



FY2026

CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

COMMONWEALTH LOTTERY COMMISSION

WHO WE ARE

The Commonwealth Lottery Commission (CLC), is tasked to supervise, organize, and operate a public lottery in the Commonwealth. The public lottery shall be administered and operated to produce the maximum amount of net revenues for the Commonwealth consonant with the general welfare of the people. (Source PL 3-60, § 1; subsection (d) added by PL 18-20 § 2 (October 7, 2013) PL 3-60 took effect June 3, 1983).

Executive Order 2025-002 - Issued by Governor Arnold I. Palacios, was passed through the House and Senate transferring the authority for supervision of casino gaming from the Commonwealth Casino Commission (CCC) to the Commonwealth Lottery Commission (CLC)

PL 18-38 as amended by Public Law 18-43 then granted CNMI Lottery Commission to review applications.

PL 18-20 allowed video terminals to be part of the operation of a public lottery.

PL19-24 Section 10 (h) The power to issue Casino Licenses lies with the Commonwealth Lottery Commission.

OUR MISSION

To further promote and regulate the exclusive gaming license within the Commonwealth thus the restructuring of the economy will provide opportunities to the people, an economic future in the Commonwealth and eliminate the need for people to move away from our islands to achieve their personal goals.

COMMISSIONERS



TRACY B. NORITA
FORMER SECRETARY OF FINANCE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



REMEDIO MAFNAS
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
COMMISSIONER



ANTHONY MACARANAS
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER
COMMISSIONER



APPROVED LOTTERY
APPLICATIONS

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MEETINGS

3

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PROGRESS TO DATE

MAY 17, 2024 - EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER NORITA INTRODUCED HER CHANGES TO CURRENT CLC RULES & REGULATIONS

AUGUST 06, 2024 - AG MANIBUSAN SENT OAGDOF: 2024-290 - AG'S RESPONSE TO THE CLC'S PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS

OCTOBER 09, 2024 - PROPOSED REGULATIONS WERE APPROVED BY ALL (3) COMMISSIONERS, SIGNED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NORITA AND ROUTED TO THE SAA AND AG FOR SIGNATURE.

MAY 08, 2025 - THE COMMISSION RECEIVED THE DRAFT LOTTERY LICENSE APPLICATION FORM SUBMITTED BY THE DOF - EGAMING SECTION, REVISIONS WERE MADE AND APPROVED OF ALL CHANGES

JULY 14, 2025 - SENATE RESOLUTION 24-06 WAS ISSUED TRANSFERING ALL AUTHORITY FROM THE CCC TO THE COMMONWEALTH LOTTERY COMMISSION

OCTOBER 31, 2025 - COMMONWELATH CASINO COMMISSION TRANSFERED GOVERTMENT PROPERTY TO THE CLC

JUNE 28, 2024 - FINAL DRAFT OF PROPOSED CLC RULES & REGULATIONS WERE SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

AUGUST 14, 2024 - CLC MET & PROVIDED A NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLC RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PUBLICATION

OCTOBER 15, 2024 - THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PUBLISHED THE "PROPOSED AMENDMENTS: OF THE CLC RULES AND REGULATIONS

MAY 30, 2025 - GOVERNOR ARNOLD PALACIOS ISSUES EXECUTIVE ORDER 2025-002 TRANSFERING ALL AUTHORITY OF THE COMMONWELATH CASINO COMMISSION (CCC) TO THE CLC

OCTOBER 01, 2025 - LETTERS WERE SENT TO THE FORMER COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION REQUESTING TRANSFER OF PROPERTY

JANUARY 05, 2026 - COMMONWELATH LOTTERY COMMISSION, BEGAN OFFICIAL GOVT. TRANSFER OF CCC PROPERTY

LINKS TO FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS :

- [COMMONWEALTH REGISTER: ADOPTED PUBLIC NOTICE CERTIFICATION AND ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS - CLC](#)
- [SUBCHAPTER 70-50.1 - OPERATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LOTTERY RULES AND REGULATIONS](#)
- [SENATE RESOLUTION 24-06](#)
- [CLC FORMS](#)

EXPENSE

Since all public hearings and meetings were performed during normal government hours and on government premises therefore the CLC has had no expenses.

CHALLENGES

- In FY26 the Commonwealth Lottery Commission (CLC) established a collaborative foundation centered on solidifying administrative policies and restructuring of current operations. These internal enhancements remain critical as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) continues to adapt to a broader gaming landscape. Looking ahead into FY27, the Commission faces both structural transitions and leadership shifts. A notable challenge has been navigating operations following the departure of former Secretary of Finance Tracy B. Norita, who held the post of Executive Secretary for the Commonwealth Lottery Commission. Furthermore, the advent of a new administration signals once again a reset across Leadership.
- Executive Order 2025-002, which transfers authority from the former Commonwealth Casino Commission to the Commonwealth Lottery Commission. has left the Commission to manage this expanded scope particularly the integration of comprehensive regulatory oversight over merged gaming sectors which demands diligent review, planning and resource allocation.
- All of this in addition to the challenge that has been attracting and vetting qualified applicants for gaming licenses, ensuring that the process remains transparent, competitive, and in alignment with regulatory standards. This effort is vital to fostering a sustainable and responsible gaming environment that benefits the Commonwealth as a whole.

OUTLOOK

The Commonwealth Lottery Commission will continue with it's functions in collaboration with the Administration, the Attorney General's office, and the public in the best interest of the Commonwealth.