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Island View Casino Resort Now taking Sports Bets

Gulfport, MS. Rep. Richard Bennett, Gulfport city councilman Myles Sharp, Executive Director of the Port Authority, Jonathan Daniels, and Executive Director of the Mississippi Gaming & Hospitality Association, Larry Gregory, were among a group of dignitaries who placed the first bet as Island View Casino Resort opened its sports book facility at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 30. Sports betting will be available at both casino locations, North Casino and Beach Casino. The North Casino sports book is located between Carter Green Steakhouse and The View Showroom. The sports book location at Beach Casino is in the sports bar area behind the Beach Casino Stage.

Hours of operation will be Monday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Coming are sports betting kiosks and a mobile app that will allow customers to place wagers at Island View.

Island View's risk management partner is William Hill, one of the world's leading betting and gaming companies. William Hill was founded in the United Kingdom in 1934, and is listed on the London Stock Exchange. Richard Lyon will manage the sports betting operation for Island View Casino Resort. Lyon has over 40 years of experience in the gaming industry.

In 2017, the Mississippi Legislature passed the Daily Fantasy Sports Act and, at the same time, made slight modifications to two provisions of the Mississippi Gaming Control Act (effective July 1). This legislative action opened the door for sports betting and race book in Mississippi in the event PASPA was repealed or found unconstitutional. PASPA is the Professional Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992, a federal law, which prohibited states from authorizing sports betting (with the exception of certain states).

On May 14, 2018, the United States Supreme Court ruled striking down PASPA as unconstitutional. On August 29, 2018, the Executive Director of the Mississippi Gaming Commission (MGC) granted Island View Casino Resort permission to commence operation of its sports book.

Editor's note: for photos click here.