



Ronnie Jones, *Gaming Regulatory Consultant & Owner*, Public Safety Consulting Services

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Ronnie Jones is an experienced public safety professional, gaming regulator, educator and public speaker. Widely recognized as an expert in crisis communications both as a practitioner and consultant with 32 years of experience in providing instruction to governmental and private sector representatives in communications management. He was also a well-respected adjunct university instructor for more than 23 years.

Today Jones is a gaming regulatory consultant, a role he assumed in 2020 after closing out his 45th year of public service in Louisiana. In 2013 he was appointed Chairman of the 9 member Gaming Control Board but it was during his previous 33 year career with the Louisiana State Police that he first engaged gaming as public policy.

Jones was the primary legislative coordinator for State Police when riverboat and video poker gaming were first approved in 1991 and he participated in the debate and discussions which led to their final authorization. Thereafter, he was part of the senior executive team which established the regulatory structure and began issuing gaming licenses.

Later, as LGCB Chair, Jones led a casino gaming task force and pushed for the first substantive changes in casino law in nearly a quarter century. Based on the work of the task force the legislature amended the law and created a regulatory path for moving riverboat casinos onto land.

He and his board oversaw an industry which annually generated nearly \$4 billion in total net revenue and nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars in state fees. The board was responsible for maintaining public confidence in, and operational integrity of 15 riverboat properties, the land-based casino in the city of New Orleans, more than 2,000 licensed video poker establishments and four racetrack slot gaming facilities. His work also led to the coalescence of legislative support for legalization of sports betting in the state although it would be legalized after his departure. He played a key leadership role in providing for the resumption of gaming activities in the state after the COVID shut down.

Jones was named North American Regulator of the Year in 2017 by the International Masters of Gaming Law. He currently serves on the U.S. Compliance Committee at Entain and remains active in a number of gaming professional associations.



He is regular participant on industry panels and speaking engagements on a variety of diverse topics including ethics, human sexual trafficking, responsible gaming and crisis communications.