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Media Availability

Massachusetts Gaming Commission Hosts Educational Forum To Address Issues Related to Problem Gambling

Commission Joins Academic and Treatment Experts to Raise Awareness and Minimize Potential Impact

WHO:

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Members of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission including Chairman Steve Crosby; Commissioner Gayle Cameron; Commissioner James F. McHugh; Commissioner Bruce F. Stebbins and Commissioner Enrique Zuniga; Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling Executive Director, Marlene Warner; Gemini Research President, Dr. Rachel A. Volberg; Harvard Medical School Assistant Professor of Psychiatry Debi LaPlante; Gaming Laboratories International, Inc. General Counsel and Director of Government Affairs Kevin Mullally and additional research and gaming experts.

WHAT:

As part of an ongoing series to educate the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) and the community on various matters associated with the introduction of expanded gaming, the public is encouraged to attend the Commission's fourth educational forum focused on problem gambling. The Commission will be joined by an esteemed panel of experts in the area of treatment, research and academics.

The forum is intended to educate the MGC and the community about the current status of problem gambling as well as the treatment resources available in the Commonwealth. The forum will highlight critical information for the Commission's consideration as the process of expanded gaming moves forward. The session will also feature personal stories of individuals who have struggled with this issue as well as insight for industry professionals on matters of treatment and research.

To attend the forum in person, please complete this <u>registration form</u>. The community may also submit questions for the panelists by completing the 'Contact the Commission' form at <u>www.mass.gov/gaming</u> or tweeting your question for @MassGamingComm with hashtag #AskMGC.

If you are unable to attend the forum, tune in for the live stream at http://www.mass.gov/gaming/meetings/public-educational-forum-june-25-2012.html

WHERE:

North Shore Community College MBTA Building, Room T102 300 Broad Street (entrance on Market Street) Lynn, MA 01901 **WHEN:** Monday, June 25, 2012

1:00pm-4:30pm

DIRECTIONS: Directions to Lynn Campus & public transportation info:

http://www.northshore.edu/about/locations.html

Campus Map including parking:

http://www.northshore.edu/safety/pdf/Lynn_Map.pdf

Bldg 3, Parking A

Entry to the building (Rm T102) is on Market Street.

About the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling

Founded in 1983, the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling is a private, non-profit health agency dedicated to providing leadership to reduce the social, financial, and emotional costs of problem gambling, and to promote a continuum of prevention and intervention strategies including: information and public awareness, community education and professional training, advocacy and referral services for problem gamblers, their loved ones and the greater community.

About MGC

The mission of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission is to create a fair, transparent, and participatory process for implementing the expanded gaming law passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in November, 2011. In creating that process, the Commission will strive to ensure that its decision-making and regulatory systems engender the confidence of the public and participants, and that they provide the greatest possible economic development benefits and revenues to the people of the Commonwealth, reduce to the maximum extent possible the potentially negative or unintended consequences of the new legislation, and allow an appropriate return on investment for gaming providers that assures the operation of casino-resorts of the highest quality. For more information on MGC, please visit www.mass.gov/gaming.