



## Commission Member Changes

Five citizens are appointed by the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, to act as part-time Commissioners, for a single six-year term.



**Keven Rojecki** was appointed as a Gambling Commissioner in July 2006 by Governor Gregoire; his term expired June 30, 2012. He served as Commission Chair for one year and Vice-Chair for two years. We appreciate Commissioner Rojecki’s ability to take all perspectives into consideration when making decisions. Commissioner Rojecki is a 15-year veteran firefighter with the SeaTac Fire Department and was a legislative liaison with the Washington State Council of Firefighters.



**Senator Margarita Prentice** was appointed as a Commissioner by Governor Gregoire to replace Keven Rojecki. She attended her first Commission meeting as a Commissioner in August 2012. For the past 18 years, Commissioner Prentice has served as an Ex-Officio member of the Commission. Ex-Officio members are State Senators and Representatives who are appointed by caucus leadership and only vote to approve or amend Tribal-State Gaming Compacts and amendments. Senator Prentice has been a regular attendee of meetings and we welcome her continued participation as a Commissioner.

## Underage Gambling Inspections

By: Special Agent Mark Richart

In 2003, we began inspecting house-banked card rooms to see if they were allowing persons under the age of 18 (minors) to gamble. Our agents sent minors into card rooms to attempt to gamble. Card rooms often have security officers who check patrons’ identification for age. For whatever reason, security officers may allow minors to enter card rooms. Even though a security officer checks identification and allows a minor to enter, it is still the responsibility of the person conducting the gambling activity, the card dealer, to ensure players are not minors.

A 2006 Public Opinion Survey conducted by the Commission reinforced the need for underage gambling checks. Of those surveyed, 44% said they were “very concerned” about underage gambling and 25% were “somewhat concerned.” We conducted a second Public Opinion Survey in 2012. Of those surveyed, 35% were “very concerned” about underage gambling and 36% were “somewhat concerned.”

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Commissioners

John Ellis, Chair  
Mike Amos, Vice Chair  
Michael Reichert  
Kelsey Gray  
Margarita Prentice

### Ex-Officio Members

Senator Jerome Delvin  
One Senator position vacant  
Representative Gary Alexander  
Representative Timm Ormsby

### Inside this Issue:

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## Administration

Director - Rick Day  
Executive Assistant - Gail Grate  
Deputy Director - David Trujillo

## Human Resources

Administrator - Lisa Benavidez

## Business Operations Division

Administrator - Judy Pittelkau

## Information Technology Division

Administrator - Tom Means

## Licensing Services Division

Assistant Director - Tina Griffin

## Communications and Legal Division

Administrator - Amy B. Hunter

## Tribal Gaming Unit

Assistant Director - Julie Lies

## Electronic Gambling Lab

Administrator - Paul Dasaro

## Field Operations

Assistant Director - Mark Harris

### Eastern Region - Spokane

Agent in Charge - Gary Drumheller

### Northwest Region - Everett

Agent in Charge - Greg Thomas

### Southwest Region - Tacoma

Agent in Charge - Jeannette Sugai



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Julie Owen  
Secretary Senior

## Doing Business is Now Easier for Organizations Two New Online Applications

By: Sarah Rumley and Isabel Corrigan, Customer Service Specialists

Licensing Operations Division launched two new online applications in July. They are for Recreational Gaming Activity Permits and the Change Application.

**Online Recreational Gaming Activity Application:** In 2011, we processed 13 paper applications.

**Online Change Application:** In 2011, we processed 113 paper applications. You can now easily report changes in gambling managers, general managers, bingo occasions, premises location, business name, and changes in the date, time, or location for fund-raising events and recreational gaming activities.

You can complete the application, pay fees, and attach supporting documentation to the application during the online process. Please follow the instructions closely.

To help you learn to use the new online applications, we created a training video titled "Online Sign-On Process, For Applications." You can view the video on our website under Online Services or at the link listed below.

