



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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## Gambling Action Alert - October 7, 2021



### **Chicago now expects multiple casino bids**

Despite earlier setbacks, the Lightfoot administration is gearing up to field as many as five formal applications for a Chicago operation by the extended deadline of Oct. 29. [Read](#)

### **Rivers/Churchill Downs withdraws bid for Waukegan casino hours after announcing Arlington sale to Bears**

The move could suggest billionaire Neil Bluhm is focusing efforts on landing the long-sought Chicago casino. . . . Rush Street spokesman Dennis Culloton said it was only a coincidence they withdrew the same day Churchill Downs announced the sale of Arlington. **Rush Street** does not have a stake in the 326-acre parcel that could be the destination for the Bears — but it **does have a sponsorship deal with the team.**

The bid was pulled after regulators spent nearly two years vetting it along with a wave of other hopefuls looking for a piece of the pie in Gov. J.B. Pritzker's 2019 gambling expansion that added six new casinos. A Gaming Board spokesman declined to comment on the drain of resources at the perennially overworked and understaffed agency.

The two remaining Waukegan casino applicants — Las Vegas developer Full House Resorts and Lakeside Casino LLC, a company led by former Grayslake state Sen. Michael Bond — will **make their final public cases** for the north suburban license Oct. 13.

Four development groups competing for one license in the south suburbs will also make their final pitches: **Calumet**

**City, Lynwood, Matteson** and a site that straddles **Homewood and East Hazel Crest**. [Read](#)

## [IL Gaming Board meeting Oct. 13](#)

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### **Op-ed: Goodbye, Arlington International Racecourse, and good riddance**

The illusion was that Arlington International Racecourse has been a place of pastoral beauty and light. An equine celebration, where families with children might “break into blossom.”

Instead, it has been a dark place for the impoverished lives on the backstretch, for the frustrated souls yelling at the track’s TV monitors and for disposable horses bred for speed and greed. This is why it would be a “blessing” were Chicago’s beloved Bears to start a new tradition at Arlington and restore the light. [Read more](#)

### **Proposal: Want Bears to share Arlington**

To hear former Arlington president Roy Arnold tell it, it doesn’t have to be one or the other. “There is absolutely no reason why you can’t have a world-class stadium for the Bears, maintain Arlington Park racetrack as one of the world’s premier racetracks, and have a diversified entertainment district on those 326 acres,” he told a state Senate committee. [Read more](#)

### **NBA Takes a Different Tack Than NHL, Will Not Yet Allow Betting Ads on Jerseys**

One week ago, **the Washington Capitals announced they would wear Caesars Sportsbook patches on two versions of their uniforms, starting with the 2022-23 season.** But, in stark contrast, **European soccer leagues have pending legislation to pull gambling ads off of team uniforms due to reports of “problem gambling” and “to protect children and prevent harm.”** The NBA said this week it is keenly aware of that situation.

“We have restrictions because we see what happens internationally,” said the NBA’s Senior VP of Fantasy and Gaming Scott Kaufman-Ross, during Wednesday’s Sports Capital Symposium. **“Italy and Spain are markets where there’s full prohibitions on all sports betting advertising. The UK has a whistle-to-whistle ban. We’ve seen reports: it’s coming that they’re going to have to take the brands off the shirts.** [Read more](#)

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