



### **Permits to Relocate Electronic Video Bingo Machines**

The Office of Charitable Gaming (“OCG”) has recently determined some permits issued under R.S. 4:724(J) were done so in error due to a misinterpretation of the statute. The error and misinterpretation only impacts licensed distributors who were issued permits to relocate electronic video bingo machines from an existing licensed location to a new licensed location.

OCG recognizes this error in statutory interpretation could result in inequitable treatment of similarly situated applicants. In order to avoid this result, OCG is providing the guidance below to resolve the misinterpretation of law and to bring the issues regarding any outstanding permit applications for the relocation of electronic video bingo machines under R.S. 4:724(J) to a full resolution.

1. Permit applications to relocate electronic video bingo machines [under R.S. 4:724(J)] from an existing licensed location to a new licensed location will be approved if the permit application meets the following requirements.
  - a. The permit application must be filed by a licensed distributor on or before July 16, 2021; and,
  - b. The licensed distributor shall have:
    - i. Purchased or entered into a lease agreement for a specific number of permitted and approved electronic video bingo machines to be placed at a specific location; or,
    - ii. Delivered or sent by certified mail a permit application with:
      - (a) The required fees to have electronic video bingo machines; and,
      - (b) Proof of an existing permit for the electronic video bingo machine(s) at the existing licensed location.
  - c. Replacement of an electronic video bingo machine is limited under R.S. 4:724(K) to electronic video bingo machines that were destroyed or rendered inoperable (replacement must be with an electronic video bingo machine of a similar make and model).
2. After July 16, 2021:
  - a. Electronic video bingo machines shall only be allowed at the approved licensed location listed on the permit issued on or before that date; and,
  - b. There shall be no transfers or relocations of electronic video bingo machines to any new licensed locations after this date.
3. Permits issued under R.S. 4:724(J) prior to June 24, 2021 (the date of this bulletin) will be honored by OCG for the licensed location listed on the permit.

The information above will ensure compliance with R.S. 4:724(J), which governs the conditions in which a permit can be approved and limits the locations where electronic video bingo machines can be placed. Contact the OCG via email at [ocg@la.gov](mailto:ocg@la.gov), or phone at 225-925-1835 or 1-800-562-9235 with questions regarding this OCG information bulletin.

**Kimberly J. Lewis**  
**Secretary, Louisiana Department of Revenue**

The Office of Charitable Gaming (OCG) has issued this information bulletin in compliance with La. R.S. 4:705(9) to familiarize the public and its external customers with provisions of the Charitable Gaming laws. This bulletin contains informal information but does not have the force and effect of law.