



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2016

Media Contacts:

Justine DiGiglio, Justine@nicholaslence.com, (212) 205-6632

Josh Knoller, Josh@nicholaslence.com, (212) 938-0836

**Empire City Casino Celebrates Ten Years of Entertainment,
Economic Development and Education**

Yonkers, NY – Throughout October, Empire City Casino is celebrating its tenth anniversary as a vibrant entertainment destination, an economic engine for the city of Yonkers and county of Westchester and a major source of education funding for New York State.

Since opening as a casino in 2006 and undergoing a \$50 million expansion in 2013, Empire City Casino has created over 1,350 quality local jobs, generated hundreds of millions of dollars in direct and indirect spending and employed the use of local and state vendors to keep New York dollars in New York. Last year in Westchester alone, Empire City Casino invested over \$10 million with local contractors and suppliers the casino uses in delivering a top tier experience. Statewide in 2015, Empire City Casino generated more than \$825 million in economic output.

Empire City Casino's greatest contributions to the public relates to education, averaging nearly \$300 million per year in state education funding or over \$2.71 billion in total since the casino opened its doors to their eight million annual visitors. The \$2.71 billion represents nearly 50 percent of what all nine Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) casinos in New York State have generated for state education funding combined over the last decade.

As a priority, Empire City Casino is generous in its charitable giving, supporting hundreds of local causes and organizations throughout the year, including the upcoming annual JDRF Walk for Diabetes on Sunday, October 23rd that has raised over \$2 million since Empire City Casino started hosting the annual event four years ago. In 2015 alone, Empire City Casino supported all kinds of charitable organizations with more than \$1 million in cash donations and sponsorships.

For the past decade, people have been flocking to the casino from Yonkers to Kingston, from the Verrazano to the Tappan Zee bridges, not just to win a jackpot but for the wide variety of constant entertainment and events that the casino offers.

In addition to the ongoing monthly entertainment like Latin Night, where one Saturday a month there's a Latin takeover of The Red Room featuring world renowned Latin DJ's and the twice monthly Comedy Night featuring a-list headliners, the casino will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary throughout the month of October with giveaways, events and more.

On October 10th the first 5,000 Empire Club Members who visited the promotions booth at the casino received one FREE Empire City Casino 10th Anniversary T-shirt and President Club Members received a commemorative limited edition jacket. In addition, Empire City Casino is also hosting \$20,000 cash giveaways each Monday in October or \$100,000 total in celebration of the casino's 10th anniversary.

-more-

Here is a roundup of additional exciting activities being held at the casino throughout the month of October:

- **International Trot (October 15th)**

On Saturday, October 15th, 10 of the world's finest harness horses will compete to win a \$1 Million purse in the International Trot being held at Empire City Casino's Yonkers Raceway. A world-class event, the International Trot returns for the second consecutive year after a 20-year hiatus. Horses and drivers representing a wide range of countries will compete to win the richest purse in the history of the famed Yonkers Raceway.

- **Oktoberfest (October 15th)**

New York City's Polka Sensation, "The Polka Brothers," is a four man band who will perform throughout the day during the International Trot. Out to spread the joy of polka, one wild party at a time, they are a well-oiled polka machine, playing classic polka favorites, pop and rock gone polka, and unforgettable originals. They have performed at bierhauses all over New York City and are now making their debut at Empire City Casino. In addition, the casino will be serving food and drinks all day from their Oktoberfest-themed menu which will include more than 15 fall inspired beers and a wide range of traditional German dishes to enjoy during the festivities. Highlights from the menu include: a brand new beer, New Belgian Cranberry Pumpkin; a traditional German beer, Franziskaner Hefe-weisse; authentic dishes such as Schnitzel Hoagie, Bierwurst, Soft Pretzels and more.

- **"Since Day One" 10th Anniversary Party (October 19th & 20th)**

On October 19th and October 20th from 7pm-10pm, more than 400 selected active Empire Club members that have played at Empire City Casino since opening 10 years ago from day one will be invited to a special cocktail party in the casino's Red Room with music, food, drinks and more.

- **JDRF (October 23rd)**

For the fifth year, Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway will host their annual JDRF's One Walk on the track on Sunday, October 23rd. Thousands will come out and walk and raise funds that will help JDRF find a cure. Registration opens at 9 AM and the walk begins at 10 AM. The casino has raised \$2 million over the past four years from their walk site.

For more information on Empire City Casino and upcoming events, please visit www.empirecitycasino.com.

###