

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**  
REGULATED INDUSTRIES  
Senator Bradley, Chair  
Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 4, 2025  
**TIME:** 4:00—6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Pat Thomas Committee Room, 412 Knott Building

**MEMBERS:** Senator Bradley, Chair; Senator Pizzo, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Boyd, Burgess, Calatayud, Fine, Gruters, and Ingoglia

TAB		BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
		Presentation by the Florida Gaming Control Commission on Illegal Gambling in Florida.		Presented
		Other Related Meeting Documents		



**Florida Gaming  
Control Commission**

# **Illegal Gambling in Florida**

Senate Regulated Industries Committee

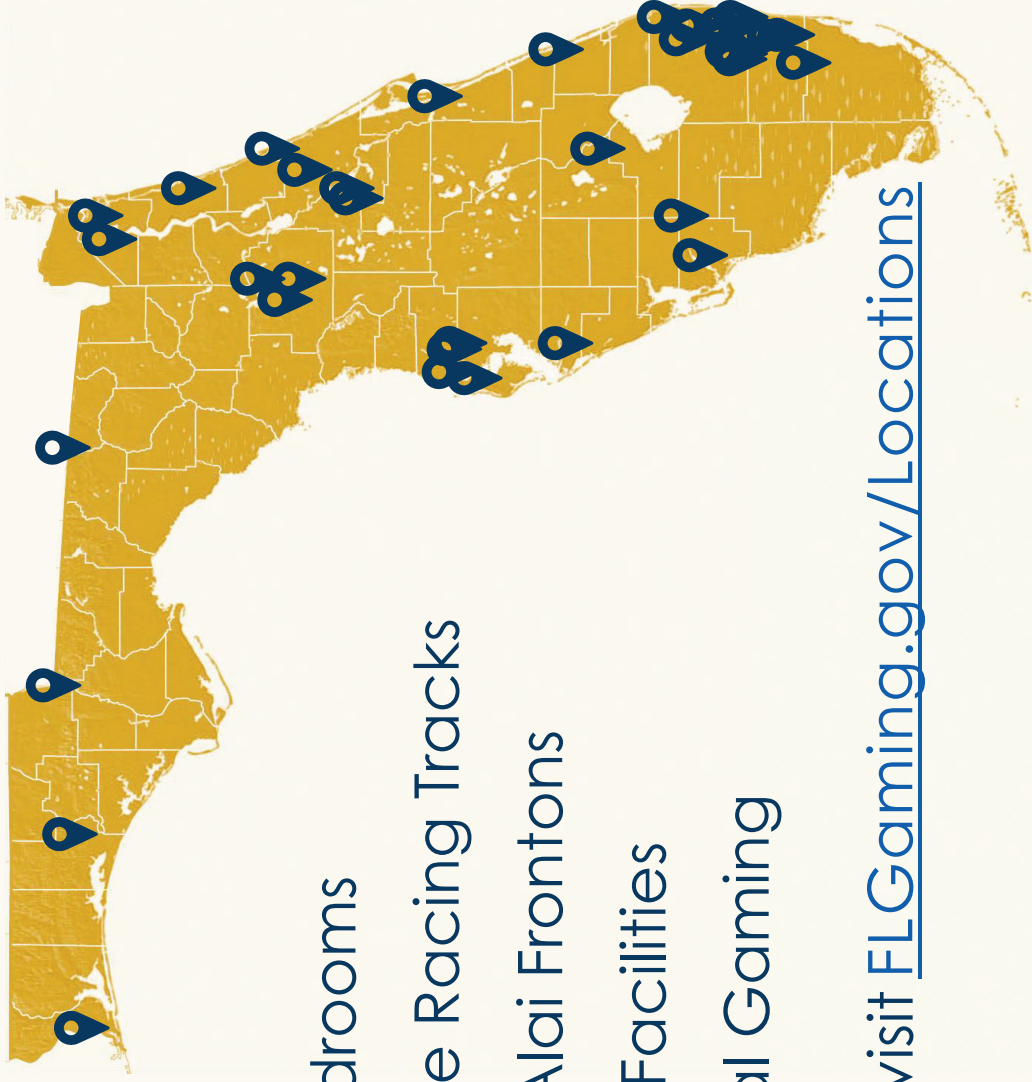
Ross Marshman, Executive Director  
February 4, 2025



