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Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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Gambling Action Alert - December 8, 2021



Gaming Board picks developers for Waukegan, south suburbs casinos

State regulators rejected bids from Matteson, as well as a Waukegan proposal from a former state senator who poured thousands of dollars into local elections.

. . . the Illinois Gaming Board picked Las Vegas-based Full House Resorts Inc. to set up its high-stakes shop at the shuttered Fountain Square shopping center in Waukegan — though a legal challenge from a spurned competitor could still be looming.

. . . Homewood/East Hazel Crest beat out Matteson with a proposal to build the **casino just off Interstate 80 near 175th and Halsted streets**. The Homewood-East Hazel Crest bid is led by Alabama-based Wind Creek Hospitality, part of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, which runs 10 gambling operations in Alabama, Florida, Nevada, Pennsylvania and the Caribbean island of Curacao.

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Judge rejects attempt to block Gaming Board from proceeding with vote on Waukegan casino license

In denying Potawatomi Waukegan Casino's request for a temporary restraining order, Circuit Judge Cecilia Horan said she was not convinced the company, owned by Wisconsin's Forest County Potawatomi Community, has standing under Illinois' gambling law to make the request. [Read](#)

Sports betting at Chicago arenas stumbles amid

concerns about casino competition

Chicago aldermen balked Tuesday at a plan to allow sports betting at Wrigley Field, the United Center and elsewhere, despite Mayor Lori Lightfoot's hope that adding a 2% city tax to the gambling returns would blunt criticism that the sportsbooks would cut into tax money collected from a planned city-run casino.

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Related: Govertsen's study of the impact of sportsbook operations at Chicago's pro-sports stadiums found it was "perfectly compatible" with a casino, Brashear said.

However, Ald. Brendan Reilly (42nd Ward) said the members of the **Chicago City Council should have a chance to review that study before casting a vote, warning that alderpeople could come to regret a hasty vote** without reviewing important information like they did in 2009 when the City Council voted to lease the city's parking meters to a private company in a much-loathed deal.

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Racing commissioners challenge Arlington Park's request to run off-track betting parlors after it closed its track

Illinois racing officials are challenging a request to allow off-track betting by Arlington International Racecourse, even though it is not licensed for racing next year, as the statute appears to require.

Hawthorne Race Course officials proposed that they could instead take over the parlors, which allow gamblers to bet remotely on races around the country and watch them on television. The decision, set for December 16, could affect millions of dollars in bets and horse racing purses. [Read](#)

Esports partners with Colts on video game tournament

The 2021 Frozen Frenzy tournament winner will receive two VIP tickets to the Colts-Raiders game, two VIP Tailgate passes, two Colts jerseys and a team-autographed replica helmet. The tournament runner-up will receive two tickets to the Colts-Raiders game and a TY Hilton-autographed football.

"There are thousands of fans who crossover between online gaming and our great sport of pro football, so it only makes sense to combine these two popular pastimes into this unique and fun event." [Read](#)

NOTE: Middle school, high school, and colleges in Illinois have established Esports teams that compete in video game tournaments. New Jersey allows sports gambling bets on Esports and [casinos are getting involved](#).

Chicago among 2021 most sinful cities in America

Chicago was #9 on the list, which included excesses and vices. [Gambling addiction](#), for instance, leads to over \$100 billion in losses for U.S. consumers every year. [Read](#)

For Immediate Action

- The spring Legislative Session will begin on January 4, 2022. Send your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) a Christmas card and ask them to oppose online casino gambling and all expansion of gambling.
- Share this Alert with your faith community and PRAY.
- Forward to 10 others.

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