Media Release:
Olympia, Washington: October 15, 2014

Chris Stearns elected Chair and Bud Sizemore Vice Chair of the Washington State Gambling Commission at a Commission meeting last week.

Chris Stearns was unanimously elected Chair of the Washington State Gambling Commission. Commissioner Stearns, who is Navajo, is an attorney specializing in Indian law. He previously served four years as Counsel to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources and was the first-ever Director of Indian Affairs for the U.S. Department of Energy. He is also the past Chair of the Seattle Human Rights Commission. He was appointed as a Commissioner in May 2013 by Governor Inslee. Chris is the first Native American elected Chair of the Gambling Commission.

Bud Sizemore was appointed Vice Chair of the Washington State Gambling Commission. Commissioner Sizemore is a former Mayor Pro Tempore and member of the Covington City Council, and Legislative Liaison for the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters. He is currently a fire fighter with the Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority. He was appointed as a Commissioner in April 2014 by Governor Inslee.

The Gambling Commission is a limited jurisdiction law enforcement agency and the only statewide agency devoted to gambling regulation, licensing and enforcement. 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.

The Gambling Commission typically meets once a month to discuss administrative issues, approve new gambling licenses, discuss and approve proposed rule changes, and take action regarding the revocation or suspension of gambling licenses. To learn more about what we do, visit www.wsgc.wa.gov.

The Gambling Commission’s Mission:
“Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest.”

For questions, please contact:
Susan Newer, Public Information Officer
Washington State Gambling Commission
(360) 486-3466 or e-mail Susan.Newer@wsgc.wa.gov