



Torrance Police Department

Notice of Prohibited Activities

For "Casino Night" Charitable Events



Introduction

Your Application for a "Casino Night" theme fund-raiser is subject to the laws of the State of California which prohibit gambling. The purpose of this notification is to provide you with some of the general guidelines about what constitutes gambling and what is prohibited under State law.

The City of Torrance vigorously enforces State laws prohibiting gambling and the law does not provide any exceptions because the event is conducted by a charitable organization. What is permissible under the law is a fund-raiser with a "theme" involving casino type games. However, the games must be conducted for fun and entertainment only and the participants in the games may not receive anything of value for winning.

The fact that an event might be conducted by a charitable organization for charitable purposes, in no way legitimizes the activity.

In general terms, gambling is defined as playing a game of chance and receiving money, credit or anything of value for winning. The following is a list of activities which are specifically prohibited by State law, and by signing this document you are agreeing to abide by all State laws involving gambling and specifically you are agreeing to not engage in any of the activities listed below.



Prohibited Activity

The following types of activities violate State law and are prohibited activities during any casino night fund-raiser.

1. Playing a game of chance for money or anything of value.
2. The redeeming of chips won in a game of chance for anything of value, including the acquisition of a raffle or lottery ticket or the ability to bid on merchandise.
3. The use of chips to enable extended play.
4. Slot machines.
5. Lotteries and Raffles – Section 319 of the Penal Code prohibits lotteries and raffles under the following circumstances.
 - a. The chance to win a prize purchased for money or other consideration and,
 - b. The winner is determined by chance.

These prohibited activities are by no means a complete list of activities prohibited under California Penal Code. If you are unsure, please check with your attorney or the Torrance Police Department, Vice and Narcotics Division, (310) 618-5709.

Date _____ Applicant _____