

To: All Current Small Games of Chance Licensees

From: Cumberland County Treasurer's Office

Date: November 16, 2020

Reason: Online Games of Chance

Due to an increased volume of questions regarding online small games of chance, we are reaching out to you to offer information and words of caution on conducting games of chance online. While we are not permitted to interpret the law, several issues arise when conducting online games. Such concerns may be: the ability to confirm that persons engaging in the game are over 18 years of age, the ability to collect cash as payment, and the ability to confirm that anyone participating in the game is doing so under the laws specific to Pennsylvania.

Organizations considering conducting any type of online small games of chance, including the sale of raffle tickets, should contact their legal counsel, or the PA State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement at (717) 540-7410 for specific guidelines to legally conduct online games of chance.

We know that this is a very challenging economic time for all nonprofit groups, and that many organizations are searching for ways to continue to support their services in Cumberland County. There is some discussion of an appeal being made to the Governor or members of the Legislature to find a way to remedy this problem. In the meantime, this is an issue that has been subject to scrutiny by enforcement officials and we would not want any Licensee to be caught unaware.