



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Taryn Duffy, Empire City Casino 914-457-2431, [tduffy@empirecitycasino.com](mailto:tduffy@empirecitycasino.com);  
John Cirillo, Cirillo World 914-457-2431, [johnnycigarpr@aol.com](mailto:johnnycigarpr@aol.com);  
Cathy Chan, Studio V 212-779-2288 [Kathy@studiov.com](mailto:Kathy@studiov.com)

Photos Credit: Sean Hamrock

## Members of Media Get Tour of Empire City Casino's \$50 Million Expansion With Innovative Technology, Empire City Re-Invents the Traditional Casino

**January 31, 2013** – Members of the media received a personalized tour of the long-awaited 66,000 square foot expansion at Empire City Casino on Thursday. **Timothy J. Rooney, Jr.**, General Counsel at Empire City hosted the tour of the expansion highlighting the iconic new casino entrance featuring a porte-cochere sculptural covered entrance, the largest 'window' in the Northeast, a 300 foot long and 27 foot high depiction of the New York City skyline made entirely of nails, a new gaming floor with nearly 700 slot machines, and a sneak peak of two soon-to-be-completed new restaurants.

"We are proud to be Yonkers' largest private employer with nearly 1,200 employees and we are committed to this community," said **Rooney**. "As we grow and expand everyone benefits. By investing in Yonkers and Empire City, we create new jobs and provide critically needed revenue for our schools, communities and state during difficult economic times."

Designed by **STUDIO V** of New York City, the new architecture of Empire City is a drastic departure from ordinary casino design. A dramatic curved facade features over 45 feet of frameless low iron glass in a 300-foot arc that creates a backdrop to the entry canopy and a window onto the interior of the casino. This jaw-dropping display is the largest structure of its kind in North America. **LPCiminelli** of Buffalo, served as the general contracting firm on the entire \$50 Million project.

**Jay Valgora**, the principal and founder of STUDIO V Architecture, describes the design: "At Empire City Casino, we set out to re-invent the modern casino. Our design features a four-story high arc of frameless glass to project the energy of the casino onto the building exterior, while bringing the drama of the landscape and architecture into the gaming hall. The façade forms a backdrop for a dramatic port cochere utilizing exotic structural systems and innovative materials."

High above the 35,000 square-foot gaming floor rests laser-cut steel "clouds" covered with di-chroic glass discs. These "clouds" offer a radically new interpretation of the traditional chandelier to illuminate the modern gaming floor. Lining the walls of the glistening room is the powerful image of the New York City skyline outlined as a sophisticated nail wall. The Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges, the Statue of Liberty, and The Empire State Building are prominent features among the abstract urban landscape.

Two new restaurants will encompass a large portion of the expansion as well. *Pinch* will be an innovative premium casual American grill and *Dan Rooney's Cafe & Bar* will be a fun take on the classic Irish pub. Both restaurants will offer a casual dining experience with premium food. **Brian Ingram**, General Manager of Pinch and Dan Rooney's, was on hand to provide in depth details of both restaurants, highlighting the extensive beer program at Pinch that will include 100 New York craft beers on tap – a significant component that will undoubtedly increase jobs in the brewing industry across the state.

-more-

## Members of Media Get Tour of Empire City Casino's \$50 Million Expansion

Page Two

January 31, 2013

Contact: Taryn Duffy, Empire City Casino 914-457-2431, [tduffy@empirecitycasino.com](mailto:tduffy@empirecitycasino.com);  
John Cirillo, Cirillo World 914-457-2431, [johnnycigarpr@aol.com](mailto:johnnycigarpr@aol.com);  
Cathy Chan, Studio V 212-779-2288 [Kathy@studiov.com](mailto:Kathy@studiov.com)

"We've filled nearly half of the 200 jobs created through the development of these two restaurants," said **Ingram**, "but we are still hiring to fill another 100 positions. We're looking for experienced candidates for all front and back of house positions, from managers, bartenders and servers, to cooks, dishwashers and more."

**Michael Palmieri**, Director of Video Gaming Operations at Empire City, is responsible for the design, structuring and maintenance of the entire casino floor and also participated in the tour. Palmieri provided attendees with an overview of what it takes to keep a casino of this size, having more slots than most other casinos in the country, fresh and exciting for customers.

This expansion has created more than 100 construction jobs and ultimately 200 permanent jobs when complete, giving a shot in the arm to regional economic development. Empire City Casino continues to work in partnership with New York State to generate the revenues needed to support our schools, government, and the agricultural and racing industries that sustain tens of thousands of jobs. We are very proud that in just six short years, Empire City has generated \$1.6 billion for state education through the Division of Lottery, and another \$500 million for local and state governments and the racing industry. Combined, that's more than \$2 billion dollars of revenue that serves to help reduce property taxes for state residents.

### ***About Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway***

Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway features: 5,300 slot machines, electronic roulette, craps, sic bo and baccarat tables, Italian dining in Nonno's Trattoria, and trackside dining in the Empire Terrace Restaurant, which overlooks the track for live harness racing, as well as the International Food Court and its wide-ranging menu. The multi-faceted Good Time Room is available for parties, benefits, weddings, and major events for up to 400. Empire City Casino is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue) in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County, (I-87 to Exit 2). Empire City Casino is open seven days a week, every day from 9:00am to 4:00am.

### ***About LPCiminelli***

Founded in Buffalo, N.Y. in 1961 LPCiminelli has been achieving award winning results for institutional and commercial clients for 50 years. The company, an ISO 9001:2000 certified firm, offers a full range of construction services including program management, construction management, general contracting and design-build. Focused mostly in the Northeast, LPCiminelli has expanded its geographic reach to deliver projects across the country as well as to several international locations. The company has been recognized for many of its projects, winning an unprecedented seven Build New York Awards and a prestigious Build America award.

### ***About STUDIO V Architecture***

In just six years, STUDIO V Architecture has grown to be one of the most innovative new architecture firms in New York City with a highly diverse range of work. The firm's design philosophy insists that every project is a different expression of a unique place and encompass a range of unconventional approaches to structure, materials, form, and lighting. The Studio's designs focus on the expression of contemporary culture in the urban environment. This spectrum of work has recently garnered the firm a great deal of media attention including the featured "Studio Visit" in the most recent issue of Architect's Newspaper. The firm is also the Master Plan and Design Architect for the Macy's Herald Square renovation, which was named the Top 2012 Retail Project by Architectural Record.

(PHOTOS BELOW)

###



Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway, 810 Yonkers Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10704 914-968-4200



Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway, 810 Yonkers Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10704 914-968-4200