

There's an App For That: Gambling Changes Coming to Atlantic City

by CJ Griffin on August 17, 2012

Gambling in New Jersey has officially entered the digital age. Gov. Chris Christie recently signed a law authorizing the use of mobile gaming devices within New Jersey casino hotels.

The new law will allow patrons of hotels in Atlantic City to gamble outside the confines of the casino, i.e. while sitting by the pool, waiting for a dinner reservation, or simply walking around the property. The change is designed to make New Jersey casinos more competitive, as they continue to lose ground to gambling venues in surrounding states.

“We offer better scenery, better accommodations, better restaurants, and now, better gaming options, like handheld betting, which will allow guests to take their games along with them,” said Assemblyman John Amodeo (R., Atlantic). “This new law is another step toward setting Atlantic City apart from other destinations.”

The new mobile gambling law does of course come with certain restrictions. Pursuant to the amended New Jersey gaming law, devices will be owned and controlled by the casino, and the player must establish an account with the casino prior to placing a wager. In addition, any winnings must be paid in person within the hotel facility. To prevent unauthorized gaming, the mobile gaming device must be inoperable outside the hotel facility.

The New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement will also draft additional regulations designed to protect the integrity of the devices and to prevent unauthorized gaming by underage patrons. Safeguards such as PIN numbers have already been proposed as one requirement for the new devices.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this topic, please contact me, CJ Griffin, or the Scarinci Hollenbeck attorney with whom you work.