



OCCC ON DUTY

From the Ohio Casino Control Commission Division of Enforcement



The Ohio Casino Control Commission is the regulator of the state's four casinos. We're also the state's newest law enforcement agency. We employ licensing personnel and compliance auditors. In our Enforcement Division, we staff an office at each casino location 24/7 with a Gaming Agent Supervisor, Long-Term Investigator and 11 Gaming Agents. Our agents are certified peace officers with arrest authority on the casino property. In the past 20 months we've hired our enforcement staff and provided specialized training for the skills and tactics required to enforce Ohio's criminal code as related to casino gaming.

Our mission is to ensure the integrity of casino gaming in Ohio and we believe working with other law enforcement agencies from the local, state and federal levels will help us accomplish our mission. Already in our short life span, we've partnered with agencies to build cases that stopped criminal behavior related to money laundering, structuring and drug trafficking. We also have analysts to track and share data with other law enforcement agencies.

I bring legal and law enforcement experience to my role as the Commission's Director of Enforcement, having previously served as Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Commerce and Chief Legal Counsel for the Ohio Auditor. As Director of Criminal Justice Services, I was responsible for all federal criminal justice grant monies received by the State of Ohio. As Deputy Chief of Staff for the Ohio Attorney General, I oversaw the law enforcement sections of the office including the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, and the Ohio Organized Crime Investigation Commission.

This inaugural newsletter serves as an introduction of our agency and the work that we do. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate and support your agency.

Karen Huey
Director of Enforcement
Ohio Casino Control Commission
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The OCCC Division of Enforcement is responsible for enforcing 3772.99, which includes criminal statutes that relate to casinos and casino gaming. In addition, the Enforcement Division has filed numerous criminal charges statewide since the casinos have opened.

Criminal Cases - All Ohio Casinos (From May 2012 - March 2014)	
Gaming Crimes (including Bribery)	132
Theft/Property Crimes	
Theft/Petty Theft	
Receiving stolen property	
Unauthorized use of property	
Possession of criminal tools	
Robbery	
Vandalism/Criminal Damaging	97
Criminal Trespassing (includes VEP violators)	77
Underage Violations	
Underage entry/attempted entry	
Aiding underage entry	
Underage consumption	
Furnishing alcohol to underage	
Prohibitions (Fake/False ID)	74
Financial/Fraud Crimes	
Counterfeit	
Forgery	
Falsification	
Misuse of credit cards	
Tampering with records	
Money laundering/Structuring	26
Drugs/Weapons Crimes	
Narcotics/drug possession	
CCW/weapon violation	
Weapons under disability	9
Other	
Assault	
Menacing	
Harrassment	
Disorderly and/or intoxicated	
Obstructing official business	
Resisting arrest	20

Contact Us

OCCC On Duty is a publication of the Ohio Casino Control Commission Division of Enforcement.

Questions or comments can be directed to

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GROWING A GAMING AGENT FORCE

When the Ohio Casino Control Commission was established in 2011, it partnered with the Ohio Attorney General's Office and its Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) to initially provide special agents and intelligence analysts to the Enforcement Division of the Commission. The agents from the BCI Gaming Unit were assigned to Cleveland and Toledo, the first two casinos to open in May 2012. These agents assisted in securing the Commission's first gaming crime convictions and helped establish our commitment to working cooperatively with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

When the Columbus and Cincinnati casinos opened, the Commission hired experienced law enforcement officers directly, swearing in its first gaming agent class in September 2012. By the end of 2013, all enforcement personnel were employees of the Commission. Today we stand at 52 sworn gaming agents statewide and although we are a young agency we leverage our staff's extensive law enforcement expertise to fulfill our mission. Many of our agents come to us with extensive enforcement and investigative experience; learn more about our Gaming Agent Supervisors on page 3.



Jo Ann Davidson (right), Chair of the Ohio Casino Control Commission, presents Steve Schuemaker from the Ohio Attorney General's Office a resolution thanking BCI for providing law enforcement services to the Commission.

OCCC Assists in Illegal Casino Investigation



Photo by WEWS TV

The Commission has authority to investigate businesses that may be operating as illegal casinos. This past June, our agents joined with Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and other local and state authorities in an investigation into two businesses allegedly operating as illegal casinos.

Agents with the Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation assisted local law enforcement in serving search warrants at businesses in Medina and Brunswick, Ohio. Investigators removed dozens of cash-operated slot machines from both locations. The Commission's slot operations manager inspected the machines and verified the illegal operation. Owner Adam Syed was charged with 12 counts of operating an illegal casino.

The raid sent a strong message that illegal gaming operations won't be tolerated in the State of Ohio.

Homeland Security

Currently, seven members of the Enforcement Division – representing all Ohio locations – have received security clearances through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. One TLO at each casino location participates with the State and Local Fusion Center (SAIC) for training and information sharing with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. TLOs have recently been working on a Threat and Vulnerability Assessment that will evaluate the preparedness of our agency as a first responder in the event of a disaster.

OCCC GAMING AGENT SUPERVISORS

OCCC maintains a 24/7 presence at each of Ohio's casinos. Our gaming agents, investigators and supervisors serve as the Commission's eyes and ears at the casinos. They are also responsible for enforcing the state laws enacted to ensure a fair gaming environment for all patrons, and work closely with local, state and federal agencies as well as county prosecutors and the US Attorney's Office to investigate criminal activity.



