



STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD
DETROIT

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

RICHARD S. KALM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 19, 2016

Dear Qualified Organization Leaders:

Charities, suppliers, and the Michigan Gaming Control Board staff have worked together to ensure millionaire parties continue as a viable fundraising resource for qualified Michigan nonprofit organizations. Managing a millionaire party, and following the Bingo Act and Millionaire Party rules, is the responsibility of your organization and important to maintain the integrity of Millionaire Party Gaming.

Our agency has created an online [Millionaire Party Guide for Qualified Organizations](#). Each organization will need to sign the certificate of completion at the end of the guide to acknowledge you've read and understand the qualification and licensing processes and the rules for hosting events and reporting results.

To better serve the needs of your organization, the MGCB has improved internal processes, reducing the average application processing time in 2015 from 43 to 31 days--a 28 percent improvement. We've also opened the way for more millionaire party locations. Currently, millionaire parties are hosted at more than 50 locations throughout Michigan.

The MGCB staff appreciates your patience and cooperation as we inspect gaming events and conduct audits to ensure the funds raised are received by the charities for their charitable purposes. The MGCB is required to enforce state law to ensure the integrity of gaming and protect the public interest. We want the charities to succeed in their fundraising efforts in a safe and lawful manner while keeping the lawbreakers from tainting the good work of legitimate charities.

The MGCB has uncovered multiple instances of fraud and embezzlement associated with millionaire parties. We have taken enforcement action against suppliers and gaming locations that violated state law, and we have worked successfully with other state and local agencies to pursue charges against individuals who violate the Bingo Act or gambling laws. However, the penalties aren't strong enough to deter criminal violations and protect charities. Our agency will work with the Michigan Legislature to consider stronger penalties for Bingo Act violations to discourage unscrupulous people from taking advantage of nonprofit organizations holding millionaire parties.

You also can do your part by becoming educated about fraud prevention to avoid becoming a victim. We've put together a few basic [fraud prevention tips](#) for your review.

Our staff looks forward to working closely with you and wishes you continued success in millionaire party fundraising during 2016.

Sincerely,

/s/
Richard S. Kalm
Executive Director