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**New hotel and casino to open in Cleveland, OH.**

**Kent, Oh- Sept. 10, 2012-** The new Emerald Hotel and Casino in Cleveland, Oh will feature a 200,000 sq. –ft. casino with 3,000 slot machines. The grand opening is June 1, 2012.

“I’m looking forward to the grand opening,” said Ted Strickland, Ohio Governor who was previously opposed to gambling. “This is huge for the Cleveland community and it’s not only for people who love to gamble.”

The hotel is home to 700 guest rooms. Along with the casino, there are also two Olympic-sized pools, a 40,000 sq.-ft. health spa, eight restaurants, and a Greyhound racetrack that has 200 race dates per year.

Dan Gilbert, Cleveland Cavaliers owner; Ohio senators, Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman; and Ted Strickland are attending the grand opening.

“I’ve been waiting for Cleveland to build a casino for a long time now, and I can’t wait to see the finished product,” Gilbert said.

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**About Emerald Hotel and Casino**

The casino charges $100 to $1,200 per night. The $560 million construction started in May 2008. There will be 3,700 employees to make $140 million combined. The casino is estimated to bring in $260 million of local and state tax revenue per year.

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