



Gaming Industry

Williams Mullen has been in the forefront of gaming industry development in our region. We have played an important role in the creation of the laws and regulatory policies that govern the gaming industry in Virginia. Hon. David B. Albo, the chair of our Government Relations Practice, co-authored the Fantasy Contests Act (Senate Bill 646, 2016) while serving in the Virginia House of Delegates, helping Virginia to become the first state to regulate fantasy sports. He also assisted a client in obtaining one of the first Fantasy Contest Act licenses and helped his client navigate the certification of the online gaming platform and requisite background checks and regulatory review processes. Williams Mullen attorneys and government relations professionals also worked with a coalition of stakeholders to develop the legislation that authorized the Joint Legislative Audit Review Commission (JLARC) to study gaming in the Commonwealth (Senate Bill 1126, 2019). We lobbied for the development and passage of House Bill 4/Senate Bill 36 (2020), the legislation that authorized casino gaming in certain cities in Virginia. We have continued to work with local governments, casino interests and other parties to develop legislation that reflects recommendations of the JLARC report and includes best practices from other states while considering the needs of local governments. We have fostered strong relationships over the years with state agency and local government leaders impacted by this highly regulated industry.

As veterans of the legislative and political process, our team has deep insight and understanding of opportunities and challenges facing gaming industry clients. We can provide legal counsel to owners, operators and associated companies involved in the gaming industry. We have extensive experience addressing issues important to gaming industry constituents. We also represent other parties including investors, lenders and vendors that have gaming-related interests.

Our Gaming Industry Team works with lawyers and consultants from a variety of Williams Mullen practices to deliver comprehensive business and legal advice. Our ability to provide coordinated counsel in corporate, finance, securities, tax, labor, employment, immigration and other areas of law helps minimize the risks that can arise when using multiple law firms for legal services.

We can help gaming industry clients with a variety of areas including:

- Alcoholic beverage control laws
- Administrative law
- Construction law
- Contracts
- Corporate law
- Economic development
- Infrastructure financing
- Government relations
- Intellectual property protection
- Labor, employment and immigration
- Land use and zoning

- Litigation
- Real estate acquisition and leasing
- Sweepstakes law
- Tribal law

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