

## Media Release

22 March, 2013

### Court fines gaming venue for breaching EFTPOS cash out limits

A Dingley gaming venue operator who provided patrons EFTPOS transactions greater than \$200 has been convicted and fined in the Moorabbin Magistrates' Court.

The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) investigated gaming venue operator, Willetts D.I. Pty Ltd, after receiving a complaint from a patron. As a result of the investigation the venue operator was charged with breaching section 3.5.32(1) of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*.

The court heard that during the period 10 November 2011 to 18 February 2012 there were 71 transactions where the Dingley International Hotel allowed cash to be withdrawn from an EFTPOS terminal that was in excess of \$200. One patron was allowed by staff to withdraw amounts greater than \$200 in transactions totaling more than \$84,000.

The defendant pleaded guilty to 23 charges of allowing another person to provide cash facilities in the venue that allowed a person to withdraw more than \$200 and was convicted and fined \$45,000 with costs of \$350.

In Victoria, gambling laws mean the following restrictions apply to withdrawals made from EFTPOS facilities at a gaming venue:

- a limit of \$200 in any one transaction
- no cash advances from a credit account
- EFTPOS devices cannot be available within the gaming machine area of a venue for the purposes of withdrawing cash.

Venue operators that breach these restrictions can face fines of more than \$8,000.

"This decision serves as a reminder to all Victorian gaming venues to ensure they are complying with restrictions on the use of EFTPOS facilities," said Gail Owen, Acting Chair of the VCGLR.

"Venues have clear responsibilities in the service of responsible gaming. It is important for venues to comply with these measures and provide patrons with an opportunity to take a break from gaming before accessing cash from a cash facility."

For further information about gaming venues and EFTPOS restrictions please visit the VCGLR website.

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Media contact: Anita Jonceski on telephone (03) 9098 5133 or email [media@vcglr.vic.gov.au](mailto:media@vcglr.vic.gov.au)