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sOJcxEJfE&feature=plcp>

We thank the organizations who participated during the testing phase. Your participation on these projects helped us make adjustments to make it easier for others to use these processes. Your input is valued and appreciated.

## Underage Gambling Inspections Continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

Gambling laws and rules ([RCW 9.46.228](#) and [WAC 230-06-010](#)) prohibit anyone under age 18 from playing punchboards, pull-tabs, card games, or fund-raising activities. In 2009, a new law was passed making it a civil infraction for minors caught playing the above listed gambling activities. The penalty includes a fine of up to \$125, up to four hours of community restitution, and court costs. The minor would also forfeit any winnings.

We also conduct underage checks where pull-tab are sold. Agents send minors into the business and have them attempt to purchase pull-tabs.

If you're caught allowing minors to gamble, the fine for the first violation is \$300 for businesses and \$200 for individuals (such as dealers). A second violation, within a year, will result in administrative charges to suspend your gambling license.

Please know the law and your responsibilities for checking identification before allowing someone to gamble. Contact your local field agent if you have questions (see back page for contact information).



## Rule Changes Under Review at the October 2012 Commission Meeting

### Up for Discussion and Possible Filing

#### Petition from the Public

##### Performing Maintenance on Card Game Equipment

New Rule: WAC 230-03-201 Gambling equipment connecting to external tools for standard maintenance.

Shuffle Master, a licensed manufacturer, is requesting the ability to connect external tools to card shufflers, ace finders and similar card game equipment to conduct standard maintenance.

- The maintenance would be performed by a licensed representative and only the card game equipment and external tool would be connected to each other. Connecting to the Internet or any other equipment or network would not be allowed.
- The external tools would be tested by our gambling lab and only include laptops, tablets, USB products, or similar products approved by us, containing troubleshooting programs, which will connect to the gambling equipment via their Ethernet or USB ports.
- Standard maintenance would only include:
  - Reviewing event logs on gambling equipment, which can consist of card and software errors.
  - Installing and uninstalling card libraries and card calibration files.
  - Configuring touch screen calibration.
  - Gathering diagnostic information.
  - Verifying the hardware board type(s).
  - Reviewing the number of times the equipment has been powered up.
  - Reviewing the total number of operating cycles.

#### Staff Proposed Rule Change

##### Backgrounding Spouses

WAC 230-03-065 Spouses must also be qualified.

WAC 230-03-045 Defining substantial interest holder.

This rule change would no longer require spouses of officers of charitable or nonprofit organizations (C/NP), or board members of publicly-traded entities to be backgrounded. Staff has recognized that spouses of board members of publicly-traded licensees and C/NP officers pose little to no regulatory risk. Spouses of C/NP officers have no actual or potential influence over the decision making of the organization. We are not aware of other jurisdictions in the U.S. that require spouses of board members or C/NP officers to undergo background checks.

### Up for Discussion

#### Petition from the Public

##### Connecting “Envy” and “Share the Wealth” “Bonus Features” at a House-Banked Card Room

WAC 230-15-040 Requirements for authorized card games.

WAC 230-15-685 Restrictions on progressive jackpots.

Rockland Ridge, a licensed gambling service supplier, and Galaxy Gaming, a licensed manufacturer, are requesting approval to connect “envy” and “share the wealth” “bonus features” among different card games and different tables at a house-banked card room.

A similar petition was denied at the February 2012 meeting due to regulatory and policy concerns. The petitioners submitted a new petition which was filed for discussion at the April 2012 Commission meeting.

The petition was discussed at the May and July meetings. After the July meeting, the petition was placed on hold until the petitioners submitted their electronic equipment for staff review. Staff has completed a review of the equipment and it appears to meet the requirements in the petitioners’ rule change request.

The proposal will be up for discussion at the October 2012 Commission meeting and up for final action at the November 2012 Commission meeting.

### Up for Final Action

#### Petition from the Public

##### Texas Hold’em Wager Increase

WAC 230-15-135 Wager limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

WAC 230-15-189 Repealer of House-banked and Class F card game licensee pilot program on wagering limits for Texas Hold’em poker.

