



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: KAREN PONTIER

Address: 

Telephone:  *et*

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: MSA

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Support the Pittsburgh Penguins! The time to Rally is NOW!

Reasons to Support Isle of Capri for the Slots License.

A new arena will be a Multi Purpose facility. Not only for Hockey but for many events for the entire community! Isle of Capri's plan includes building a Modern, State of the Art and Safe Arena without using Tax Payer's Money! This will revitalize an underdeveloped neighborhood and connect the downtown area with the Lower Hill. And most important, it will keep the Penguins and the \$70 million in annual revenue (that's how much was lost last season due to the lock out) in Pittsburgh! We have a new Baseball park and new Football Stadium in Pittsburgh that only see use 6 months out of the year! They sit empty for the rest of the time. A new multi-purpose arena will be used year round. Did the Pirates and Steelers have to go thru rallies and petition signings to get a Brand New Playing Field? NO! So why should the Penguins have to do all this leg work to get what is rightful owed to them? A new arena is the first step in increasing the new renaissance for the region that will lead to new development in the area. And finally, don't we owe Mario for saving the team not once but twice? This will be an excellent way to show him 'Thanks and Thanks again'.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, KAREN PONTIER verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Karen Pontier



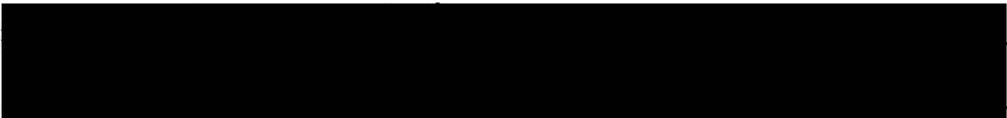
**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**

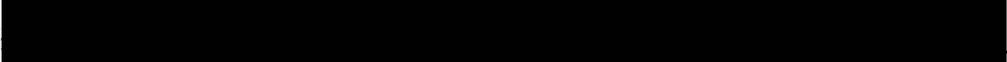


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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: JOHN SCANDOLANI

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*Please see ATTACH letter*

Office of the Clerk  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

May 22, 2006

I would like to express my opinion and support to the Isle of Capri slots application. While there are several reasons why I support the Isle of Capri I will summarize them into just two.

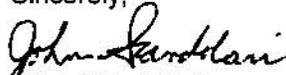
- 1) Development of the Downtown area is badly needed and has been overlooked for years. Improvements to this area far outweigh the benefits of developing the North Shore or Station Square area. Those areas have and continue to develop nicely. Those areas do not need more help to expand nor does it help the city long term. We need to concentrate on other areas of the city. The first step is to make the city more attractive. This will generate interest from companies and retail businesses to come into the city. The Isle of Capri bid to build a slots parlor, a multi purpose arena, and to develop that area and the lower hill is a huge step in revitalizing downtown. This will not only bring people into the city for all of those events, but also encourage people to live in the city.

The Isle of Capri bid is not just to keep the Penguins from leaving. Professional teams are badly needed to give cities notoriety and excitement. Look at what the Steelers winning the Super Bowl did to this town. You can't advertise Pittsburgh any better. Sports teams do play a very important part of the city make up. The current arena is old, outdated, and needs to be replaced to attract other events besides hockey. The Isle of Capri plan will enhance other programs to improve the city such as the Fifth Avenue development.

- 2) The Isle of Capri bid is the only guaranteed bid. The other two are full of "ifs". If this happens, then will do or build this. It is not "we will build it and the people will come". It is "we will only build it if the people come". Their plans put a nice spin on things but talk is cheap. There are no guarantees that the slots will even be as popular or profitable as the applicants have promised. This region and the City of Pittsburgh cannot afford to gamble. This is a once in a life time opportunity. The Isle of Capri is guaranteeing to build a slots parlor, giving the city \$290 million for a multi purpose arena in **90 days**, and developing an area that has too long been overlooked. It also guarantees that the Penguins will stay which in its self makes the Isle of Capri plan that much more logical. They are backing up their talk. This plan guarantees to reap the benefits immediately and still gives long term opportunity if slots become as big as they say.

In closing I would like to thank the board for giving me the opportunity to express my opinion and support for the Isle of Capri. Pittsburgh needs the Isle of Capri more now than ever before.

Sincerely,

  
John Scandolari





# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Leanne Halinka

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Intermediate Unit I, Coal Center, PA

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Dear Board Members,

Unlike many of the elected officials in this great State, I have chosen to back a casino plan, I support the Isle of Capri plan.