# About the Commission

- Created during a 2021 Legislative Special Session
- 198 Full Time Employees
- Division of Gaming Enforcement – First of its Kind
  - 29 Full Time Employees
  - 15 Sworn Law Enforcement Personnel in the Field

# Florida's Legal Gaming Facilities



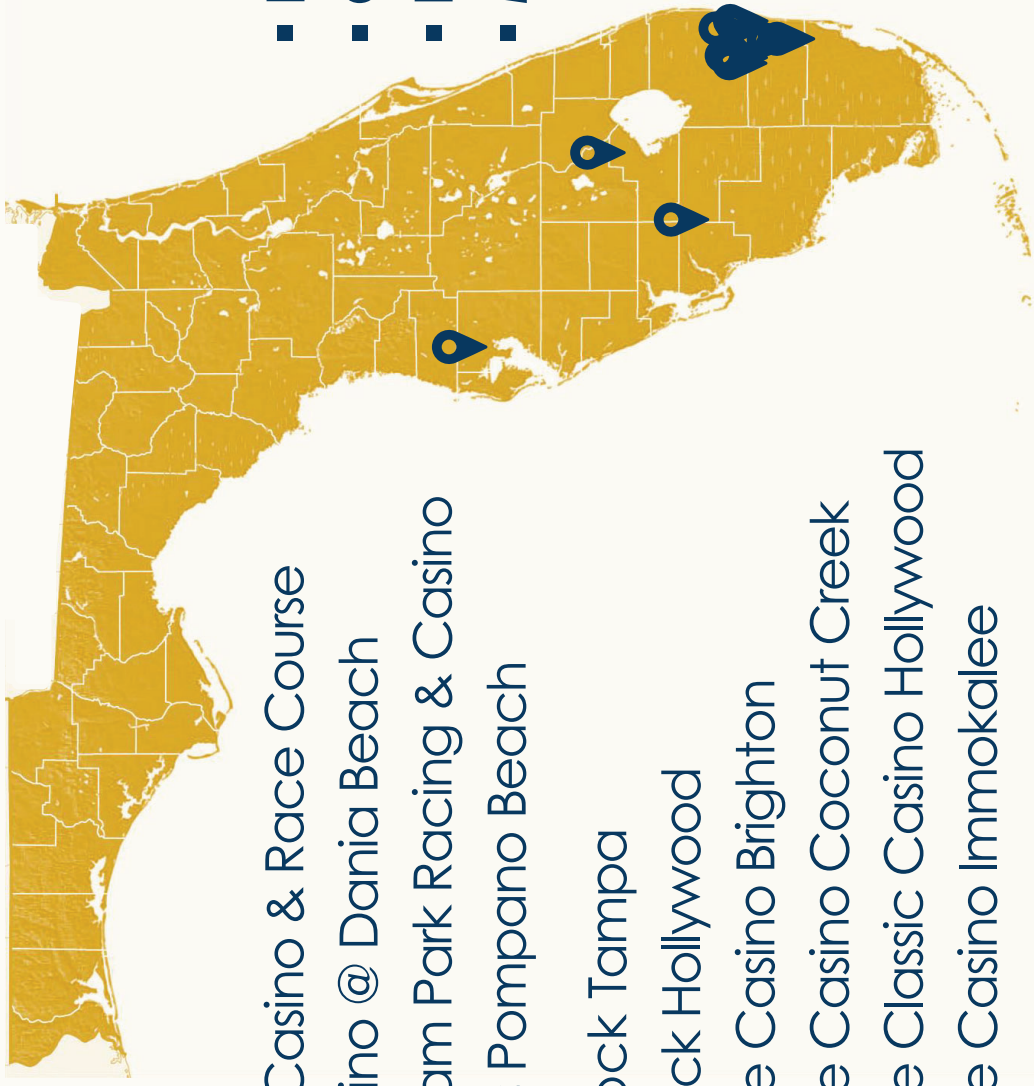
- Cardrooms
- Horse Racing Tracks
- Jai Alai Frontons
- Slot Facilities
- Tribal Gaming

