



*State of Louisiana*  
*Gaming Control Board*

*JOHN BEL EDWARDS*  
GOVERNOR

*RONNIE JONES*  
CHAIRMAN

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**ORDER OF THE LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
COVID-19 EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 12**

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**WHEREAS**, La. R.S. 27:1 et seq, grants to the Louisiana Gaming Control Board (“the Board”) all regulatory authority and control and all power incidental or necessary to such regulatory authority over all aspects of gaming activities under its jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020, the Governor of the state of Louisiana announced his intention to issue a Proclamation on May 14, 2020, authorizing the reopening of casinos and video draw poker businesses on May 18, 2020, subject to certain public safety requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chairman of the Board has determined that the threat of COVID-19 continues to be an extraordinary situation requiring immediate action to protect the health, safety, welfare, and interests of the state of Louisiana and its citizens,

**IT IS, THEREFORE, HEREBY ORDERED** that effective immediately:

Prior to reopening, all video draw poker establishment licensees and all casino gaming licensees, i.e. riverboat licensees, slots at the track licensees, and the land-based casino, shall be allowed to open under the following conditions:

1. All requirements for reopening by state and local authorities are met; and
2. The submission to and approval by the Gaming Enforcement Division of Louisiana State Police (“the Division”) of a detailed plan specifying how the licensee intends to insure compliance with the following requirements for reopening:

**Patron density, capacity control and social distancing**

- A licensee shall be permitted no more than 25% of authorized occupancy in any gaming space including employees.
- A licensee shall not permit any more than 25% of gaming positions or devices to be in service.
- The licensee shall practice and enforce CDC social distancing guidelines in all areas of each property including, as appropriate, the designated gaming area, lobbies, waiting areas, food and beverage facilities, customer queueing areas, all amenity areas and all back of house areas. Compliance shall be achieved through signage, marked areas on the floors,

team interaction with customers and any other reasonable measures which assure compliance.

- To the extent possible and consistent with the spirit of the CDC social distancing guidelines licensees shall make adjustments in the gaming area to enforce social distancing. This might be possible to achieve through the use of clear Plexiglas dividers between gaming positions but such dividers must be of sufficient size as to protect adjacent gaming positions and subject to approval by public health officials. The use of such panels would not be permissible if, in the opinion of the Division, they would interfere with established security or surveillance protocols. Operators may also achieve social distancing by disabling or restricting play on electronic devices, removing chairs at gaming tables, or making other adjustments in table game configurations to provide for customer spacing.

#### **Patron screening/protection**

- Each gaming establishment shall have posted at gaming entry points the most currently available CDC checklist of COVID-19 symptoms and shall ask each visitor to read the list and if there is an affirmative answer to any of the questions provide additional screening and follow up appropriate to the situation.
- Gaming employees shall ask customers upon being screened to sanitize their hands prior to entering the gaming area.
- All persons seeking to enter the gaming space shall have their temperature taken by non-invasive means by a gaming employee. Licensees shall establish both an acceptable temperature for admittance and follow up procedures for managing any patron whose temperature exceeds the maximum.
- All persons seeking to enter the gaming space shall be offered a face covering and shall be encouraged to wear a face covering while in the gaming area. The mask, whether personal or property-provided, should sufficiently cover the nose and mouth. Any personal mask brought to the facility by the customer which covers more than just the nose and mouth may be subject to inspection and approval by security personnel or Division representatives.

#### **Health, safety and sanitation**

- All employees, to include contract employees and third party providers shall be screened before being permitted into a casino or the gaming area of a video poker truckstop. Such screening shall include a check of employee or service provider temperature.
- All employees shall be provided increased training about COVID-19 risk factors, enhanced sanitation procedures and requirements and social distancing guidelines in accordance with guidance from the CDC.
- All employees shall be provided with a facemask and shall be required to use a facemask in any area open to the public and any other area as required by the licensee.
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitation protocols shall be developed by each property including frequent and repetitive sanitation procedures in all public spaces. In particular employees shall regularly sanitize gaming devices, cage counters, gaming tables, dining surfaces and seating areas, escalator and stair handles and any other area exposed to high volumes of patron interaction likely to offer a source of infection.
- Specific protocols shall particularly address the increased level of sanitation required for restroom facilities.

- Licensees shall significantly increase the deployment of personal sanitation stations or kiosks for guests and employees and customers should be encouraged to wipe down device surfaces when play has ceased.

**IT IS ALSO HEREBY ORDERED** that, notwithstanding any prior order to the contrary, effective immediately:

1. The ninety-day period for the presentment and payment of a jackpot ticket pursuant to La. R.S. 27:94, La. R.S. 27:252, and La. R.S. 27:394, which would otherwise expire between the dates of March 13, 2020 and June 12, 2020, is hereby extended until the later of June 30, 2020 or 30 days after reopening; and
2. All reporting and payment deadlines for any such outstanding jackpot tickets and applicable unclaimed monies, are hereby extended until the later of July 31, 2020 or 60 days after reopening.

**IT IS ALSO HEREBY ORDERED** that the previous orders of the undersigned Chairman of the Board ordering the cessation of all gaming operations conducted at the land-based casino, all licensed riverboat casinos, all slots at the track licensed facilities, and all video draw poker gaming establishments until the ending date and time of midnight May 15, 2020, i.e. COVID-19 Emergency Order Nos. 10 and 11, are hereby extended until an ending date and time of midnight May 17, 2020.

This order shall remain in effect until rescinded.

**THUS DONE AND SIGNED IN BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, THIS 12th DAY OF MAY, 2020.**



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**RONNIE JONES, CHAIRMAN  
LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD**