

**Kansas Lottery Gaming Facility Review Board**  
**Stephen Martino, Executive Director**

**For Immediate Release**  
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**KANSAS RACING AND GAMING COMMISSION TO LAYOFF, REDUCE HOURS  
FOR 21 STAFF MEMBERS, ACHIEVE 48 PERCENT SAVINGS ON SALARIES**

**Topeka, KS** - The Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission announced today it will lay off 11 staff members and reduce the hours of an additional 10 employees. The layoffs result from only one of the six anticipated state-owned casinos or racetrack gaming facility projects moving forward at this time. Positions affected by the layoff plan include enforcement agents, financial investigators, auditors and information technology and administrative staff.

“The KRGC made appropriate staffing decisions based on representations that gaming facilities would already be operating by now in Kansas,” Executive Director Stephen Martino said. “Those plans have not materialized, so we have to react accordingly.”

The Kansas Expanded Lottery Act provides for four state-owned casinos and two race track gaming facilities. Three of the four selected casino managers withdrew their applications, citing reasons like increased gaming competition and unprecedented turmoil in the economy that made financing the proposals difficult if not impossible. The two race tracks gaming facilities have never reached a gaming contract with the Kansas Lottery.

“With only the Dodge City casino projected to open this year, there is not enough on-going work to justify our current staffing levels,” Martino said. “While it is painful to reach these conclusions, it would be irresponsible to the people of Kansas and to those we regulate not to make decisions that reflect current reality.”

There are 20 classified employees and one unclassified employee affected by the layoff and hour reductions. Additionally, the agency recently has had seven other employees voluntarily end their employment and those positions will not be filled. The total savings per

pay period will be \$55,564. This represents a 48 percent reduction in the payroll expenses of the agency.

The Racing and Gaming Commission submitted the lay-off plan on December 19, and it was recently approved by the Kansas Department of Administration. The layoffs and reduction in hours will be effective February 7.

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