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PRESS RELEASE

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JOHN EDWARD MEALEY JR., ARRESTED

On Wednesday, August 6, 2008 Agents of the Nevada Gaming Control Board's Enforcement Division arrested John Edward Mealey Jr. at the Diamonds Casino in Reno for violation of an order of the Nevada Gaming Commission excluding Mealey from licensed gaming premises in the State of Nevada. Mealey was included on Nevada's List of Excluded Persons (commonly known as Nevada's "Black Book") in April of 2001 by a unanimous order of the five member Gaming Commission as a person of "notorious or unsavory reputation" whose presence in licensed gaming establishments would "adversely affect public confidence and trust that the gaming industry is free from criminal or corruptive elements." The final order from the Commission dated April 16, 2001 details Mealey's lengthy criminal history that includes arrests for forgery, distributing and conspiracy to distribute heroin and for slot machine cheating in 1989 and 1999. The final order further states, "The above mentioned convictions and arrests for cheating and corruption of the gaming industry, including but not limited to use of cheating devices, bribing and coercing casino dealers and slot personnel for the purpose of assisting him in his cheating schemes, as well as, MEALEY's deviant desire to quickly adapt his cheating methods to subvert the technological advances of gaming devices".

Gaming Control Board Enforcement Agents arrested Mealey on Wednesday for violating Nevada Revised Statute 463.155 that makes entry into “the premises of a licensed gaming establishment that conducts pari-mutuel wagering or operates any race book, sports pool or games, other than slot machines only”, a gross misdemeanor. Enforcement Agents conducting surveillance of Mealy during June and July, observed Mealey enter licensed gaming premises on multiple occasions to place sports book wagers. Mealey was charged with nine counts of violating NRS 463.155, each carrying a maximum penalty of up to one year in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Nevada’s List of Excluded Persons can be found on the Gaming Control Board’s website at: www.gaming.nv.gov. Currently, thirty four men and one woman are entered into the infamous “Black Book”. Prior black book members include Marshall Caifano, Anthony “Tony the Ant” Spilotro and Nicholas Civella. Notable current members include Dominic Spinale, Joseph Cusumano and Frank “Lefty” Rosenthal.

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