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MEDIA CONTACT: Carrie Blewitt, [carrie.blewitt@storypartnersdc.com](mailto:carrie.blewitt@storypartnersdc.com)

**\*\* MEDIA STATEMENT \*\***

**Ifrah Law Files Suit on Behalf of iDEA Growth Against the  
U.S. Department of Justice**

[Ifrah Law](#) filed suit on February 25, 2019 against the United States Department of Justice (“DOJ”) in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire on behalf of the trade association [iDEA Growth](#), a 501c6 organization which advocates for regulated mobile gaming in the United States. The suit challenges the January 14, 2019 Opinion by the DOJ’s Office of Legal Counsel (“OLC”) which reverses the Department’s own previous interpretation of the federal Wire Act and ignores judicial precedent at the appellate level and dicta by the U.S. Supreme Court by holding that the Act prohibits all interstate wagering activity, not just sports betting.

[Jeff Ifrah](#), lead attorney in the suit brought by iDEA Growth, said “We trust that the New Hampshire Court will give appropriate weight to judicial precedent over political factors in making its decision, a decision sure to have a major impact on a fast-growing industry poised to offer significant economic benefits to states across the country.”

This suit marks the third challenge to the DOJ Opinion. NeoPollard Interactive LLC, the technology and service provider of the New Hampshire state iLottery system, has also filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Lottery Commission, represented by the state attorney general’s office, has filed a related challenge against the Justice Department.

For eight years, state lotteries and online gaming organizations have relied on a 2011 DOJ Opinion which expressly stated that the Wire Act’s prohibitions were limited to sports betting. Two appellate decisions have reached the same conclusion regarding the Wire Act: the Fifth Circuit in *In re MasterCard Int’l Inc., Internet Gambling Litig.*, and the First Circuit’s *United States v. Lyons*. More recently, the Supreme Court’s 2018 opinion in *Murphy v. NCAA* included a reference that the Wire Act prohibits sporting events and contests only.

“The Jan. 14, 2019 Opinion glosses over case law precedent and largely ignores the legislative history that accompanied the Wire Act, which supports the original 2011 Memo,” Mr. Ifrah concluded.

*iDEA (iDevelopment and Economic Association) is a 501(c)(6) association which seeks to grow jobs and expand the online interactive gaming business in the United States through advocacy and education. The Association’s membership is comprised of national and international businesses with online interactive entertainment platforms operating or considering operating in the United States.*