

# Rota Casino Gaming Commission

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# Who We Are...

- ▶ The Rota Casino Gaming Commission ("RCGC") is a regulatory body established by public initiative through the enactment of the **Rota Casino Act of 2007** to authorize and oversee casino gaming on the island of Rota, commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- ▶ As the governing authority for the administration and regulation of casino gaming, the RCGC is empowered under the Act to promulgate rules and regulations, issue licenses, conduct investigations and hearings, impose fees, and enforce administrative orders necessary to carry out its statutory mandate.
- ▶ The Commission ensures that all gaming activities are operated with integrity, transparency, and accountability in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth and the principles set forth under the Rota Casino Act of 2007.
- ▶ Our goal is to foster responsible gaming, strengthen regulatory integrity, and promote economic growth and public trust for the people of Rota and the Commonwealth.

## COMMISSIONERS and STAFF

- ▶ **Viola Jeanne M. Hocog-Atalig - Chairperson**
- ▶ **Mateo A. Santos - Vice Chairperson**
- ▶ **Audrie Lynn T. Manglona - Secretary**
- ▶ **Lucas C. Mendiola - Commissioner**
- ▶ **Justin S. Manglona - Commissioner**
- ▶ **Executive Director - *Pending Hire***

### ▶ DIVISIONS AND UNITS

- ▶ PERMIT & LICENSING
- ▶ INVESTIGATION
- ▶ INSPECTION
- ▶ COMPLIANCE
- ▶ AUDIT
- ▶ FISCAL
- ▶ ADMINISTRATION
- ▶ HUMAN RESOURCES

**\*Note: No employees at this time. Positions have been created for future employment upon availability of funds.**

# OUR PROGRESS...

▶ **CASINO LICENSES** – *Conditional Casino Licenses* have been duly issued by the **Rota Casino Gaming Commission (RCGC)** pursuant to the **Rota Casino Act of 2007** to:

- ▶ **IH Corporation**
- ▶ **Rota Blue Incorporated, Ltd.**

- Both Licenses are authorized to operate **land-based and online casino gaming** within the Municipality of Rota, subject to the continuing compliance with the Act, its implementing Rules and Regulations, and all investigative and operational conditions imposed by the Commission.
- These Conditional Licenses remain effective pending completion of the Commission’s final investigative, financial, and technical evaluations, after which full licensure may be considered in accordance with Section 7 of the Rota casino Act of 2007.
- **Federal and International Compliance** – As Rota is part of the **commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI)** – a United States jurisdiction – the RCGC and its licenses are subject to both **Commonwealth and Federal Laws**, as well as relevant **international regulatory obligations** for online and cross-border gaming.
- **Key applicable frameworks include:** \***Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (AML/CFT):** Licenses must be compliance with the **U.S. Bank Secrecy Act (BSA)**, **FinCEN regulations**, and the **Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards** requiring AML programs, transaction monitoring, and **Suspicious Activity Reports (SARS)** as appropriate.
- **Internet and Interstate Gaming Restrictions:** \*The **Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act (UIGEA)** and the **Federal Wire Act** govern online wagering; licensees must ensure **geo-restricted access** to gaming platforms, limiting player participation to the CNMI or jurisdictions where such gaming is lawfully authorized and to prevent interstate or international wagering where not authorized by law.
- **Data Protection and Consumer Protection/Player Security:** \*Cross-border gaming operations must comply with international data protection frameworks such as the **EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**, **UK Data Protection Act**, **Philippine Data Privacy Act** to safeguard user information and ensure transparency.
- **International Sanctions and Financial Controls:** \* All licensees/Operators and Casino Service Providers (CSP) must adhere to **U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)** sanctions, regulations and global anti-terrorist financing rules, including the prohibition of dealings with sanctioned entities or countries, especially in the use of digital assets such as cryptocurrency or stablecoins transactions.

# OUR PROGRESS... (continued)

- ▶ The RCGC continues to coordinate with federal and international agencies to maintain full compliance and preserve the integrity of the Commonwealth's gaming sector. RCGC continues to ensure that all licensees and applicants integrate these requirements into their compliance frameworks as a condition to continued licensure and regulatory standing.
- ▶ **CASINO SERVICE INDUSTRY (CSP) LICENSES** – *Under the RCGC Rules and Regulations, Casino Service Providers* are individuals or entities that supply gaming-related equipment, software, or professional services to licensed casino operators. The following entities have **submitted and paid for their Casino Service Provider applications**, which are **currently under RCGC review**:
  - ▶ **IH Corporation**
  - ▶ **Rota Blue Incorporated, Ltd.**

Formal issuance of CSP licenses will follow upon successful completion of the Commission's **background investigations, financial evaluations, and compliance verification**, as required under the **Rota Casino Act of 2007**, the RCGC Rules and Regulations, and all applicable CNMI, Federal and International Standards.

- ▶ **LEGAL COUNSEL** – RCGC has retained legal services of **Attorneys Robert T. Torres and Viola Alepuyo** for its continued legal advisory support for regulatory drafting, compliance interpretations, and opinion reviews.

# OUR FINANCES...

The Commission’s operational funding was originally appropriated under Rota Local Law 23-15 and later amended by Rota Local Law 24-02, authorizing a total of One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$155,000.00). Under these laws, the **Rota Legislative Delegation (RLD)** maintained by the **Rota Municipal Treasurer**, for the repayment of salary compensation owed to previous and current RCGC Commissioners and to fund continuing legal, training, and operational expenses of the Commission.

**Financial Summary Table (Fiscal Year 2025) - see attached table**

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	ORIGINAL BUDGET AMOUNT	REPROGRAMMED ADJUSTMENT	REVISED AVAILABILITY (Start of Q4)	Q4 EXPENDITURE	CUMULATIVE EXPENDITURE (FY)	VARIANCE	% OF BUDGET USED
Personnel Salaries & Fringe Benefits	\$105,000.00	(\$ 90,825.00)	\$ 0.00 <small>(already fully spent Q2 &amp; Q3)</small>	\$ 0.00	\$ 14,175.00	\$ 0.00	100.00%
RCGC Operations, Equipment & Supplies	\$ 15,000.00	+\$29,748.07	\$ 38,708.17	\$ 20,970.25	\$ 27,010.15	\$ 17,737.92	60.36%
Training Expenses	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,881.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,119.00	\$ 6,881.00	54.13%
Legal Counsel	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 7,753.60	\$ 250.00	\$ 2,496.40	\$ 7,503.60	24.97%
RCGC Members Payment Special Account	\$ 10,000.00	+\$61,076.93	\$ 71,076.93	\$ 71,076.92	\$ 71,076.92	\$ 0.01	99.99%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$155,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$124,419.70</b>	<b>\$ 92,297.17</b>	<b>\$122,877.47</b>	<b>\$ 32,122.53</b>	<b>79.28%</b>