Let me share with you why. First, the Pittsburgh Penguins support it. Without the Pens in the mix for a casino/arena deal, my money will not hit Pittsburgh slot machines.

The proposed spot for the Isle of Capri plan is very easily accessible. I have no concerns driving there. The area is ripe for development and by adding a casino, restaurants and anything else that may spring up because of it, does make an evening out for me and does draw my money into the City several times a week.

It is also economical to the Penguins-free is good. Here's a new arena, in a proven location, that will draw more than the 15,000 faithful that spent their money here last year. Seems a little more enticing than asking the Pens to pay for part of it at Station Square where the parking & traffic can best be describes as horrid.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I am a hockey fan. I am for the ease and accessibility of the Lower Hill District spot. I look forward to coming to the City 2 hours before the game, getting something to eat and playing a few slots. I want to continue to attend games, win or lose. Simply stated, without the team and this deal, I won't be in Pittsburgh and I won't be playing slots there. Are you willing to find out how many others feel as I do?

I am asking you to remember that the majority of the people of Pittsburgh voted against the new stadium and ball park that they ended up paying for anyway. The majority of the people of Pittsburgh support the Isle of Capri Plan. I don't think there is much room for further disappointment when it comes to our sports teams and the thousands of fans who choose to support them.

Let us, the 15,000 plus fans attend our games and spend our money in the arena our team supports. Without the Pittsburgh Penguins, the slots idea will be much less successful. I assure you, I won't be there. Political agendas have no room here. Please listen to the people and award the license to the Isle of Capri.

As members of this board I realize that your positions are not easy, but your time and hard work are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

I, Samuel Haleuk, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: CHRISTOPHER DAVID CORSO

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED] .edu

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Dear Gaming Control Board,

My name is Christopher Corso and I was unable to attend the public hearing in Pittsburgh because I am currently in graduate school working on my Ph.D. at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, GA. The comments I would like to make in this letter are primarily in support of the Isle of Capri casino plan.

Let me first state that if the city of Pittsburgh loses the Penguins, it will absolutely devastate the city. Financially, losing the Penguins means losing millions in revenue which everyone knows the city needs. However, far more devastating than the financial losses is what would happen to the pride of the city and the people that live here. Pittsburgh really would become a second-class city in the eyes of the nation which would further discourage new businesses and families from moving to this area. This will only continue to propagate the financial instability that Pittsburgh finds itself in.

Now, of course I have read all about the other plans that claim to "support" an arena deal. Don Barden and the folks at Forest City claim that they would be willing to put up money for a new arena to varying degrees. However, none of the plans even come close to matching the amount or degree of support that the Isle of Capri has pledged to the

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Penguins and the city of Pittsburgh. I strongly believe that until the other plans come up with the type of funding that Isle of Capri has come up with, their offers pale in comparison and I wonder why there is even a debate as to who should win the license. Forest City is as non-committal as they can possibly be when it comes to the matter. Further, Plan B is stricken with holes, and for anyone to think that plan B, as proposed by Ed Rendell, is bullet-proof or in any way guarantees the Penguins staying in Pittsburgh is absolutely ridiculous. We really need you, the gaming board officials, to look past any sort of political cronyism that may exist with Governor Rendell, and do what is right for this city.

~ If the Pittsburgh Penguins had nothing to do with this picture, I can honestly say that I would still be writing you this letter on behalf of the Isle of Capri plan. The lower Hill district is, without a doubt, the best place in the city for a new development plan to take place. As the residents of the lower Hill will tell you, it has been neglected for entirely too long. A \$1 billion project that would produce not only a slots casino between Fifth and Centre avenue, but also a privately funded, publicly owned arena and a neighborhood development package that would connect the lower Hill District to Downtown is perfect for this area. The Station Square area, and the North Side, is already teeming with development... and traffic. As a resident of the North Hills, I would not venture down to the south side to go to a casino. I already loathe driving in the traffic down there and a casino would only magnify the traffic problems.

The Isle of Capri plan would not only complete an arena with private dollars but also fill in a glaring vacancy for more Downtown living and revitalize an entire neighborhood. It would bring an "in-town" living vibe to Pittsburgh that would be attractive to people from all around the country. Even if the other two casino plans come up with a revenue stream to build a new arena, they are not interested in restoring the neighborhood that once flourished below the lower Hill. This is a unique benefit to Pittsburgh, one that should not be overlooked. We have the chance here to essentially redesign an entire neighborhood in the heart of our city which is something that most large cities can only dream of doing.