The Recreational Gaming Association is requesting a rule change to increase Texas Hold’em wager limits from \$40 to \$100. This proposal comes after an 18 month pilot study by the Commission which increased wager limits from \$40 to \$100 for Texas Hold’em poker. The pilot program began October 2010 and ended May 2012; however, the higher limits are in place until December 31, 2012, or until the Commission takes action (WAC 230-15-189).

Because the pilot study is over, the petition also includes a repealer for WAC 230-15-189.

## Up for Final Action at the November 2012 Commission Meeting

### Staff Proposed Rule Change Individuals Accessing Their Criminal History Records WAC 230-21-001 Purpose.

New Rule: WAC 230-21-030 Inspecting criminal history record information.

This new rule sets out how individuals can review their criminal history record information in our files. This proposal brings our rules current with state law; including

Engrossed Senate Bill ESB 6296, which was passed during the 2012 Session to allow criminal justice agencies to provide copies of criminal history record information and charge reasonable fees for fingerprinting (to verify identities of requestors) or copies.



This petition was filed for discussion at the September 2012 Commission meeting and will be up for final action at the November 2012 Commission meeting.

## Up for Final Action at the January 2013 Commission Meeting

These petitions were filed for discussion at the September 2012 Commission meeting and will be up for final action at January 2013 Commission meeting.

### Petition from the Public Numbering Raffle Tickets

WAC 230-11-010 Number tickets consecutively.

James Williams, a volunteer that assists nonprofit organizations, is requesting the ability to sell raffle tickets that are not consecutively numbered. The intent of this change is to allow organizations to use up left over theatre style tickets from previous raffles rather than throw them away. Using nonconsecutively numbered tickets would be limited to raffles that take place during the same event at the same location and a raffle ticket distribution log must be maintained.



### Petition from the Public

#### Paying Player-Supported Jackpot Prizes

WAC 230-15-405 Paying out prizes on a player-supported jackpot.

Hawks Prairie Casino, a house-banked card room, is requesting to increase the amount of payout in chips or cash for player-supported jackpot prizes from \$2,500 to \$5,000.

## Petition from the Public Denied at the July 2012 Meeting

### Displaying Pull-Tab Merchandise Prizes WAC 230-14-095 Displaying prizes.

Dynamic Pull Tabs, a gambling service supplier, requested a rule change to allow pull-tab operators to post a description and photograph of pull-tab merchandise prizes, rather than the prize itself, due to security concerns, such as theft or accidental damage.

At the July 2012 Commission meeting the petition was denied due to lack of motion. The Commissioners felt the requested rule change did not fit within RCW 9.46.110 (2)(d) which states:

“All merchandise prizes must be on *display* within the immediate area of the premises in which any such punchboard or pull-tab is located.”

The Commissioners suggested the petitioner pursue a legislative change to accomplish his intent.

## Petition from the Public Removed From Discussion

### Electronic Raffle Systems

A petition from 50/50 Central, formerly licensed as a manufacturer, requesting approval for raffle tickets to be sold using electronic raffle systems was filed for discussion at the November 2011 Commission meeting.

At their February 2012 meeting, the Commissioners placed the petition on hold until a manufacturer was licensed to offer the electronic raffle systems in Washington State.

In July 2012, the petitioner withdrew their application for a license. Because of this, the petition was removed from discussion.

## Recently Adopted Rule Changes

### Petition from the Public

#### Carryover Pots for House-Banked Card Games

Effective Date: 8/13/12

Administrative Order: 678

WAC 230-15-040 Requirements for authorized card games.

ShuffleMaster, a manufacturer, requested a rule change to allow carryover pots in house-banked card games for up to ten games. Previously, pots could not be carried over.

This rule change was approved at the July 2012 Commission meeting. See page 11 for the full text of this rule change.

### Staff Proposed Rule Change

#### Licensed *Members-Only* Raffles

Effective Date: 10/15/2012

Administrative Order: 679

WAC 230-06-020 Restrictions on alcohol as prizes.

