



Joint Media Release: December 3, 2015

Responsible & Problem Gambling Training

Recreational Gaming Association and Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling train thousands of RGA Members in Responsible & Problem Gambling Practices.

The Recreational Gaming Association (RGA) and the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling (ECPG) are continuing their commitment to responsible gaming practices they began in 2013 when they trained approximately 1,200 industry employees.

In October 2015, more than 150 employees of Washington Gold Casino properties in Pasco and Kennewick were trained in responsible and problem gambling practices by Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling staff and guest trainer Jennifer Shatley.

Jennifer Shatley, consultant and formerly the VP of Responsible Gaming Policies and Compliance for Caesars Entertainment Corporation, shared her industry background and expertise from the perspective of a peer in the gaming industry.

In early December 2015, 600 additional employees will be trained in the Tukwila area, bringing the total to nearly 2,000 employees since 2013. This is thanks to the commitment of RGA President Victor Mena, Vice President David Fretz, and all of the members of RGA, who are dedicated to promoting healthy, sustainable gaming practices to ensure the continued success and viability of the industry. The training is funded by an industry tax to support problem gambling awareness. Both the RGA and ECPG believe good corporate social responsibility is critical to reach people with gambling problems.

In addition to reviewing responsible gaming practices and company policies, the training covers problem gambling, from signs and symptoms, myths and facts, and crime risks associated with gambling problems. Supervisors receive additional, in-depth training, including how to respectfully and discretely talk to guests about potential gambling-related issues; as well as covering the property-specific benefits offered to employees, who are at a higher risk of problem gambling than the general population.

The Washington State Gambling Commission encourages responsible gambling training and welcomes the industry's efforts to train and raise awareness of employees that directly interact with the public.

If your organization is interested in responsible gaming training, please contact:

- Maureen Greeley, Executive Director of the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling, at mlgreeley@evegreencpg.org; or
- Dolores Chiechi, Executive Director of the Recreational Gaming Association and longtime Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling Board Member, at dchiechi@rga-wa.org.

Who We Are:

The Recreational Gaming Association is the trade association that speaks on behalf of the state's house-banked card room industry. RGA Members are the leaders in Washington State for responsible gaming practices. For more information, visit www.rga-wa.org.

The Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling provides treatment, training and awareness programs to address problem gambling in Washington State, including operating a toll free, 24/7 helpline: 1-800-547-6133. To find treatment providers in your area, for more information on our conferences and events, or to request helpline materials to display in your property (available in English and Spanish), visit www.evegreencpg.org or call us at 360-352-6133. Custom materials, like brochures and posters, are also available.

The Washington State 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 and rule changes, approve new gambling licenses, 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.

Washington State Gambling Commission

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