



WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE Monday, October 9, 2023

VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL CASE DISMISSED

One day before it was scheduled to go to trial, a Cole County judge dismissed a lawsuit on Oct. 2 challenging the legal authority of the Missouri State Highway Patrol to seize unregulated gaming devices, saying the case isn't the proper mechanism for resolving the dispute.

The devices known as video lottery terminals (VLTs) have proliferated around the state in recent years and

are found in many convenience stores, bars and other locations.

However, the Highway Patrol and Missouri Gaming Commission consider them to be illegal slot machines. Torch Electronics, one of several companies that distribute the machines, sued the state two years ago in an attempt to get a judicial determination that the devices are legal.

During a hearing on the eve of trial, Circuit Judge Dan Green declared the civil case won't go forward and said the Patrol's authority would better be challenged in a criminal proceeding. While there have been successful prosecutions over the devices in some jurisdictions, other county prosecutors have taken the position their legality is open to interpretation and declined to file charges.

The status of video lottery terminals has proven to be a controversial issue in the legislature for several years, with some lawmakers wanting to clarify state law to resolve any doubts that the machines are illegal and others advocating for their legalization and regulation.

The lack of action on VLTs has derailed efforts to legalize sports gambling in Missouri, as certain senators have refused to allow sports gambling legislation to pass without action on VLTs.

Green's decision is expected to be appealed.

The case is *Torch Electronics, et al., v. Missouri Department of Public Safety, et al.*

WAGNER APPOINTED TO COMMISSION

Gov. Mike Parson on Sept. 29 appointed Ray Wagner of Town and County to the Missouri Conservation Commission, the independent body that oversees the state Department of Conservation.

Wagner is the husband of U.S. Rep. Ann Wagner who represents parts of the St. Louis metro area in Congress.

He recently has been serving as a senior advisor to Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey. He previously was senior vice president of global government and public affairs for St. Louis-based Enterprise Holdings.

Wagner replaces Barry Orscheln whose term expired in July on the four-member Conservation Commission. He can begin serving immediately but must be confirmed by the state Senate when it reconvenes in January to remain in the post.

PROSECUTOR HIRES NEWLY RETIRED JUDGE

After just two months in retirement, former Supreme Court Judge George Draper III is joining the St. Louis City Circuit Attorney's Office in the newly created position of chief training officer as the office rebuilds its roster of lawyers.

Draper stepped down from the state high court Aug. 4 as he was about to turn 70, the mandatory judicial retirement age in Missouri.

Circuit Attorney Gabe Gore announced the hiring during an Oct. 3 news conference, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Gov. Mike Parson appointed Gore to lead the office following the May resignation of Kim Gardner, whose controversial tenure resulted in an exodus of experienced prosecutors and a backlog of cases.

Draper previously spent a decade working in the St. Louis Circuit Attorney's Office but left in 1994 upon receiving the first of several judicial appointments that culminated with his 12-year tenure on the state Supreme Court.

In his new role, Draper will help recruit and mentor lawyers who join the office.

PUBLIC WORKS

CITYWIDE DROP-OFF

In District 5

Saturday, October 14
8AM – Noon
For All KC Residents



For more information: Call
Robert Woods at 816-513-8442

Southeast High School, 3500 E Meyer Blvd
Leaf & Brush, Tires, Trash & Bulky Items

Center Academy for Success, 8434 The Paseo
Leaf & Brush, Trash & Bulky Items, Tires, Shredder, Electronics

Ruskin High School, 7000 East 111th St.
Leaf & Brush, Trash & Bulky Items, Tires, Shredder, Electronics

3001 East 81st St.
Leaf & Brush, Trash & Bulky Items

ELECTRONICS PRICE LIST

(CENTER ACADEMY FOR SUCCESS AND RUSKIN HIGH SCHOOL LOCATIONS ONLY)

CRT Computer Monitors **(\$5)**

LCD TVs **(\$20)**

Plasma Screen TVs **(\$20)**

Console/Projection TVs **(\$30)**

CRT TVs **(\$30)**

Additional Electronic Items Accepted at No Cost!

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PUBLIC WORKS

DROP-OFF IN THE 6TH DISTRICT

For more information: Call
Robert Woods at 816-513-8442

Saturday, October 21
8AM – Noon
Open to all KC residents



South Broadland Presbyterian Church, 7850 Holmes, 64131

Tires, Trash & Bulky, Leaf & Brush, Shredder, Electronics

First Baptist Church of Kansas City, 100 Red Bridge Rd, 64114

Tires, Trash & Bulky, Leaf & Brush, Shredder, Electronics

ELECTRONICS CATEGORIES

COMPUTERS AND ACCESSORIES

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SERVERS & DATA CENTER

MOBILE DEVICES

OFFICE ITEMS

ELECTRONICS PRICE LIST

CRT Computer Monitors (\$5)

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Plasma Screen TVs (\$20)

Console/Projection TVs (\$30)

CRT TVs (\$30)

Additional Electronic Items Accepted at No Cost!



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South KC Food Pantries

South Kansas City is fortunate to have several food pantries to help less-fortunate residents have enough healthy food to eat. These include:

Community Assistance Council, 10901 Blue Ridge Blvd. on the north end of the Ruskin High School campus, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Persons should call 816-763-3277, ext. 100, or email info@cackc.org for appointments or questions.

Red Bridge Area Food Pantry, 100 W. Red Bridge Rd. in the First Baptist Church of Kansas

City, from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday each month. Persons must call 816-908-7800 for appointments by the prior Wednesday.

Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that serves as its mobile food pantry to seven sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

Center School District, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. as long as food is left on the first Saturday of the month. Persons should drive through the bus parking lot to the district warehouse. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

Center District Warehouse, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Friday of each month. Persons should go to the entrance to the Center Administrative Office and drive through the bus parking lot to the warehouse where volunteers will load the food. Persons should take the Troost Ave exit. The event is sponsored by the Center Education Foundation in partnership with the Center School District.

Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food will be brought to them.

United Believers Community Church, 5600 E. 112th Terr., with vehicles lining up at 8:30 a.m. and contactless food distribution running from 9 to 11 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 4 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and staff and students will load the food when vehicles reach the school.

Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for volunteers to put the food in.

Red Bridge United Methodist Church, 636 E. 117th St., from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in the church parking lot.

Serve and Lift Center – South KC, 8001 Longview Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and

Thursday. Walk-in, call for an appointment or order online
at <https://catholiccharities-kcsj.org/pantry/>



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**Please don't hesitate to contact me
with any feedback, questions or ideas!**