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# Michigan Gaming Control Board targets 11 illegal online casinos operating without licenses

Crackdown reinforces state's commitment to protecting Michigan players from unauthorized gambling platforms

DETROIT, April 23, 2025 — The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) has issued cease-and-desist orders to 11 illegal online gambling operators found to be targeting Michigan residents without proper state authorization. These unlicensed casinos—some based offshore, others operating from undisclosed or domestic locations—pose serious risks to consumers by skirting Michigan's regulated gaming laws.

The casinos named in the enforcement action include the following:

- Club Player Casino
- 7 Bets Casino
- NinBet Casino
- Cherry Jackpot Casino
- PitBet
- SlotsNBets
- BookMaker.eu
- Wild Vegas Casino
- VIP Slots Casino
- Prism Casino
- ABC Islands Casino

"These sites are operating illegally and without proper oversight, putting Michigan players at risk," said **Henry Williams, Executive Director of the Michigan Gaming Control Board**. "We're committed to shutting down unlicensed gambling operations and protecting the public from deceptive practices, unfair play, and financial harm."

## Illegal Casinos Pose Financial and Data Risks

The named operators have been found to accept wagers from Michigan residents via a range of payment methods—including credit cards, digital wallets, and cryptocurrencies. Players may be

subjected to questionable practices, such as the withholding of winnings, unrealistic wagering requirements, and denial of withdrawals.

In addition to financial concerns, these illegal operators are not required to follow the same rigorous data protection standards that are mandated in Michigan's regulated market. As a result, players' personal and financial information may be highly vulnerable when shared with these unlicensed platforms, increasing the risk of data breaches, identity theft, and other cybercrimes.

#### **Cease-and-Desist Orders Delivered**

The MGCB has formally notified all 11 operators to immediately stop offering gambling services to Michigan residents. They have been given 14 days to comply. Continued violations may result in further enforcement, including collaboration with the Michigan Attorney General's Office to pursue legal action.

"This should serve as a strong warning to illegal operators: Michigan does not tolerate unauthorized gambling activity," Williams said. "We will continue our relentless pursuit of actively identifying and disrupting these operations."

# **How Residents Can Stay Safe**

The MGCB urges players to use only licensed and approved online gaming platforms. A complete list of legal operators is available at <a href="Michigan.gov/MGCB">Michigan.gov/MGCB</a>. Residents who suspect illegal gambling activity or encounter suspicious websites should report them immediately by calling 1-888-314-2682 or emailing <a href="MICamblingTip@michigan.gov">MICamblingTip@michigan.gov</a>.

# Commitment to a Fair, Safe, and Regulated Market

The Michigan Gaming Control Board remains dedicated to preserving the integrity of the state's gaming environment.

"We want every patron in Michigan to have access to a fair and secure gambling experience," said Williams. "By eliminating illegal operators, we're helping ensure the public can enjoy gaming without fear of fraud or abuse."

Gambling in any form is for entertainment purposes only. If you or someone you know may have a gambling problem, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at **1-800-GAMBLER**, text 800GAM, or visit <a href="https://www.1800gamblerchat.org">www.1800gamblerchat.org</a>. Help is available 24/7 and is free and confidential. Michigan citizens can also visit the <a href="https://www.neeps.ncbi.org">Responsible Gaming page of the MGCB website</a> for information on self-exclusion programs including the Disassociated Persons List and the Internet Gaming and Sports Betting Responsible Gaming Database, and <a href="https://www.neeps.ncbi.org">DontRegretTheBet.org</a> for additional tools to game responsibly.

The Michigan Gaming Control Board shall ensure the conduct of fair and honest gaming to protect the interests of the citizens of the state of Michigan. Learn more at <u>Michigan.gov/MGCB</u>.