INDUSTRY LETTER NO. 2012-02

November 1, 2012

TO: All Licensees, Enrolled Attorneys and Interested Parties

FROM: Allen Godfrey, Executive Director

RE: Gaming Device Firmware Testing

This industry letter replaces and supersedes all prior letters/memos related to the subject matter of Firmware Testing; and specifically replaces the following: 2006-04 – dated September 5, 2006.

GAMING DEVICE Firmware TESTING

In a continuing effort to create operational flexibility within both the Mississippi Gaming Commission (MGC) and the licensee(s), the MGC has modified procedures for conducting firmware testing. As we move forward to change the dynamics of how the firmware procedures testing will be shared by both the Commission and the licensee, it is important to note that the Gaming Control Act has from its inception addressed the topic of maintaining and operating gaming devices via §75-76-99. Failure to comport with §75-76-99, as with all MGC regulations, could result in the licensee being ordered to appear before the Executive Director of the Commission to show cause as to the specific reasons for noncompliance.

Procedures

1. The MGC will post the firmware signature list on the website for access by licensees. However, your assurance that the firmware you receive is approved for Mississippi should come from the manufacturer.

2. The licensee will continue to submit to the field office the gaming device modification request form (MGC ENF Form 9.1.1, Revised August 5, 2009), to receive an approval. The form is available on the web site in Adobe, Word and Excel.

3. The field office will review your request, and, upon approval, will return your request. The approval will either direct the licensee to conduct the requested procedures (as outlined in MGC Form 9.1.1), or the field office supervisor may assign an agent to conduct those procedures.
4. The MGC field office supervisor will direct agents to conduct random slot inspections for verification and compliance. The licensee will maintain copies of the submitted software request changes for inspection and verification upon request by a MGC employee.

This letter is available on the MGC website at www.msgamingcommission.com under Regulations, Industry Letters.

Verification forms and instructions are available in Adobe, Word and Excel on the MGC website at www.msgamingcommission.com under Forms and Procedures, Casino Gaming, Forms, Gaming Device Firmware Verification.

The firmware signature list is available on the MGC website at www.msgamingcommission.com under Gaming Laboratory, Procedures, Firmware Signature List.

In the event a licensee has a question regarding firmware signatures, the licensee should contact the manufacturer. In the event discrepancies arise, contact the field office immediately for reporting and resolution.