Please visit [FLGaming.gov/Locations](http://FLGaming.gov/Locations)





# Florida's Legal Slot Facilities



- Calder Casino & Race Course
- The Casino @ Dania Beach
- Gulfstream Park Racing & Casino
- Harrah's Pompano Beach

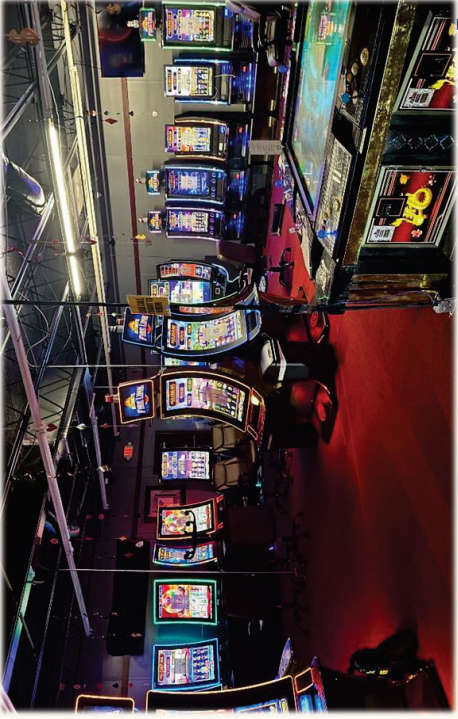
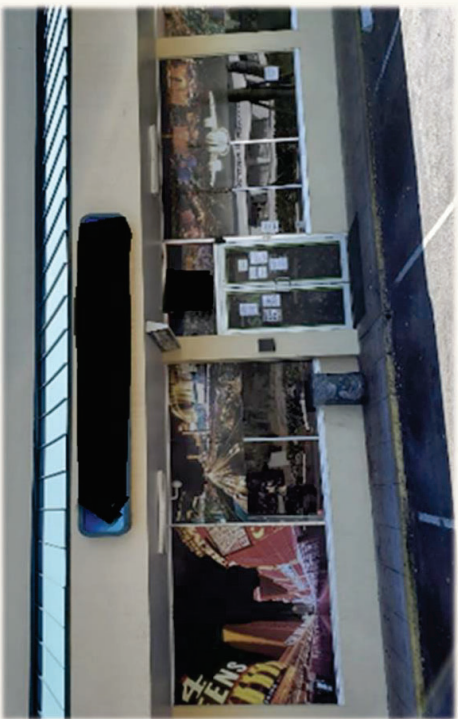
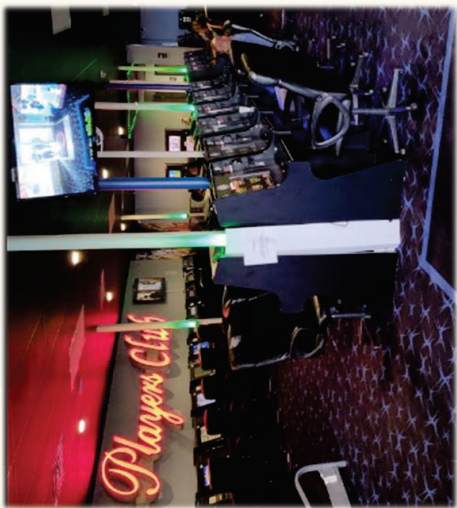
- Hard Rock Tampa
- Hard Rock Hollywood
- Seminole Casino Brighton
- Seminole Casino Coconut Creek
- Seminole Classic Casino Hollywood
- Seminole Casino Immokalee

