



News

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Chris Stearns Re-Appointed as Gambling Commissioner by Governor Inslee



Chris Stearns has been re-appointed as a Gambling Commissioner by Governor Inslee. His term will expire June 30, 2021. Governor Inslee first appointed Chris Stearns as a Commissioner in May 2013 to fill in for a Commissioner who left their position early.

Chris Stearns said “It is a true privilege to continue serving as a Commissioner. Gambling continues to be a hot topic and I look forward to following the evolving technology that goes along with gambling.”

In October 2014, Chris Stearns was unanimously elected Chair of the Gambling Commission by his fellow Commissioners.

Chair Stearns is from the Navajo Nation and 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.

Chair Stearns is active in his community, serving two terms as Chairman of the Seattle Human Rights Commission and is also Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the Seattle Indian Health Board. He is a graduate of Williams College and Cornell Law School.

About the Washington State Gambling Commission:

The Gambling Commission is a limited jurisdiction law enforcement agency and the only statewide agency devoted to gambling licensing, regulation 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 Commission holds public meetings 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. We are accredited by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. To learn more about what we do, visit www.wsgc.wa.gov.

Mission: Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest.