



News Release

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ADG Division of Problem Gambling Hosts Symposium Recognizing March as Arizona Problem Gambling Awareness Month *14th Annual Symposium – “The Hidden Addiction”*

PHOENIX – To foster understanding and support for Arizonans who suffer from problem gambling, Governor Doug Ducey has declared March as Arizona Problem Gambling Awareness Month. The Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) Division of Problem Gambling (DPG) will kick off efforts to raise awareness by hosting its 14th Annual Symposium, with sponsorship assistance from The Arizona Lottery and Caesar’s Entertainment. DPG’s symposium, “The Hidden Addiction,” will take place in Phoenix at the [Black Canyon Conference Center](#) on March 2, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. MST.

DPG’s 14th annual symposium will feature three nationally renowned keynote speakers who will shed light on problem gambling among veterans and active military personnel:

- Kevin McCauley, MD – A former a U.S. Naval Flight Surgeon, and co-founder of the Institute for Addiction Study, Dr. McCauley currently serves as a Senior Fellow for The Meadows treatment program.
- Herman “Gus” Diggs, PhD – Psychology Program Manager at the Kernersville VA health care center, Dr. Diggs is a clinical psychologist specializing in addictive behavior among veterans.
- Brianne Doura – Legislative Director for the National Council on Problem Gambling.

“While the majority of people who choose to gamble can do so without issues, an estimated 2 percent of Arizona adults have a problem with gambling,” said ADG Director Ted Vogt. “Our Division of Problem Gambling provides services to anyone in need, 24/7. This year’s symposium will focus on how problem gambling affects our valued military personnel and highlights the services available to them and their families.”

In addition to inviting Arizona Department of Gaming’s industry partners, DPG encourages and welcomes behavioral and mental health and addiction professionals and students to attend. This year, DPG is proud to sponsor free registration for veterans, those who work with veterans, and students. Attendees will earn a certificate of completion for up to six continuing education credits at this learning symposium and lunch will be provided.

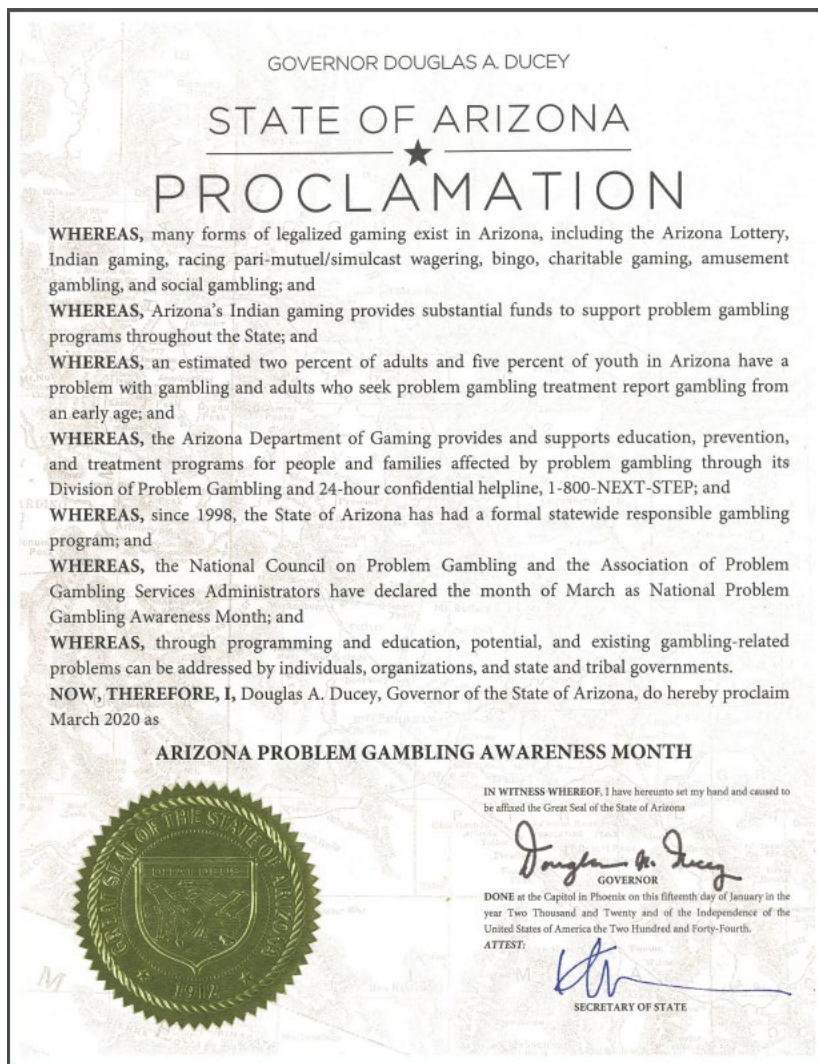
Connect with DPG for information and register for the symposium online:

- Register Online: <https://adgsymposium.eventbrite.com/>
- Connect via email for special rates: contact@problemgambling.az.gov
- Access information: <https://problemgambling.az.gov/>

- More -

Arizona Problem Gambling Awareness Month (cont.)

“The Arizona Lottery and our more than 3,000 retailers are proud to sponsor the Arizona Department of Gaming’s Problem Gambling Symposium and to help raise awareness about this issue throughout the month of March,” said Gregg Edgar, Executive Director of the Arizona Lottery. “The Arizona Lottery is committed to providing gaming entertainment in a responsible manner and supporting the Division of Problem Gaming’s mission. By getting the word out through messaging at our retailers, located across the state, we are doing our small part to assist those who suffer from this condition get the help that they need.”



About ADG

Established by the Arizona State Legislature in 1995, ADG is the state regulatory agency for [tribal gaming](#), [racing and pari-mutuel/simulcast wagering](#), and [unarmed combat sports](#). ADG also provides and supports education, prevention and treatment programs for people and families affected by problem gambling through its [Division of Problem Gambling](#) and 24-hour confidential helpline, 1-800-NEXT-STEP.

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