



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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Gambling Alert - March 31, 2021



Betting on Horses' Lives

Racehorses are dying in staggering numbers at Pennsylvania tracks. Since 2010, state racing officials have tallied more than 1,400 thoroughbred deaths. **Half – 704 – died at Parx Racing, the Bensalem track that is part of Pennsylvania's largest casino.**

Now, many analysts argue that the bigger [taxpayer-paid payouts](#) have paradoxically made the sport more deadly, encouraging owners to put weak and injured horses onto the track for what turn out to be fatal runs. [Read more](#)

BetMGM gambling apps now in Google Play Store

After Google [changed its policies in March](#) to allow online gambling companies in the United States to add their apps to its [Play Store](#), many operators have taken advantage and launched their platforms. For a long time, gaming companies could not offer their apps in the Play Store because of legal restrictions in place linked to Google's policies.

BetMGM launched a sportsbook app, casino app, and poker app in the Play Store. Players located in states with a legal online gambling market can download and place bets. [Read more](#)

Class Action Lawsuit filed against Google

Consumers filed a [class-action complaint](#) in the Northern District of California against Google **for hosting social casino phone apps, illegally profiting from gambling games, and being a co-conspirator with technology companies who developed the social casinos.**

According to the complaint, for about the last ten years, “the world’s leading slot machine makers – companies like International Game Technology, Scientific Games Corporation, and Aristocrat Leisure – have teamed up with American

technology companies to develop a new product line: **social casinos,**” which are gambling apps that mimic the “Vegas-style’ experience” of slot machine gambling. [Read](#)

Horseshoe Hammond fined for underage Sports Gambling at casino

The Indiana Gaming Commission (IGC) levied the \$100,000 penalty after concluding that an 18-year-old male was illegally granted entry to the casino floor 40 times. The unidentified person presented a fake identification from Pennsylvania.

Once detected, the man admitted to being only 18 years of age. He was in possession of three \$1,100 losing [William Hill Sportsbook](#) betting tickets. He also held a Caesars Rewards loyalty club card. [Read](#)

Churches, Christian charities call to Government on gambling harms

"Gambling related harms affect families, communities, colleagues and friends as well as individuals, and can cause mental and physical ill health, indebtedness, family breakdown and most tragically may even result in suicide," the statement reads.

"These harms simply cannot be tackled by focusing on individuals' gambling habits or relying on individual organizations to provide solutions. . . .**Governments must adopt a public health approach to prevent harm and address population level risks.** One area where this is urgently needed is remote gambling. [Read](#)

For Immediate Action

1. Ask local candidates for Mayor/City Council their position on video gambling before casting your vote on April 6.
2. Contact your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) to ask him/her to OPPOSE online gambling and other bills to expand gambling.
3. Share this Alert with your faith community.
4. Forward to 10 others.

Blessings at Easter!

[Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action \(tax deductible\)](#)

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