



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Unit 13 & 14, Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: +1 (670) 233-1857/58
Facsimile: +1 (670) 233-1856
Website: www.cnmicasinocommission.com
E-mail: info@cnmicasinocommission.com



COMMISSION ORDER NO: 2021-003

Order Prohibiting the Issuance of New or Renewal Licenses for Junket Operations Pending a Review by the Commission of Part 2600 of the Regulations, and Directing the Executive Director Not to Process any Applications for Junket Licenses.

For good cause determined at the April 22, 2021 public meeting of the Commonwealth Casino Commission, which was duly publicly noticed, and based on the authority granted by the laws of the Commonwealth (including but not limited to Public Laws 18-56, 19-24, and 21-38) and the Regulations of the Commonwealth Casino Commission, NMIAC Chapter 175-10.1, the Commonwealth Casino Commission hereby finds and **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. WHEREAS, gaming by the casino licensee has temporarily ceased and junket activity by licensed junket operators has also ceased accordingly. Only eight licenses remain valid, all of which will expire per their own terms before October 1, 2022 (unless sooner terminated); and
2. WHEREAS, in a letter dated April 08, 2021 the Honorable Ralph DLG. Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, commended the Commission for its accomplishments "establishing a regulatory framework that put a necessary emphasis on the protection of our community and a strict adherence to the laws and norms of our Commonwealth"; and
3. WHEREAS, Governor Torres noted concerns about the present junket program presently authorized by Part 2600 of the Regulations and asked that the Commission "revisit this provision of the regulations, repeal this allowance for Junket Operator licenses, and ... enact the necessary safeguards and penalties ... to ensure that the operations of the casino licensee do not permit Junket Activities within casino(s) under [the Commission's] regulatory authority"; and
4. WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that a comprehensive review of the junket program is warranted and no licenses under the present program should be renewed, nor new licenses issued until the comprehensive review has occurred, and new Regulations are promulgated which address the governor's concerns; and

5. WHEREAS, and the Commission is empowered by Regulation §175-10.1-2615 to condition, suspend or revoke the junket operator license or to enter any order necessary for the regulation of junket activity; NOW, THEREFORE,

6. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that no license for junket activity pursuant to Part 2600 of the Regulation shall be granted or renewed; and

7. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED; the Executive Director is prohibited from processing any application for a new license or license renewal under Part 2600 of the Regulations; and

8. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Director shall contact the three present licensees and determine whether said licensees wish to surrender their licenses given the present lack of gaming activity and after such contact, proceed in the manner he deems prudent; and

11. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Director's authority to suspend or terminate the registration of any junket representative under §175-10.1-2615 is in no way affected by this Order; and

13. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Chairman or the Executive Director shall take steps necessary to ensure that this Order is published in the Commonwealth Register, and this Order is to take effect ten days after its publication in the Commonwealth Register and shall remain in effect until it is repealed or replaced by subsequent Order of the Commission.

SO ORDERED this 22nd day of April, 2021.

Signature: 
EDWARD C. DELEON GUERRERO
CHAIRMAN