Charitable/nonprofit organizations can conduct unlicensed “members only” raffles, where liquor can be given away as a prize. This rule was amended to reflect a 2012 legislative change (SB 6465) to RCW 9.46.0315 to allow “members only” raffles to exceed \$5,000 in yearly gross revenues to give away liquor as prizes if the organization gets a raffle license. This rule change was approved at the September 2012 Commission meeting. See page 9 for the full text of this rule change.

## Rule-Making Process and How You Can Comment

Proposed rule changes are generally discussed at one or two informal study sessions and two or more formal Commission meetings.

- Formal Commission meetings are held the second Thursday and Friday of each month (except for June and December, when no meetings are held).
- Study Sessions are typically held 10:30 a.m. to noon Thursday mornings before Commission meetings. Study Sessions are informal meetings that provide an opportunity for you to meet with staff and discuss current issues, proposed rule changes, enforcement questions, and legislative bills.

Proposed changes are discussed at Study Sessions (first month), before they are Up for Filing by the Gambling Commissioners at a formal Commission meeting.

The following month (second month), proposed rule changes are Up for Filing at a Commission meeting and are generally filed for discussion.

The following month (third month), proposed rule changes are discussed at Study Session again.

At the following Commission meeting (fourth month), the rule is Up for Final Action and the Commission will decide whether to adopt the change or not. Any additional comments from staff and the public can be discussed at this meeting. If additional time is needed to determine final action, the Commission, staff, or the public can request the rules be held over to the next meeting.

Study Sessions and Commission meetings are open the public and you are invited to attend. The Commissioners appreciate hearing if you support or oppose proposed rule changes.

If you are unable to attend a meeting and would like to comment on a proposed rule change, please send your comments to:



Washington State Gambling Commission  
Attention: Rules Coordinator  
P.O. Box 42400, Olympia, WA 98504  
E-mail: [RulesTeam@wsgc.wa.gov](mailto:RulesTeam@wsgc.wa.gov)

For detailed information about rule changes under discussion at each Commission meeting, visit our website at [www.wsgc.wa.gov](http://www.wsgc.wa.gov) and select Public Meetings.

Meeting agendas and detailed information are posted about ten days before each meeting.

On the Public Meeting webpage, you can sign-up to get an e-mail notification of when meeting agendas are posted on our website.



You can also follow us on Twitter to get meeting information: Twitter: [WAGambling](https://twitter.com/WAGambling)

## NOVAS - Notice of Violation and Settlement

The Notice of Violation and Settlement (NOVAS) is a way to resolve some gambling rule violations without going through the full administrative process. A NOVAS is issued directly by a gambling field agent to a licensee at the time of the violation. The written notice outlines the violation and how to correct it. Fines range between \$200 and \$500.

If a licensee does not correct the violation and pay the fine within 15 days, we will take administrative action against their gambling license.

### Following are NOVAS Issued During April, May, and June 2012

#### House-Banked Card Rooms

##### Allowed a minor to gamble

Lucky Bridge Casino      Kennewick

##### Allowed a Card Room Employee to work without a current license

Buzz Inn Steakhouse      East Wenatchee

##### Failed to evaluate dealers

Classic Island Casino      Kennewick

#### Card Room Employees

##### Worked with an expired license

Korina Zamudio      Buzz Inn Steakhouse,  
East Wenatchee

#### Organizations

##### Failed to submit quarterly activity report in a timely manner

Artic Tavern      Cosmopolis

Bobby's Dry Dock      Blaine

O'Finnigan's Pub      Everett

S & S Amusement Company      Marysville

Useless Bay Golf and Country Club      Langley

##### Failed to submit accurate quarterly activity report

Twin Dragon      Duvall

##### Player supported jackpot funds violation

Black Pearl Restaurant      Spokane Valley

##### Failed to perform duties required of a gambling manager

FOE 03433      Spokane Valley

## WASHINGTON STATE GAMBLING COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

### 2012 Commission Meeting Schedule

#### November 15 & 16

**Comfort Inn Conference Center**  
1620 74th Avenue SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501 – (360) 352-0691