- Big Easy Casino
- Casino Miami
- Hialeah Park
- Magic City Casino





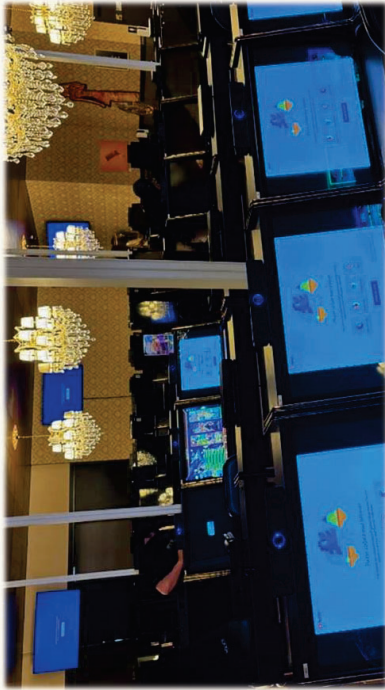
# Illegal Casinos: What They Look Like







# Operation Fool's Treasure







# Operation Fool's Treasure

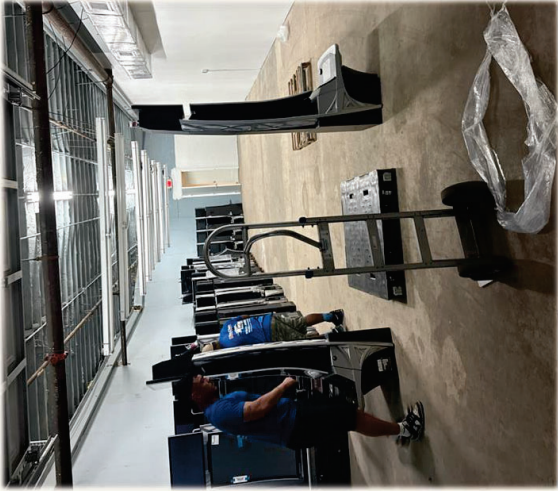