Michael Masterson
(614) 387-0312

Mike serves as Deputy Director of Enforcement for the Commission. He spent 29 years with BCI and was assigned to the Toledo casino while assisting in the development of the Commission's gaming agent roster. Mike has experience in investigations, narcotics, gaming crimes and organized crime. Mike lives in Toledo.

CINCINNATI



Stu Koeppe
(513) 250-3301

Stu was hired as the Supervisor for the Cincinnati casino office in February 2012. He retired from the Cincinnati Police Department as a Lieutenant after 38 years of service in a variety of posts, including Investigative Unit Commander and Mounted Patrol Unit Commander. Stu has been instrumental in gaming agent training and working with local prosecutors in gaming crime cases. Stu is a native Cincinnati.

CLEVELAND



Gary Fossaceca
(216) 297-4784

Gary is retired from BCI and was originally assigned to the Cleveland casino office as a Special Agent Investigator while he was still employed with the Bureau. Gary has experience as an agent and investigator in narcotics, computer crimes, and in BCI's Gaming Unit. Northeast Ohio has always been home to Gary. He grew up in Youngstown and currently lives in Ashland.

COLUMBUS



Mark Leatherman
(614) 308-4671

The Columbus casino office was the first to be staffed by Commission-hired gaming agents at its opening in October 2012. Mark led the first class to be sworn in as gaming agents. He spent 27 years as an officer with the City of Delaware, Ohio. He started in patrol before being promoted to detective and then sergeant. Mark currently lives in Delaware.

TOLEDO



Doug St. Clair
(419) 661-5462

Doug began his law enforcement career with the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, serving as a deputy and then detective. Doug was assigned to drug investigations with task force and supervisor responsibilities. In 2012, he was hired by BCI as a Special Agent assigned as Gaming Investigator at the Toledo casino. He was promoted to Supervisor in 2013. He lives in Oak Harbor, Ohio.



**OHIO CASINO
CONTROL COMMISSION**

OCCC In the News

OCCC Assists in Short North Posse Case:

Commission Gaming Agents recently assisted local and federal officials in an investigation that led to the arrest of nearly two dozen individuals for drug-trafficking, money laundering and other crimes. All are associated with the Short North Posse, a gang that has operated in central Ohio for decades.

Ohio Casinos Targeted in Roulette Scam:

Thanks to the work of Commission gaming agents and local authorities, four individuals were recently sentenced in connection with an organized roulette scam that hit all of Ohio's casinos. The individuals are part of a larger group that law enforcement officials believe have committed similar crimes in more than a dozen other states.

OCCC first became aware of these individuals in May 2012, when two suspects were interviewed and released following an incident at the Horseshoe Casino Cleveland. Several days later, the group hit the Hollywood Casino Toledo, where six suspects were arrested and charged with cheating. A second incident at the Horseshoe Casino Cleveland later that month also resulted in additional cheating charges being brought. The group also hit the Hollywood Casino Columbus in October 2012 and the Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati in July 2013. Four suspects were arrested onsite at the Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati in August and charged with cheating.



Casino gaming is new to Ohio and so are some of the crimes that come with it. So the Commission turned to a veteran Nevada gaming agent to bring his tricks of the trade to the Buckeye state.

Jim Edwards worked as a casino dealer before he spent the next 33 years working for the Nevada Gaming Commission, spotting cheaters and criminals in Nevada casinos. He was the perfect choice to train the Commission's gaming agents. He demonstrated to the agents how to play all the table games, and then he showed them how to cheat - from how to pinch or cap a bet, mark cards, distract the dealer, slide dice and other techniques used to cheat the casino.

The majority of the crime at Ohio casinos does revolve around cheating. Edwards is quick to say that for all the training at catching cheaters, cheating is actually a rare occurrence when you look at the overall dollars wagered. Some experts estimate that casinos lose about 6 percent of revenue to cheating, but Edwards says there's no way to know. "The money is stolen before they count it," he said.

The advantage does go to the house with more than 1,000 surveillance cameras and trained staff that watch patrons throughout the casino. "The camera never blinks," Edwards said.

Intelligence

Operating in the unique world of casinos and maintaining a presence in four distinct locations clearly demonstrated the need for a central intelligence function within OCCC. Our Intelligence Unit was created in 2012 to provide investigative and intelligence support to our gaming agents. The Unit operates in compliance with Federal Code 28, CFR part 23 and proactively supports all Divisions of the OCCC in fulfilling our agency's mission of ensuring the integrity of casino gaming.

The Intelligence Unit works to identify major criminal trends in association to gaming crimes and related issues. It also provides recommendations for action and gathers, analyzes and disseminates information to Gaming Agents and other law enforcement agencies in the investigation of criminal activity.

As part of our efforts to partner with outside law enforcement agencies, intelligence analysts routinely participate in Financial Crime and Money Laundering Working Groups. We are also a member of Law Enforcement Intelligence Units (LEIU), the National Gaming Intelligence Sharing Group (NGISG), MAGLOCLIN and IAFCI.

Questions about the Intelligence Unit can be directed to Geoff Keener at Geoffrey.Keener@casinocontrol.ohio.gov or (614) 387-5622.