

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF GAMING

TRIBAL GAMING • RACING • BOXING & MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

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News Release

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Warrant Served at Alleged Illegal Poker Room

SIERRA VISTA – Serving their first illegal gambling-related warrant in Sierra Vista, Arizona, officers from the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) along with Arizona State Troopers, closed the doors of an alleged illegal poker room, late Thursday morning. During the execution of the warrant, four people suspected of being connected to the unregulated poker room were taken into custody and now face charges ranging from conducting an illegal criminal enterprise, to the promotion of—and benefitting from—gambling. The charges range from a class 1 misdemeanor to a class 3 felony.

During the nine-month investigation, ADG agents found evidence of an illegal criminal enterprise involving illegal poker at The Poker Room Live, located at 64 E. Fry Boulevard, which was the focus of Thursday's raid. The business facilitated paying customers illegally playing unregulated casino-style poker, similar to that found inside regulated casinos.

The ongoing partnership between ADG, the Arizona Department of Public Safety, The Arizona Attorney General's Office, as well as numerous other local law enforcement agencies and partners, has helped shut down dozens of illegal gambling sites in the last two years alone. Often found in or near residential neighborhoods, these illegal establishments often are magnets for other types of criminal activity if left unchecked. Multiple tips from the public led to ADG's months-long investigation culminating in Thursday's raid.

ADG takes complaints about illegal gambling businesses very seriously. If you have a tip concerning a suspected illegal gambling operation in your area, please contact the Arizona Department of Gaming at (602) 771-4263 or publicaffairs@azgaming.gov.

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