



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Gambling Alert - January 21, 2021



Most casinos and video gambling are now open from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. in Regions 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10).

Video gaming locations in Region 4 (Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair, and Washington counties) and **all licensed gambling operations at DraftKings at Casino Queen and Argosy Casino Alton are still suspended, subject to Tier 3 mitigations.** Go to the Illinois Gaming Board website for more details. [Read more](#)

Regions 3 and 5 are in Phase 4, which means Harrah's Metropolis Casino can be open from 8 a.m. to 6 a.m. [Read](#)

Chicago Casino - Assessing some possible sites

In a review of answers casino operators and developers gave the city when it issued a "request for information" last year, respondents . . . strongly favored putting it in or near downtown. They wanted generous space, maybe 10 to 25 acres, with room for parking, a hotel, entertainment and whatnot. They wanted it easy to get to and close to everything the city can offer post-pandemic [Read more about possible sites](#)

Casey Urlacher gets pardon in illegal sports gambling case

He [was charged last February](#) with conspiracy and running an illegal gambling business. He is accused of acting as an agent for the gambling ring, recruiting bettors in exchange for a cut of their eventual losses.

Prosecutors said in court that Urlacher, who was released on a recognizance bond, faced up to 10 years in prison if convicted of both counts. . . . It is highly unusual for presidents to pardon individuals before they are convicted of a crime. [Read](#)

Oswego gas station and video gambling

The Oswego Village Board has approved ordinances that will allow a Delta Sonic car wash and gas station under development in the village to apply for a video gambling license.

Carol Latina, who represented residents of Steeplechase in 2017, said she would have appreciated that the area's residents were informed of DeltaSonic's request for a video gambling license prior to it coming to the Village Board for a vote.

She said as "recently as August, I was in communication with the village when I asked for updates" concerning some issues related to the Delta Sonic project, Latina said. "Did no one think or say this is going to be a problem for Steeplechase? I think our history bears that out. Maybe your obligation for transparency ends with the publication of your agenda," Latina said. [Read](#)

Beck's "futuristic" Truck Stop with Video Gambling

After resisting for years allowing video gaming in businesses other than bars and restaurants that have a liquor license for on-site consumption, the Washington City Council last year added "truck stops" to the list of places that could offer video gaming. [Read](#)

NJ to fine sports books asking players to cancel withdrawals

New Jersey's top gambling regulator is threatening to fine sports books operating in his state that ask customers to cancel requests to cash out money from their accounts, saying the practice is ongoing and "unacceptable." **In some cases, sports books have offered to give players cash bonuses if they cancel withdrawal requests,** according to David Rebeck, director of the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement.

Richard Schwartz, president of **Rush Street Interactive, which operates PlaySugarhouse.com in New Jersey, said his company approved more than 75% of online player cash-out requests "in real time"** during the fourth quarter of last year. [Read](#)

For Immediate Action

The 2021 General Assembly is now in session. The Senate will be back in session on January 26, and the House will be back on February 2 with a new Speaker. Chris Welch replaced Michael Madigan as Speaker of the House.

1. Contact your Representative and Senator to ask them to OPPOSE online casino gambling, expansion of Internet Lottery, Keno, and all bill that expand gambling. Let them know that you will be praying for them.
2. Share this alert with your faith community and ask them to PRAY.
3. Forward to 10 others.

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