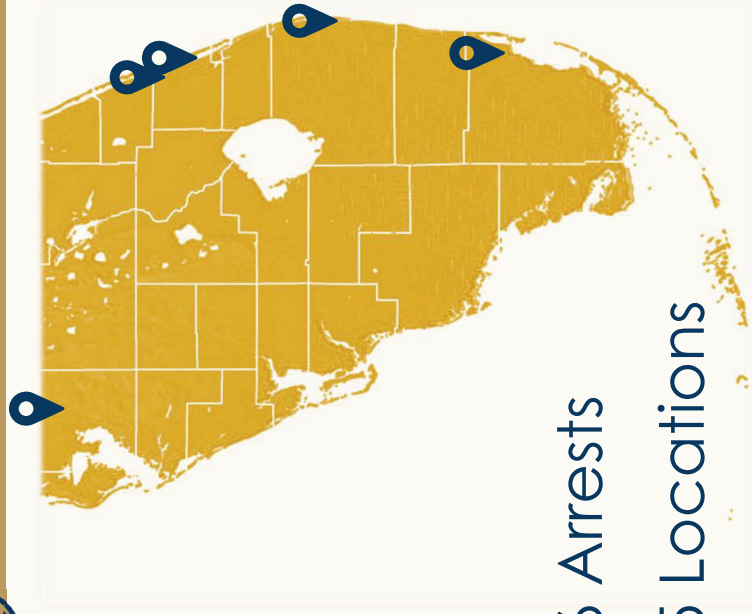
# Operation Fool's Treasure



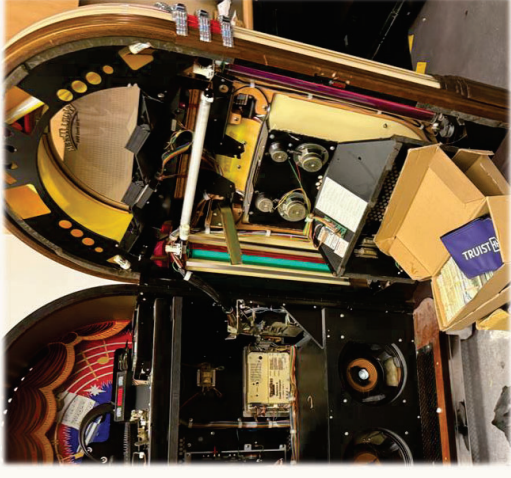




# Operation Fool's Treasure



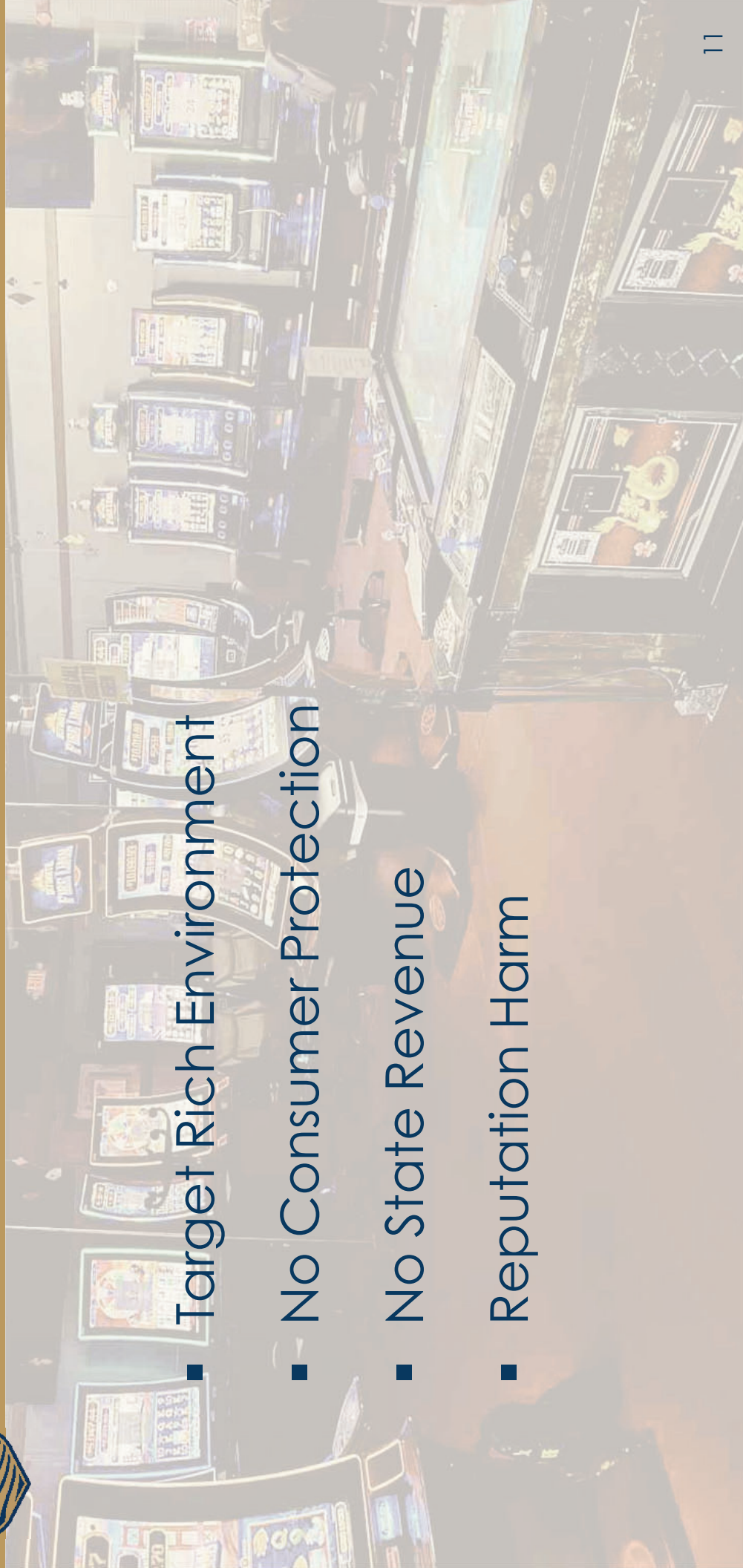
- 6 Arrests
- 5 Locations
- 1,046 Slot Machines
- \$910,000 Currency





