



Doing Business in Dominican Republic

Establishing Casinos and Gambling Houses

I. Introduction

The establishment of Hotels in the Dominican Republic requires the assistance by qualified Dominican Legal Counsel that is certified to act before the Ministry of Tourism (MT), who will represent the petitioner and follow up throughout the tourism business license application process.

Dominican Tourism Regulations are updated every year and requirements often change without notice. The MT reserves its right to request additional information and short periods of time are provided to the requesting party to cure or satisfy any missing original documents or information in the form required by the MT.

Dominican Tourism license approval often depends on proper filing of legal documents proving Dominican legal entity existence, identification of owners, activities description, place, service level conditions, among others.

I. Dominican Casino and Gambling Laws

Dominican Republic Tourism Ministry Law 351 of August 6, 1964 and its amendments authorizes the issuance of Licenses to Gambling Establishments and regulates their functioning. The license application shall be filed before the Ministry of Finance with the following information: (a) indication of the games to be installed; (b) admission rules to the game rooms and the admitted maximum bets; (c) opening and closing hours.

Once the gambling operation has been authorized, a summary of the same shall be published in a nationwide newspaper and it shall be under the vigilance of the Ministry of Tourism.

Law 96 of 1988 allows gaming houses to install slot machines and may operate in any type of currency.

Questions about this information can be directed to Our Team at 809.472.2222 (info@aclaw.com) or to our lead contact Felipe Isa Castillo (fcastillo@aclaw.com).

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