#### December 2012      NO MEETING

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### Tentative 2013 Commission Meeting Schedule *(First six months)*

#### January 10 & 11

**Comfort Inn Conference Center**  
1620 74th Avenue SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501 – (360) 352-0691

#### February 14 & 15

**Comfort Inn Conference Center**  
1620 74th Avenue SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501 – (360) 352-0691

#### March 14 & 15

**Comfort Inn Conference Center**  
1620 74th Avenue SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501 – (360) 352-0691

#### April 11 & 12

**Comfort Inn Conference Center**  
1620 74th Avenue SW  
Tumwater, WA 98501 – (360) 352-0691

#### May 9 & 10

**Grand Mound Great Wolf Lodge**  
20500 Old Highway 99 SW  
Grand Mound, WA 98531 – (360) 273-7718

#### June 2013      NO MEETING

## Administrative Case Update

A Statement of Administrative Charges or Order of Summary Suspension was issued to the following licensees.

Name	Violation	Case Outcome
Melissa K. Nelson, Seattle, CRE (formerly employed by Macau Casino)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal History.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The licensee did not appear at the hearing, and the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued an Initial Order revoking Ms. Nelson's license.</li> </ul>
Damany S. Degrant, Everett, Class III Employee (employed by the Tulalip Tribes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal History.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ALJ issued an Initial Order and did not revoke Mr. Degrant's Class III certification, which staff had requested.</li> </ul>
Fabian M. Green, Tukwila, Card Room Employee (CRE) (employed by the Golden Nugget and formerly employed by Cactus Jack's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theft – Wrote Unauthorized Checks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ALJ issued an Initial Order and did not revoke the license, which staff had requested.</li> </ul>
Sannarith J. Sean, Auburn, CRE (formerly employed by Lucky Dragonz Casino)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theft.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The licensee failed to respond to the charges, and the Commissioners entered a default order revoking Mr. Sannarith's license.</li> </ul>
Douglas E. Murphy, Kirkland, Class III Employee (formerly employed by the Snoqualmie Tribe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bank Embezzlement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The licensee did not respond to charges, and the Commissioners entered a default order revoking Mr. Murphy's Class III certification.</li> </ul>
Admiral Pub, Seattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operating Without a License.</li> <li>• Late Quarterly Activity Reports.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The licensee failed to respond to the charges, and the Commissioners entered a default order revoking Admiral Pub's license.</li> </ul>
Melissa Curry, Tacoma, CRE (formerly employed by Great American Casino)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fines, Fees and Failures to Appear.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ALJ issued an Initial Order revoking Ms. Curry's license.</li> </ul>
Ducks Unlimited of Washington, Bothell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple Raffle Violations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to a hearing, the licensee agreed to 15-day suspension, with five days deferred for one year, and ten days served. The licensee must provide a list of the next quarter's scheduled gambling activities to Commission staff 30 days prior to the start of each quarter. In addition, the licensee will reimburse the Commission for the cost of a follow-up inspection.</li> </ul>

## Administrative Case Update

A Statement of Administrative Charges or Order of Summary Suspension was issued to the following licensees.

Name	Violation	Case Outcome
Austin Moses, of Fife, Class III Employee, (employed by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fines, Fees and Failures to Appear.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The ALJ issued an Initial Order revoking Mr. Moses' Class III Employee Certification.</li><li>• The Class III employee filed a Petition for Review, and made a substantial payment towards his court-ordered fines and fees.</li><li>• The Commission affirmed the ALJ's Initial Order, but deferred the revocation for one year. The Class III employee was ordered to enter into a payment program and pay all court-ordered costs and fees.</li><li>• His certification was suspended for seven days, and he resumed working after that.</li><li>• In early 2012, the Class III employee was not current on payments; therefore, staff filed a Motion to Revoke Deferral and Amend Final Order Affirming License Revocation.</li><li>• Prior to the hearing, the Class III employee made an \$800 payment.</li><li>• The Commission denied the Motion to Revoke the Deferral and required Commission staff to report back on his payment progress.</li><li>• Several months later, staff reported that the Class III employee had paid all his fines and fees. The Class III employee's license was not revoked, and the case is now closed.</li></ul>

