock cities and counties benefit from riverboat casino revenue on the back pages of this report.

Ownership within Missouri's 13 riverboat casinos is ever changing. Fiscal Year 2017 was no exception to this as El Dorado Resorts Inc., based in Reno, Nevada, received final approval by the commission to purchase Isle of Capri properties. El Dorado Resorts has chosen to keep the Isle of Capri brand and the company has reported profitable operations in the first few months of ownership. El Dorado is a reputable company and we look forward to working with them, as we do other casino companies in Missouri.

I would like to thank the five MGC commissioners for their time, talents, and dedication. Commissioners volunteer their time to attend tours and monthly meetings where the commission decides disciplinary action, licensing, relicensing, and other regulatory matters pertinent to the MGC.

Additionally, I would like to thank the employees of the MGC, and the Gaming Division of the Missouri State Highway Patrol for their commitment and hard work. These individuals continue to ensure the integrity of gaming in Missouri.

Each year I give an update on our "Jeans Days" fundraiser. Staff is proud of our efforts in raising nearly \$17,000 for the Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri. We donate our money specifically to the Buddy Pack program. Each week employees can pay one dollar per day to wear jeans on Thursday and Friday. This program began in January of 2013 and I would challenge other agencies to adopt this type of fundraising activity. Staff is committed to feeding children in need.

I hope you find this year's annual report to be a thorough and comprehensive guide to riverboat gambling, charitable bingo, and fantasy sports contest regulation in Missouri.