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News Release

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Tribal Gaming Contributions Continue to Support Arizona

PHOENIX — Arizona Department of Gaming announced today that tribal contributions to the state from gaming revenue will be approximately \$22 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2009. While this is a 9.4% decrease from the same quarter of last year, state gaming officials are maintaining a “big picture” perspective.

“Gaming operations are not immune to current economic challenges,” said Mark Brnovich, Director of Arizona Department of Gaming. “Nevertheless, these operations continue to generate significant funding for valuable programs.” Brnovich also noted that, “Current decline in tribal gaming revenue in Arizona is only about half of what is being reported at tourist destinations such as Las Vegas.”

The quarterly tribal contributions in the state Arizona Benefits Fund will be distributed as follows:

Instructional Improvement Fund/Education:	\$11,009,992
Trauma and Emergency Services Fund:	\$ 5,504,996
Arizona Department of Gaming operating costs:	\$ 2,000,000
Arizona Wildlife Conservation Fund:	\$ 1,572,856
State Tourism Fund:	\$ 1,572,856
<u>Problem Gambling Education, Treatment and Prevention:</u>	<u>\$ 442,055</u>
TOTAL tribal contributions for the quarter ended March 31, 2009:	\$ 22,102,755

The Arizona Department of Gaming, in partnership with Arizona’s tribes, regulates Indian gaming. Under the Arizona Tribal-State Gaming Compact, tribes with casinos contribute one to eight percent of their Class III gross gaming revenue to the state, cities, towns and counties. In Arizona, Class III gaming includes slot machines, jackpot poker, blackjack, keno and off-track pari-mutuel betting. There are currently 22 Class III casinos in the state.

Tribes send contributions to the state Arizona Benefits Fund every three months. Total tribal contributions to the State, Cities, Towns, and Counties are projected to be near \$100 million for the State's fiscal year 2009.

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