



NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

GAMING CONTROL BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board Reaches Settlement Agreement With Indiana Company

ALBUQUERQUE – February 8, 2005 – The New Mexico Gaming Control Board and Homier Distributing have reached a settlement agreement based on the Gaming Control Board's seizure of three machines from the Indiana based company, at a swap meet in Clovis, New Mexico. It is the Board's position that machines seized, qualify as slot machines under New Mexico law.

On October 30, 2004, agents of the Gaming Control Board seized the machines from Homier Distributing, an Indiana Company. Under the terms of the settlement agreement, which the Board approved at its February 8th regular meeting, Homier Distributing did not admit any violation of the law but agreed to forfeit the machines and pay a \$15,000.00 fine to the State of New Mexico, and the State agreed not to pursue any further criminal or legal action against Homier Distributing based on the seizure of the machines.

"Homier Distributing was cooperative during the investigation and negotiated a settlement in good faith. Homier Distributing acted as a responsible corporate citizen and should they choose to become a licensed distributor in this state, this action will not bar them from applying," said Acting Gaming Control Board Executive Director Greg Saunders. Mr. Saunders also extended thanks to Ninth Judicial District Attorney Matthew E. Chandler for his assistance in the resolution by appointing Gaming Control Board attorneys as special prosecutors.

The New Mexico Gaming Control Board was established by statute in 1997 and funded during the 1998 legislative session. It began operations in June of 1998. The Board is responsible for regulating legalized gambling at licensed racetracks and qualified veteran's and fraternal organizations of New Mexico. The Board is also responsible for overseeing New Mexico's tribal gaming compacts through the appointment of the state gaming representative. The Board has 57 employees, which include licensing and background specialists, compliance auditors, attorneys, and certified peace officers.

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