



## Arizona Department of Gaming

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### News Release

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## Department of Gaming Hits the Jackpot

(Phoenix) – On Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG) hit the Jackpot Café (6514 West Bethany Home Road) to investigate suspected illegal gambling activities. With the assistance of the Glendale Police Department and the Arizona Attorney General’s Office, ADG served simultaneous warrants at the Jackpot Café and a private residence of one of the suspects. Agents seized more than 40 gambling devices, computers, a vehicle, over \$940,000, and two patrons were arrested for unrelated charges.

The investigation began earlier this year when ADG received a complaint of an internet café and amusement center that might be hosting illegal gambling activities in the city of Glendale. The Glendale Police Department received similar complaints and the two agencies launched an undercover investigation. ADG agents confirmed Jackpot Café customers were doing more than Internet surfing and coffee sipping -- they were playing slot machine type games to win cash.

Evidence gathered suggested possible violations including: possession of gambling devices, the promotion of gambling, benefitting from gambling and conducting a criminal enterprise. ADG also launched a financial investigation tracking money from the gambling activities to various accounts throughout the country. Ignoring a “Cease and Desist” order served by the Glendale Police Department for licensing violations, the Jackpot Café remained in operation until Friday evening.

“The flashing lights and sirens went off at the Jackpot Café on Friday, but there were no winners,” said Mark Brnovich, Director of the Arizona Department of Gaming. “Illicit gambling operations and the public hazards they entail will not be tolerated in our communities.”

No further arrests have been made as the investigation is still on-going.

To report suspected illegal gambling, contact your local police department or ADG at 602-255-3888. For more information, or to request photos or an interview with Director Brnovich, contact Jelena Momich at 602-316-8922.

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