# Harms

- Target Rich Environment
- No Consumer Protection
- No State Revenue
- Reputation Harm







# Successes

- 88 Operations
- 4,540 Illegal Machines
- 90+ Arrests
- 63 Firearms
- \$9.45 Million Currency
- 1 Kilo Cocaine
- \$1.75 Million in Vehicles
- 55+ Dogs Rescued
- \$500,000+ Jewelry



# Challenges

- Level of Offense
- Penalties
- Resources







[Contact@FLGaming.gov](mailto:Contact@FLGaming.gov)



850-880-3433



[FLGaming.gov/File-a-Report](http://FLGaming.gov/File-a-Report)

Henry Mahler, Legislative Affairs Director

[Henry.Mahler@FLGaming.gov](mailto:Henry.Mahler@FLGaming.gov)



**Thank You**





02/04/2025

# APPEARANCE RECORD

Illegal Gaming

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Regulated Industries

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Executive Director Ross Marshman

8509648981

Phone

Name

4070 Esplanade Way Suite 250

ross.marshman@flgaming.gov

Email

Address

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32399

City

State

Zip

☐

For

☐

Against

☒

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

☐

I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

☒

I am a registered lobbyist,  
representing:

Florida Gaming Control  
Commission

☐

I am not a lobbyist, but received  
something of value for my appearance  
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),  
sponsored by:

## PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](https://www.flcourts.gov/Portals/0/documents/Joint%20Rules.pdf)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

2/4/25

Deliver both copies of this form to  
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Key Jada (Sen)  
Committee

Bill Number or Topic

Illegal Gambling

Name

Daniel McGinn

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

(850)-214-5100

Phone

Address

106 E. College Ave Suite 1200

Email

dmcginn@joneswalker.com

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

☒

I am appearing without  
compensation or sponsorship.

☐

For

☒

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

☐

In Support

☐

Against

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This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**

Agriculture  
Banking and Insurance  
Fiscal Policy  
Regulated Industries  
Rules

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**

Joint Legislative Budget Commission

**SENATOR JIM BOYD**

*Majority Leader*  
20th District

February 4, 2025

Senator Jennifer Bradley  
Senate Committee on Regulated Industries  
404 South Monroe Street  
525 Knott Building  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Madam Chair Bradley:

I am writing to request approval to be excused from the Committee on Regulated Industries scheduled for today, February 4, 2025.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Boyd", is written over a light yellow rectangular background.

Jim Boyd

cc: Booter Imhof  
Susan Datres

**REPLY TO:**

- ☐ 717 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida 34205 (941) 742-6445
- ☐ 318 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5020

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**BEN ALBRITTON**  
President of the Senate

**JASON BRODEUR**  
President Pro Tempore



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

### COMMITTEES:

Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12  
Education, *Chair*  
Appropriations  
Appropriations Committee on Higher Education  
Education Pre-K - 12  
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and  
Domestic Security  
Regulated Industries  
Rules

### JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

### SENATOR DANNY BURGESS

23rd District

January 27, 2025

Senator Jennifer Bradley  
Chair, Committee on Regulated Industries

Dear Senator Bradley,

This is a request for an excusal from the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee on Regulated Industries. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danny".

Senator Danny Burgess  
The Florida Senate  
District 23

CC: Booter Imhof, Staff Director  
CC: Susan Datres, Committee Administrative Assistantn

### REPLY TO:

□ 38507 Fifth Avenue, Zephyrhills, Florida 33542 (813) 779-7059  
□ 411 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5023

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**BEN ALBRITTON**  
President of the Senate

**JASON BRODEUR**  
President Pro Tempore

**District Office**  
1380 Sarno Road  
Suite C  
Melbourne, FL 32935  
(321) 409-2025

**District Aide**  
Jade Zalewski  
[Zalewski.Jade@flsenate.gov](mailto:Zalewski.Jade@flsenate.gov)

**Legislative Aide**  
Tommy Unger  
[Unger.Thomas@flsenate.gov](mailto:Unger.Thomas@flsenate.gov)



**Tallahassee Office:**  
302 SOB  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 487-5019  
[Fine.Randy@flsenate.gov](mailto:Fine.Randy@flsenate.gov)

**Legislative Aide**  
Anna Budko  
[Anna.Budko@flsenate.gov](mailto:Anna.Budko@flsenate.gov)

**Randy Fine**  
**Florida Senate**  
Senator, District 19

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Jennifer Bradley  
Chairman of Regulated Industries Committee  
525 Knott Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chairman Bradley,

I respectfully request an excused absence from the Regulated Industries meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

cc:  
Staff Director Booter Imhof  
Administrative Assistant Susan Datres

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy A. Fine".

