

Furthering Gaming Law Education Worldwide

By J. Kelly Duncan



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What sets the International Masters of Gaming Law apart is the hard work that its members put into all of our publications and conferences. The first edition for 2012 of *Casino Lawyer* reflects the dedication and leadership of its editor Sue McNabb and the substantive articles provided by its contributors. The members of IMGL are dedicated to education and the exchange of professional information concerning all aspects of gaming law. No where is this more apparent than in each of the four journals that we publish.

During the past year, the membership of the IMGL has grown at an unprecedented rate. IMGL now has over 260 members from thirty-six countries as well as members in thirty-two states and the District of Columbia in the United States. It is clear that the high esteem in which the IMGL is held worldwide has contributed to the substantial interest that prominent gaming attorneys, regulators, educators, executives and consultants from around the globe have in being members of IMGL and its mission in furthering gaming law education worldwide.

In September of last year IMGL held its second 2011 gaming law conference. We welcomed to Vienna, Austria, over one hundred delegates from twenty-seven countries, including many from the US. More recently, the prominence of IMGL was no more apparent than in January in London when a number of our most distinguished members spoke at ICE at the World Regulatory Briefing and the ICE Totally Business & Law Insights Program along with some of our friends from the International Association of Gaming Advisors. Additionally, the IMGL reception at ICE held in conjunction with Jeffrey Green Russell was an unparalleled success with more than 225 attendees. The visibility of IMGL was also heightened by a stand that we had at ICE for the first time.

In April, the IMGL Spring Conference will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Co-Chairs of the Spring Conference, John Maloney and John Roberts and their committee have assembled some of the world's top experts in gaming law issues. Moreover, this conference will build on the tremendous success of our 2011 Napa Valley, California, conference which focused not only on international gaming law issues of interest to all attendees but also on Indian Gaming in North America. By providing both plenary sessions and dual tracks, attendees at the Spring Conference will

surely benefit from what IMGL does so well—stimulating conferences that enhance the knowledge of attendees in all areas of gaming law – and, in this case, at one of the most extraordinary places in the United States. I urge any of you who have not registered to attend the Spring Conference at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort and Spa at Gainey Ranch to do so as soon as possible.

In addition to ICE and our upcoming Spring Conference, IMGL is a supporting association this spring of the Gaming Executive Summit (GES) LatAm 2012, the iGaming North America, iGaming Asia Congress, World Regulatory Briefing Germany, GIGSE, and the iGaming Super Show. Several of our members will be speakers at G2E Asia in Macau where IMGL will have a booth and in conjunction with Gaming Laboratories International will be hosting a reception May 23. IMGL members are also actively involved in other gaming conferences this spring, including the recently concluded ABA Gaming Law Minefield, the Florida Gaming Summit, and the Southern Gaming Summit.

In addition to *Casino Lawyer*, IMGL also publishes, at least twice a year, *European Gaming Lawyer* and *Canadian Gaming Lawyer*. Our newest publication, now published in Spanish, *La Ley del Juego* (The Law of the Game), addresses important gaming law issues in Spanish speaking markets.

As many of you know, the IMGL has for some time been a strong supporter of *Gaming Law Review & Economics*. In addition to being frequent contributors to this publication, a number of our members are on their editorial board. More recently, under the leadership of our past President, Tony Cabot, the IMGL has been integrally involved in supporting the *University of Nevada Las Vegas Gaming Law Journal*. This law review is of the highest academic quality, and we are very pleased to be associated with it.

This is a very exciting time for IMGL. The number and variety of opportunities for IMGL members to be actively involved in IMGL are significant, and the prominence of IMGL in the gaming world is unprecedented. For further information about IMGL, please visit www.gaminglawmasters.com or contact our Executive Director, Melissa Lurie (imgldirector@aol.com) or me (kduncan@joneswalker.com). ♣