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**>> Letter from the Editor**

Every autumn since 2002, International Masters of Gaming Law has recognized outstanding regulators for their achievements in the gaming industry. Three of the 2017 Regulators of the Year will be recognized in a private reception and ceremony at the Wynn Country Club, Las Vegas during G2E. They are Regulator of the Year - North America, Ronnie Jones, Chairman of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board; Indian country award recipients David Vialpando, Chairman of the Santa Ysabel Gaming Commission and Terry Hale, Past Interim Chief Regulator of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The recipient of the Regulator of the Year-Europe award, Birgitte Sand, Director of the Danish Gambling Authority, will be honored at the IMGL autumn conference in Copenhagen. We congratulate all honorees and thank you for your valuable contributions to the gaming industry. The highlights of their careers and candid discussions of their views on regulating a diverse industry are presented in the Regulator of the Year article in this issue.

The lineup of articles for this issue begins with the US Supreme Court and the debate surrounding how sports betting impacts the gaming industry internationally, with organizations weighing in with *amicus* briefs in support of legalized sports wagering, a huge financial segment of the unregulated gaming industry. Fox Rothschild attorneys Nicholas Casiello, Jr., C.J. Fisher, and Robert Baldassarre provide an overview of the twenty-five year legislative and legal history surrounding sports wagering. New Jersey has been tenacious in its effort to support legalized sports wagering in the state. The authors provide a clear analysis of each step leading to the present Supreme Court hearing.

Mark Balestra of Bola Verde Media Group contributes a discussion of virtual currency - crypto currency - and its impact on Internet gaming enforcement and the Unlawful Internet Gaming Enforcement Act (UIGEA). The author discusses the challenges and effects of rapidly changing technology, especially with Bitcoin and Blockchain.

Daniel Russell of Jones Walker LLP, with his usual well-presented insight to the lottery industry, discusses the recent security breach in the Multi-State Lottery Association with advice to the various state lotteries on how to curb fraud.

Next, the focus shifts to developments in international jurisdictions with a discussion of India's gaming laws as related to poker and sports betting. Tanisha Khanna, Ranjana Adhikari, and Gowree Gokhale of Nishith Desai Associates discuss why the future of gaming in India may have an optimistic outlook.



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Hugo Luz dos Santos blends US and Macau law in his analysis of tip-pooling and the applicability of trust criteria and the potential liability for casinos raised by the practice. The author argues that tip-pooling is an illegal taking or expropriation by casinos.

Continuing the international jurisdiction updates, Matthias Spitz and Jessica Maier of Melchers Law Firm in Germany discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> Anti-Money Laundering Directive (AMLD). Spitz and Maier state the case for gambling companies operating in the EU and internationally to undertake an AMLD risk assessment. The authors focus on the 4<sup>th</sup> AMLD as it impacts the EU, including its impact in Germany.

The next international update discusses the potential for casino gaming in Cyprus, where planned resort projects have made headlines around the world. Alexia Couccoullis, a frequent contributor providing updates on Greece and Cyprus, offers a thorough review of the destination casino resort plans in Cyprus, pointing out mutual revenue benefits to the developer and government. **ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ**, Alexia.

The final contribution to the autumn issue is another example of Professor William Thompson's knowledge of the historical impact on modern cultures of "societal conditions" and how these forces evolve. Professor Thompson discusses the cultural influence of folk music on the development of attitudes toward gaming in Portugal from its early beginning in 1784 until today. Thompson also introduces the concept of emigration and its influences on the casinos of Portugal. The history of gaming in Portugal is a fascinating story, tying together cultural influences and influences from outside forces.

As always, *American Gaming Lawyer* thanks its supporters, both writers and sponsors, for their generous support to promote IMGL's mission of education in gaming law.

*Sue McNabb has worked with the state legislature and served as Assistant Attorney General for the Louisiana Department of Justice and as an attorney for the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. She has an extensive background in corporate law in the private sector where she worked as General Counsel of an INC 500 Company and as Vice President of Administration with a national not-for-profit corporation.*

*Sue served on the board of directors of the Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling and was formerly a member of the board of the National Council on Problem Gambling. She also serves on the board of the Louisiana Center for Women in Government and Business and was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to serve on the Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission. She received the IMGL president's award for 2013. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the IMGL.*