

NEWS RELEASE
ATTORNEY GENERAL MIKE MCGRATH
STATE OF MONTANA

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CONTACT: Lynn Solomon, 444-0582 or Judy Beck, 444-5774

Montana Online Service Wins National Award

HELENA – The Center for Digital Government recently recognized a Montana Department of Justice online service in its 2008 Best of the Web Digital Government Achievement Awards.

The Gambling Control Division's Video Gambling Machine Service earned a "government-to-business" award. The service allows customers to submit meter readings, enter tax payments, submit permit applications, enter letters of withdrawal and renew annual permits online. The service is accessible at www.mt.gov.

"Online service has been a winner for the Division as well as the people we regulate and collect taxes from," Gene Huntington, Gambling Control Division administrator, said. "The Division has gotten more reliable and accurate tax reporting and it's been a big improvement for the gaming industry as well, in terms of convenience and efficiency."

The Best of the Web awards recognize agency and department services that enhance the ways constituents do business online. This year's award marked the sixth time the Center for Digital Government has recognized a Montana state government online service.

The Center for Digital Government is an international research and advisory institute that focuses on the use of information technology in government. Judges for this year's awards included representatives from the Center for Digital Government and state and local government officials whose services won Best of the Web awards in 2007.

The award-winning service was cooperatively developed and is supported by the Department of Justice, the Department of Administration's Information Technology Services Division, FAST Enterprises and Montana Interactive, LLC.