



CALIFORNIA GAMBLING CONTROL COMMISSION  
**INDUSTRY MATTERS**

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**CALIFORNIA GAMBLING CONTROL COMMISSION**  
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**APRIL – JUNE 2026**

<p><b>7 APR</b> <b>23 APR</b> <b>10:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Commission Licensing Meeting</b>                  2399 Gateway Oaks Drive                  Sacramento, CA 95833                  Hearing Room 100                  Livestream - cgcc.ca.gov</p>	<p><b>7 MAY</b> <b>21 MAY</b> <b>10:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Commission Licensing Meeting</b>                  2399 Gateway Oaks Drive                  Sacramento, CA 95833                  Hearing Room 100                  Livestream - cgcc.ca.gov</p>
<p><b>11 JUN</b> <b>25 JUN</b> <b>10:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>Commission Licensing Meeting</b>                  2399 Gateway Oaks Drive                  Sacramento, CA 95833                  Hearing Room 100                  Livestream - cgcc.ca.gov</p>	<p><b>Closed for State Holidays</b>  <b>25 MAY Memorial Day</b></p>	

**WHY THE COMMISSION CONDITIONS DEBT, AND HOW TO HANDLE CONDITION REPORTING**

While debt does not necessarily mean an applicant is not suitable for licensure, a large amount of delinquent debt can be an indicator that an applicant may not be financially responsible. Concern exists that if an applicant does not demonstrate financial integrity and responsibility in their personal affairs, the same could carry over to their professional affairs. As gambling establishments generally conduct business where there is a frequent exchange of cash, chips, and other easily convertible forms of currency, applicants’ finances are reviewed very closely by the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Gambling Control (Bureau) and the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission).

Another reason the Commission conditions debt is to minimize risk to the employer and the public. An employee with substantial debt could potentially pose a threat of theft or other occupational misconduct.

Because of the concerns debt may raise, the Commission may place conditions on an applicant’s license requiring them to satisfy their delinquent debts.

If your condition has a status update requirement, or if your renewal hearing is coming up soon, do not wait until the last minute to compile the condition information, as life happens, and there may be delays with the courts or other entities you may be requesting information from.

For information about your license condition, please contact the Commission at [licensinginfo@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:licensinginfo@cgcc.ca.gov). To request the removal of a condition, contact the Commission at [licensinginfo@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:licensinginfo@cgcc.ca.gov) and the Bureau at [BGCconditions@doj.ca.gov](mailto:BGCconditions@doj.ca.gov).

**REGISTER NOW FOR STAKEHOLDER TRAINING EVENTS!**

On February 13, the California Gambling Control Commission and the Department of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Control held the first in a series of in-person Stakeholder Training Events, which cover the background investigation and licensing process administered by the Bureau and the Commission.

In March, the Commission released additional training event dates and locations:

- April 9** — Fresno
- April 16** — Los Angeles
- May 12** — San Diego
- June 23** — Sacramento

[Click here](#) to register for a training event. For any questions, contact [stakeholdertraining@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:stakeholdertraining@cgcc.ca.gov).

## California Gambling Control Commission

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Edward Yee

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## REGULATIONS UPDATE: UPCOMING HEARINGS FOR ADVERTISING, ANNUAL FEE UPDATE, TRANSACTIONS; ANNUAL FEE PHASE II NOW IN EFFECT

The Commission is currently working on several rulemaking packages affecting the cardroom industry in California. For more information, and to sign up for the Rulemaking email list, please visit the [Regulations page](#) on the Commission's website or email [lawsandregs@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:lawsandregs@cgcc.ca.gov).

### Advertising

On March 3, 2026, the Commission held a hearing for the Advertising [regulations](#), where the Commissioners gave approval to move forward with a second version of changes to the regulations text. This was followed by a 15-day public comment period. Commission staff are currently working on responses to comment letters received in preparation for a Commission meeting in Spring 2026.

### Transactions

The informal comment period for the Transactions [regulations](#) ended on October 1, 2025. Commission staff are reviewing and considering edits to the draft regulations based on the comments received during the informal comment period. The draft text will be presented for discussion at a regulation workshop anticipated to take place in mid-2026.

### Multi-Owner Type Licenses

During their review, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) found sections of this package to be unclear and ambiguous, and as a result further changes are required. The Commission has withdrawn this package from OAL to make improvements needed to satisfy the Administrative Procedures Act, with the goal of ensuring this package is implemented as soon as possible.

### Annual Fee: Phase II

The Office of Administrative Law approved Annual Fee: Phase II and as a result, these [regulations](#) went into effect on April 1, 2026.

### 2026 Update to Annual Fees

The 45-day public comment period for the 2026 Update to Annual Fees [regulations](#) ended on February 9, 2026. Commission staff are preparing responses to comments received in preparation for a regulations hearing to take place in Spring 2026.

## USING ZOOM FOR YOUR EVIDENTIARY HEARING? HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP YOU PREPARE

Considering the vast size of California and that our applicants live all over the state, the Commission affords applicants the opportunity to attend their evidentiary hearing either in person in Sacramento, or online via Zoom.

For online hearings, applicants may contact the Commission's assigned presiding officer or the [administrative hearings coordinator](#) to request assistance setting up their Zoom for the hearing. Commission staff will assist applicants as much as possible with issues including Zoom help, internet access, appropriate location, or device to use. Applicants should also address any Zoom issues with their Designated Agent and/or their employer, as they may be able to offer assistance, such as a quiet location and computer to use for the hearing.

