

# MISSOURI GAMING COMMISSION

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## Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MGC PSA: Consumer Protection Alert Rise in Fraudulent Online Casinos Targeting Missourians**

Jefferson City, Missouri – The Missouri Gaming Commission is issuing this Consumer Protection Alert to inform Missourians of a concerning nationwide trend that has made its way to Missouri. Fraudulent operators are falsely claiming that legitimate casinos in Missouri have launched online gaming platforms.

Advertisements have surfaced on social media feeds announcing Missouri Casinos are “going online.” The advertisements use genuine photos from the casino websites to represent the corporation and specific Missouri casinos.

Online casinos are illegal in Missouri. Any claims otherwise should be treated as highly suspicious. These scams not only put players at a financial risk, but they also undermine the integrity of Missouri’s regulated gaming industry. Due to their unregulated nature, MGC is unable to resolve complaints and disputes arising from unregulated and illegal gaming sites, leaving victims with little to no chance of recovering lost funds. It is important to remember that just because you can download the app, visit the website, and play the games, it does not mean it is a legitimate and legal gaming platform.

If you encounter fraud, identity theft, or suspicious online gaming operations impersonating a casino or claiming to be a licensed operator in Missouri, please take the following steps:

- 1. Document the website URL, app, business, and promotional materials.**
- 2. Report it to the Federal Internet Crime Complaint Center <https://www.ic3.gov/>**
- 3. Cease activity on the platform and monitor financial accounts for unauthorized transactions.**

Residents are encouraged to visit The Missouri Gaming Commission website to find a list of all regulated casinos, licensed fantasy sports operations, and charitable bingo games. [www.mgc.dps.mo.gov](http://www.mgc.dps.mo.gov)

The Missouri Gaming Commission is committed to protecting Missourians by ensuring legal gaming operations maintain public trust and confidence.