

## For Immediate Release

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Contact: Media@FLGaming.gov

## Brevard County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Gaming Control Commission Shut Down Four Illegal Casinos in Brevard County

BREVARD COUNTY, Fla. — Last week, the Brevard County Sheriff's Office executed search warrants and shut down four illegal casinos. The Florida Gaming Control Commission assisted with the operation, confiscating 146 illegal slot machines and \$194,770 cash from these locations. Criminal arrests are pending for offenses related to the illegal facilities.

"We are grateful for the partnership we have with the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and the continued attention on investigating and shutting down these predatory illegal casinos," said Lou Trombetta, Executive Director of the Florida Gaming Control Commission. "Sadly, the money these unlicensed, unregulated facilities take in is essentially stealing from the patrons who frequent these establishments, and because they are unlicensed, there are no player protections or benefits to the community like regulated facilities."

While the money seized on-site by law enforcement personnel in this operation is significant, it does not represent the magnitude of funds that fuel these illegal gambling operations. Law enforcement personnel will continue to investigate illegal gambling across the state.

"Sheriff Ivey and his team have been excellent partners with FGCC in closing illegal gambling operations that continue to pop up in their communities, and they are determined to minimize the risks of these establishments and related criminal activity," said Carl Herold, Florida Gaming Control Commission Director of Law Enforcement. "Our Division of Gaming Enforcement agents will continue to investigate and partner with local law enforcement agencies throughout the state, and we encourage the community to continue reporting these illegal facilities to our team, or to their local law enforcement agency."

Citizen reports are important to share concerns about illegal gambling activities or facilities in Florida. Concerns can be reported online at <a href="mailto:FLGaming.gov/File-a-Report">FLGaming.gov/File-a-Report</a>, by email at <a href="mailto:ContactUs@FLGaming.gov">ContactUs@FLGaming.gov</a>, or by phone at 850-880-3433.

The mission of the Florida Gaming Control Commission is to preserve and protect the integrity of gaming activities in Florida through fair regulation, licensing, effective criminal investigation, and enforcement.