Randy Fine  
State Senator, District 19

Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Chair  
Community Affairs, Vice Chair  
Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining, Alternating Chair  
Brevard County Delegation





## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

### COMMITTEES:

Fiscal Policy, *Chair*  
Finance and Tax, *Vice Chair*  
Appropriations Committee on Health and  
Human Services  
Commerce and Tourism  
Criminal Justice  
Regulated Industries  
Rules

### JOINT COMMITTEES:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight  
Joint Legislative Budget Commission

### SENATOR JOE GRUTERS

22nd District

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January 31, 2025

Chair Jennifer Bradley  
525 Knott Building  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chair Bradley,

I would like to request an excused absence from the Regulated Industries Committee meeting scheduled on Tuesday, February 4th due to a prior engagement.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Gruters". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Gruters

### REPLY TO:

- ☐ 381 Interstate Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida 34240 (941) 378-6309
- ☐ 413 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5022

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**BEN ALBRITTON**  
President of the Senate

**JASON BRODEUR**  
President Pro Tempore



# CourtSmart Tag Report

**Room:** KB 412      **Case No.:** -  
**Caption:** Senate Regulated Industries Committee

**Type:**  
**Judge:**

**Started:** 2/4/2025 4:13:03 PM  
**Ends:** 2/4/2025 5:04:14 PM **Length:** 00:51:12

4:13:07 PM	Chair Bradley calls meeting to order
4:13:13 PM	Roll call
4:13:31 PM	Quorum present
4:13:37 PM	Senators Boyd, Burgess, Fine, and Gruters are excused
4:13:48 PM	Chair Bradley makes opening remarks
4:13:54 PM	Tab 1 - Presentation by Ross Marshman, Executive Director, FL Gaming Control Commission
4:14:14 PM	Ross Marshman presents on Illegal Gambling in FL
4:25:13 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo comment and question
4:25:46 PM	Mr. Marshman replies
4:26:08 PM	Back and forth in questions
4:26:32 PM	Mr. Marshman continues presentation
4:27:07 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo with question
4:27:40 PM	Mr. Marshman replies
4:27:55 PM	Mr. Marshman continues presentation
4:28:12 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo with questions
4:28:21 PM	Back and forth in questions
4:28:54 PM	Mr. Marshman continues presentation
4:34:54 PM	Chair Bradley in question
4:35:01 PM	Mr. Marshman replies
4:35:15 PM	Mr. Marshman continues presentation
4:40:04 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo question
4:40:16 PM	Mr. Marshman replies
4:40:26 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo with question
4:41:05 PM	Mr. Marshman replies
4:41:11 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo question
4:41:18 PM	Back and forth in questions
4:43:39 PM	Mr. Marshman continues presentation
4:44:08 PM	Questions:
4:44:13 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo
4:44:56 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:46:31 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo
4:47:35 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:48:43 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo
4:50:20 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:51:09 PM	Chair Bradley
4:51:55 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:53:03 PM	Chair Bradley
4:53:33 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:53:47 PM	Chair Bradley
4:53:51 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:54:20 PM	Back and forth in questions
4:56:41 PM	Vice Chair Pizzo
4:56:56 PM	Mr. Marshman
4:56:59 PM	Back and forth in questions
4:58:36 PM	Appearance Cards:
4:58:42 PM	Daniel McGinn
5:03:55 PM	Chair Bradley comments
5:04:04 PM	Senator Bernard moves to adjourn
5:04:07 PM	Meeting adjourned