



## Arizona Department of Gaming

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### News Release

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### Authorities Continue to Prosecute Illegal Gambling in Arizona

(Scottsdale) – Two more individuals charged with illegal gambling saw their cases resolved in favor of the State of Arizona this month. Richard Brodie was charged with three counts of benefiting from gambling as a player in illegal poker games. On July 13, a jury in Scottsdale City Court found Brodie guilty on all counts. On July 22, Julia Piazza also pleaded guilty in Scottsdale City Court to benefiting from gambling. Both cases stemmed from a joint investigation by the Arizona Department of Gaming and the Scottsdale Police Department into “Deal Me In,” an illegal poker room that had been established at 7607 E. McDowell Road.

“I want to thank the Scottsdale Police Department and City Prosecutor Caron Close, for their commitment to enforcing Arizona’s gambling statutes,” said Mark Brnovich, Director of the Arizona Department of Gaming. “Protecting our communities from illegal gambling operations is a priority.”

Brodie and Piazza are two of six people charged during the course of the “Deal Me In,” illegal card room investigation. In June of this year, card dealer Brain Sitko was also found guilty of benefiting from gambling and possession of gambling devices. The club owner, Marc Adreani, is awaiting trial in September 2009.

For more information or to request an interview with Director Brnovich, contact Rick Medina, Policy and Communications Manager of the Arizona Department of Gaming at (602) 604-1801, ext. 206.

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