



## **Grand Island Casino Resort Celebrates Grand Opening April 10th, Ushering in New Era of Economic Growth and Entertainment in Central Nebraska**

**Grand Island, NE** - Elite Casino Resorts, in partnership with Fonner Park, proudly announces the grand opening of the new **Grand Island Casino Resort** — a \$185 million destination resort that is already making a significant economic impact in the region.

The seven-story property features a vibrant combination of gaming, hospitality, dining, and entertainment. Highlights include:

- A full-service **casino** with **750 slot machines, 20 table games, and Nebraska's first live poker room**
- A **162-room hotel**, including luxury suites
- Multiple dining options, including a **signature Ruthie's Steak & Seafood** restaurant
- A **show lounge** spotlighting local and regional entertainers
- An expansive **banquet facility** accommodating up to 200 guests
- A scenic **outdoor entertainment space** overlooking the Fonner Park horse track
- A **full-service Spa featuring indoor and outdoor pools** located on the second level

Since construction began, the project has contributed significantly to the local economy, employing **877 construction workers from 77 different contractors and vendors**. The resort will now provide **425 permanent jobs** across operations, with an estimated annual payroll of **\$13.6 million annually**.

"This world-class facility reflects our long-term commitment to Grand Island and the greater Nebraska community," said **Dan Kehl**, CEO of Elite Casino Resorts. "We are proud to offer a top-notch destination for guests while also striving to be a strong community partner and excellent employer. The Grand Island Casino Resort represents more than entertainment — it's a driver of opportunity, growth, and pride for the region."

The new resort builds upon the success of the **temporary casino**, which opened two years ago and has already generated **\$2.5 million** for Fonner Park racing purses and **\$700,000** for the Nebraska Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

Grand Island Casino Resort will be a year-round attraction for both local residents and visitors, helping elevate the regional tourism economy and further supporting Nebraska's historic horse racing industry.

For more information about the resort, visit: [www.grandislandresort.com](http://www.grandislandresort.com) .