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## AMENDATORY SECTION:

**WAC 230-06-020****Restrictions on alcohol as prizes.**

Licenseses must not offer or award beverages that contain alcohol as a prize or in place of a prize for any gambling activity except:

- (1) Dice or coin contests for music, food, or beverage payment as authorized by RCW 9.46.0305; and
- (2) ~~((Unlicensed))~~ Members-only raffles authorized by RCW 9.46.0315, but only if the liquor control board granted the appropriate permit; and
- (3) Other gambling activities where the liquor control board has authorized alcohol as a prize.

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Remove these updated rules from the newsletter  
and put them in your  
Washington State Gambling Commission Rules Manual

## AMENDATORY SECTION:

**WAC 230-15-040****Requirements for authorized card games.**

- (1) In order for a card game to be authorized, it must be approved by the director or the director's designee and (~~the card game~~) must:
- Be played with standard playing cards or with electronic card facsimiles approved by the director or the director's designee; and
  - Offer no more than four separate games with a single hand of cards. However, no more than three of the games may offer a wager that exceeds five dollars each. We consider bonus features and progressive jackpots separate games. If a player does not have to place a separate wager to participate, we do not consider it a separate game. An example of this is an "envy" or "share the wealth" pay out when another player achieves a specific hand; and
  - Not allow side bets between players.
- (2) Card game licensees may use more than one deck of cards for a specific game. They also may remove cards to comply with rules of a specific game, such as Pinochle or Spanish 21.
- (3) Players must:
- Compete against all other players on an equal basis for nonhouse-banked games or against the house for house-banked games. All players must compete solely as a player in the card game; and
  - Receive their own hand of cards and be responsible for decisions regarding such hand, such as whether to fold, discard, draw additional cards, or raise the wager; and
  - Not place wagers on any other player's or the house's hand or make side wagers with other players, except for:
    - An insurance wager placed in the game of Blackjack; or
    - An "envy" or "share the wealth" wager which allows a player to receive a prize if another player wins a jackpot or odds-based wager; or
    - A tip wager made on behalf of a dealer.
- (4) Mini-Baccarat is authorized when operated in the manner explained for Baccarat in the most current version of *The New Complete Hoyle, Revised* or *Hoyle's Encyclopedia of Card Games*, or similar authoritative book on card games we have approved. However:
- Card game licensees may make immaterial modifications to the game; and
  - Subsection (3) of this section does not apply; and
  - The number of players is limited under WAC 230-15-055.
- (5) A player's win or loss must be determined during the course of play of a single card game, except for a carryover pot game. A carryover pot is an optional pot that accumulates as dealer and participating players contribute to the pot. The winner of the pot is not necessarily determined after one game and the pot can be carried over to more than one game. Carryover pots must not carryover more than ten (10) games. Participants must include at least one player and the dealer competing for the highest qualifying winning hand. Game rules must state how the pot is distributed. If the carryover pot has not been won by the tenth game, the dealer will divide it equally between the remaining players still participating in the pot and the house or, if allowed by game rules, only the players still participating in the pot.

**Washington State Gambling Commission**

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**Twitter: [WAGambling](https://twitter.com/WAGambling)**

**For Operational or Regulatory Questions, please call our field office closest to you.**

Everett	(425) 304-6300	Tacoma	(253) 671-6280
Kennewick	(509) 734-7412	Vancouver	(360) 576-6012
Renton	(425) 277-7022	Wenatchee	(509) 663-9660
Spokane	(509) 325-7900	Yakima	(509) 728-2087

**Headquarters – Lacey**  
**Toll-free in-state (800) 345-2529 (360) 486-3440 TDD: (360) 486-3637**

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**Our Mission:**  
**Protect the Public By Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest.**