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## Wyandotte Casino Won't Close Wednesday

### *AG's Office Won't Say When Casino Will Close*

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**KANSAS CITY, Kan.** -- Action will not be taken Wednesday to close a tribal owned casino in downtown Kansas City, Kan., officials said.



State and local officials announced last Thursday that the National Indian Gaming Commission had determined the casino was operating illegally and had given the Wyandotte Tribe one week to respond. Word of the commission's decision came in a letter to the government agencies and the tribe dated last Wednesday.

Attorney General Phill Kline said last week that the state would not take any action during the one-week grace period. Many expected the casino would be closed Wednesday, particularly after a federal judge on Tuesday rejected a temporary restraining order sought by the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma to keep the casino open.

But Kansas City, Kan., spokesman Don Denney said the city participated in a conference call with the Kline and no action on the casino was expected Wednesday.

"We are waiting for him to take formal action," Denney said. "He said it wouldn't be today."

Whitney Watson, spokesman for Kline, said he couldn't say when the casino would be closed.

"You'll know when we do something," he said.

But he said the federal judge's decision this week "reinforced the fact that the law

was not on their side in this case."

Though the land is tribal land, the gaming commission found it did not qualify as a site for a casino because -- among other things -- the Wyandotte Tribe resides in Oklahoma and does not have a strong historical connection to the site.

Calls to tribal officials Wednesday were not immediately returned.

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