### **Ensure Exhibits Are Accessible**

Applicants should have access to exhibits during the hearing. For example, applicants can print the documents or view them from a second device so that they can see the exhibits being discussed during the hearing.

### **Prepare Witnesses**

Witnesses can join the meeting from any location using the Commission's Zoom link for public hearings. In some cases, witnesses will be placed in a Zoom waiting room until it is their turn to testify. Applicants can also contact witnesses to let them know that it is time for them to join the hearing to testify. Parties should provide the witness with copies of any exhibits they intend to use during questioning, or be prepared to share the document using the screen sharing function.

### **Be Professional**

Zoom allows applicants to attend GCA hearings in a less formal setting, such as from their own home. However, applicants should be cognizant that GCA hearings are still formal proceedings where Commissioners will view and listen to applicants to make determinations about character and credibility. Therefore, it is beneficial for applicants to ensure that their surroundings and appearance are appropriate for a formal GCA hearing.

### **Power and Device**

Zoom requires a computer, tablet, or phone, which requires a ready power source. In some cases, the battery for these devices may not be sufficient to power the device during the entirety of a GCA hearing. It is vital that an applicant have a power cable, charger, or battery handy. Depending on your device capability, it may also be prudent to have a second device within reach, just to be safe.

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions about an upcoming GCA hearing, please contact the Presiding Officer identified in your hearing notice; or the Commission's Administrative Hearings Coordinator, Pam Mathauser, at [pmathauser@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:pmathauser@cgcc.ca.gov) or Chief Counsel Jason Pope at [jpope@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:jpope@cgcc.ca.gov). Also, please check out the [Administrative Hearings FAQs](#) on our website.

### **HEARING DECISIONS**

*(Decisions Effective  
January 1 — March 31)*

**Key Employee License**

Jeffrey Geary, approved  
February 5

Louis Garcia, approved with  
condition March 19

The Commission's website has the schedule of [upcoming hearings](#), a record of all past evidentiary hearings and [decisions](#), and a [Hearings FAQ](#) page.

## **COMMISSION STAKEHOLDER SURVEY OUT NOW!**

As part of its [2024-2027 Strategic Plan](#), the Commission is continuing its 30-Second Stakeholder Surveys, which allow the Commission to receive valuable feedback from the public about the Commission's operations.

This quarter's survey is about the Commission's informational videos. The survey can be taken online [here](#).

You can sign up to receive the 30-Second Stakeholder Surveys, as well as all other Commission Correspondence/Notices, on the Commission's website [here](#).

## **HAIL AND FAREWELL**

The Commission welcomes **Gerrit Mueller** to its Information Technology Unit! Gerrit brings more than 15 years of hands-on information technology experience to the Commission, holds advanced business degrees from California State University, Sacramento, and will support the Commission's ongoing operational and modernization efforts. Welcome aboard Gerrit!

The Commission also welcomes **Chris Maio** to the Information Technology Unit! Chris has decades of experience working in IT for the state, including the State Controller's Office, the Department of Consumer Affairs, and the Secretary of State's Office. Chris will be running the IT side of the public hearings and contributing to day-to-day IT operations. Welcome Chris!

The Commission bids a fond farewell to **Josh Rosenstein**, who served as a Legislative and Regulatory Specialist for the Commission since 2012. Josh is joining the Department of Conservation with a promotion to Supervisor of their regulatory unit. Congratulations Josh!

At the end of February, Commissioner **Stacey Luna Baxter's** term expired, capping off over 10 years of service with the Commission, first as the Executive Director, then as a Commissioner.

Stacey is the longest-tenured Executive Director in Commission history, serving as Executive Director from 2015 to 2024, and then as a Commissioner since 2024.

During her tenure, she exemplified the idea that culture starts at the top: from cultivating a strong, positive work environment to supporting Commission staff's growth and development, all while working tirelessly to uphold the Commission's mission of protecting the public by ensuring integrity and justice in the controlled gambling industry through effective regulations and fair application of the law.

Stacey oversaw the implementation of three Strategic Plans and their associated objectives and projects, including a Mentorship Program, staff development through trainings and presentations, tutorial videos to guide applicants through the application process, educational resources for applicants and the industry, stakeholder training events, cardroom and tribal casino visits, and much more, in addition to guiding the Commission during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Commission gives its heartfelt thanks to Stacey for her many years of hard work and dedication serving the people of California, and wishes her all the best in her next chapter!

The California Gambling Control Commission and Bureau of Gambling Control are pleased to offer

# UNDERSTANDING THE STATE GAMING APPLICATION PROCESS

Learn the Process from Starting the Application to Receiving a Final Commission Decision

*Registration Now Open for Multiple Locations*

## Why Attend?

- ✓ Learn the Process from Start To Finish
- ✓ Learn Common Pitfalls
- ✓ Engage, In-Person, with Bureau and Commission Staff
- ✓ Ask Staff and Commissioners Questions

## Who Should Attend?

- ✓ Designated Agents
- ✓ Potential, Initial, and Renewal Applicants
- ✓ Staff Who Assist or Advise Applicants Through the State Gaming Application Process

Click or Scan the QR Code below for training date and location options for Los Angeles, San Diego, Fresno and Sacramento.



[stakeholdertraining@cgcc.ca.gov](mailto:stakeholdertraining@cgcc.ca.gov)