

GUN LAKE TRIBE CASINO-RELATED TIMELINE

June 27, 1999	<p>Kevin Flynn sells Indiana-based Blue Chip Casino to Boyd Gaming Corporation. Boyd retains Flynn's services to delay opening of southwestern Michigan Pottawatomi tribal casinos for five years.</p> <p>This arrangement eventually leads to lawsuits filed by Michigan Gambling Opposition (MichGO), Taxpayers of Michigan Against Casinos (TOMAC) and Citizens Exposing Truths About Casinos (CETAC) in state and federal courts against the three SW Pottawatomi tribes' casinos. All lawsuits were filed by Warner Norcross & Judd, firm of record (Mich. SOS) for Flynn's company.</p>
August 23, 1999	<p>Gun Lake Tribe (the "Tribe") receives federal recognition under the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Branch of Acknowledgment and Research.</p>
2000	<p>Community meeting on Gun Lake Casino at Wayland High School. Casino opponents shout racist insults at Tribal representatives. The same casino opponents form a group called West Michigan Gambling Opposition, subsequently renamed "MichGO." The Grand Rapids Press later reports MichGO's connections to operatives for the Blue Chip Casino.</p>
2001	<p>Local citizens form a group called Friends of the Gun Lake Indians (FOGLI) to protest the behavior of casino opponents. FOGLI grows to over 10,000 members that support job creation and fairness for the Tribe.</p>
2001	<p>Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce announces opposition to the Tribe's governmental gaming project. GR Chamber decision was made without an economic impact analysis, and no communication with the Tribe. GR Chamber members form Community Partnership for Economic Growth (CPEG) to lobby against the Tribe's proposed casino.</p>
August 2001	<p>The Tribe submits land-into-trust application to the federal government to re-establish reservation lands for the purpose of economic development under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.</p>
December 2002	<p>Michigan Legislature passes a resolution asking Governor John Engler to sign a Class III compact with the Gun Lake Tribe. Although Gov. Engler declines to sign the compact due to a perceived conflict of interest, he issues a letter urging his successor to sign the compact, noting that the Gun Lake Casino is inevitable because the Tribe had achieved federal recognition.</p>
November 2003	<p>The Tribe and Station Casinos announce a management agreement for the Gun Lake Casino.</p>
2004	<p>CPEG becomes 23 is Enough, a group of wealthy Grand Rapids businessmen. The group lobbies at the state and federal level against the Gun Lake Casino</p>
March 2004	<p>Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) issues a Finding of No Significant</p>

	Impact (FONSI) for the 147-acre site of the proposed casino.
December 2004	Kevin Flynn receives \$5 million bonus from Boyd Gaming for delaying gaming competition from Gun Lake, Huron and Pokagon Tribes for five years. Subsequent news reports indicate that 23 is Enough stepped in to fund MichGO efforts against the Gun Lake Tribe.
May 13, 2005	Department of the Interior publishes Notice of Determination to take the Tribe's land into trust in the Federal Register, making the federal government's decision to approve the casino final.
June 13, 2005	MichGO, represented by Warner Norcross & Judd file lawsuit against the Bush administration for approving the Tribe's proposed casino.
January 6, 2006	Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians wins appellate lawsuit filed by TOMAC. The case is nearly identical to MichGO's, setting important legal precedent for the Tribe's lawsuit at the appellate level.
October 23, 2006	Federal government (Department of Justice) informs MichGO that it intends to take the Tribe's land into trust on Jan. 5, 2007. (Date is subsequently moved to March 5, 2007).
November 2006	Federal District Court Judge John Garrett Penn schedules oral arguments for MichGO lawsuit in response to DOJ trust announcement.
November 29, 2006	MichGO lawsuit argued before Judge Penn.
February 23, 2007	Federal District Court rules in favor of the Tribe and the United States in the MichGO lawsuit. Penn decision states that the Tribe is suffering irreparable economic harm caused by the lawsuit's delay, and Tribe is badly in need of economic relief.
March 5, 2007	Federal District Court grants MichGO's motion to stay (delay) the land going into trust pending the outcome of an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (Washington, D.C.).
March 9, 2007	Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signs the Gun Lake Casino Class III gaming compact with Tribal Chairman D.K. Sprague; compact requires approval by the Michigan Legislature.
July 3, 2007	Huron Potawatomi wins CETAC lawsuit at the Washington, D.C. court of appeals; second of the nearly identical lawsuits to MichGO appeal.
August 8, 2007	Michigan House of Representatives approves the Gun Lake Casino compact; Michigan Senate vote still pending.
August 23, 2007	Gun Lake Tribe celebrates its 8 th anniversary of Federal Recognition (Federal Recognition Day).
October 19, 2007	MichGO lawsuit argued before panel of three appellate judges in Washington, D.C.
April 29, 2008	U.S. Court of Appeals (Washington, D.C.) issues decision in favor of the Tribe, dismissing lawsuit filed by MichGO.
January 21, 2009	U.S. Supreme Court denies MichGO petition for certiorari.
January 30, 2009	United States takes land in trust on behalf of the Gun Lake Tribe.