



Arizona Department of Gaming

TRIBAL GAMING • RACING • BOXING & MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Daniel H. Bergin
Director

Amanda Jacinto
Public Information Officer
1110 W. Washington St, Suite 450
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Ajacinto@azgaming.gov
Desk 602.255.3806
Cell 480.403.1265

News Release

April 6, 2015

Partnership with Phoenix Police Department Leads to the Closure of an Illegal Gambling Business

PHOENIX– On Wednesday afternoon investigators from the Arizona Department of Gaming and members of the Phoenix Police Department served a search warrant at a business called “Surf Links” located at 8021 N 43rd Avenue. During the joint operation one person was arrested in connection to the business and will be facing multiple charges including operating an illegal gaming facility, promotion of illegal gambling, and racketeering. Seven people who may have been customers inside the business were also arrested for various outstanding warrants or drug offences. Those individuals may also face illegal gambling charges.

Over the past three months investigators have been looking into the business and found it was operating as sweepstakes based internet café. The illegal gambling operation allowed paying customers to play casino style games on computers inside the business. The games simulated what is often seen on the screens of electronic slot machines inside regulated casinos.

The Arizona Department of Gaming takes complaints about illegal gambling businesses very seriously. These unregulated cash businesses often open near neighborhoods and can easily attract violent crimes to the area. The ongoing partnership between ADG and local police departments, such as Phoenix, has lead to the closure of dozens of illegal gambling operations over the past year.