We need your support. We need you to do the right thing for this city. We need the Penguins and the pride and tradition of this city to live on. I, as well as a majority of the citizens of Pittsburgh, wholeheartedly feel that this can be done through the Isle of Capri plan. Please, please, please, do what is best for us; you hold the future of our city in your hands, and we will not be pleased if that future is dashed because of decision making based on anything other than what we, the voting majority, want.

I, Christopher Corso verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Pennsylvania  
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:

Dan Hollis

Address:



Telephone:

Organization, if any:

N/A

Employer:

Ingersoll-Rand

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Please consider the Iste of Capri proposal for the new casino & multi-purpose facility in Pittsburgh. I live in North Carolina and travel back to Pittsburgh for 20-25 games per year and spend thousands of dollars in hotels & restaurants. If the Penguins leave I will have no reason to travel back and spend money and certainly will not visit any of the casinos. Do the right thing for Pittsburgh and select Iste of Capri.

Thank you for your consideration.

I, Dan Hollis verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

D Hollis 5/22/06

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS  
INSTRUCTIONS**

Those who cannot attend or speak at the public input hearings may submit written comments for inclusion in the evidentiary record that will have a weight equal to testimony presented in person.

The comment-submission form is found on the following pages of this document. People who submit written comments will have until June 2, 2006, to send their comments by

mail to the Gaming Control Board for inclusion in the evidentiary record.

The mailing address for written comments is:

Office of the Clerk

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

PO Box 69060

Harrisburg, PA 17106

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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Annamarie Mellett

Address

Telephone

Organization, if any:

Employer: Keystone Residence

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I, Annamarie Mellett verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Comments:

I am originally from the Pittsburgh area, Beaver County, and still have family that resides in the Burgh. I had to relocate over 20 years ago to find employment and made Harrisburg my second home. Once you were born and raised in western Pennsylvania you will always be from the Burgh.

I will always remember being in high school going to the arena for my first hockey game, hearing that wonderful sound of the puck gliding across the ice, I was hooked forever.

We must keep the Penguins in Pittsburgh!! It is critical for the economy and to keep people living in Pennsylvania. We keep losing young people searching for their career placement to other states, keeping the Penguins gives a vast amount of opportunities in a variety of career paths to our future taxpayers.

We need to look at the Isle of Capri plan that will not cost the taxpayers any additional money; the city needs a new arena for the Penguins as well as other entertainment that will come to the city when they have a safe environment to perform.

I now take my daughter too the arena for hockey games and she has truly become a fan of the sport. I hope that some day she will continue the tradition and be able to bring her

family to a hockey game in Pittsburgh. Hockey is tradition, the Penguins belong in Pittsburgh, and the city deserves a new arena. Please consider allowing for the best plan to be approved so that the sound of the puck can still be heard in the Burgh!

*Annemarie Mellett* 5/23/06



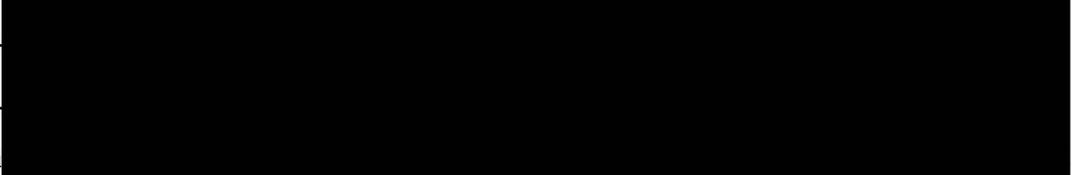
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: JAMES E. ALTMAN

Address: 

Telephone:  COM

Organization, if any: N/A

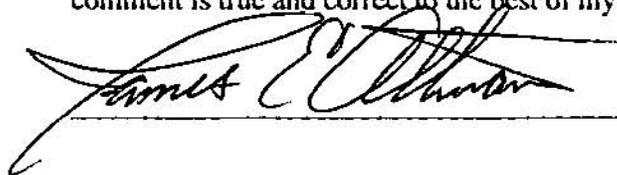
Employer: ALLEGHENY COUNTY

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

THE ISLE OF CAPRI PLAN WILL PROVIDE THE MOST BENEFIT TO THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH. FOR YOU TO GIVE THE SLOTS LICENSE TO ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION WOULD BE AN INJUSTICE FOR THIS CITY AND COUNTY.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, JAMES E. ALTMAN verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James E. Altman", written over a horizontal line.



Pennsylvania  
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: CAROLINE Bethup

Address: 

Telephone: 412 681 0000

Organization, if any: None

Employer: None

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*See attached*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I am writing to express my support for Pittsburgh First and request that the last gaming license be given to this project. Not only will this program help develop the uptown section of the City of Pittsburgh, but it will also help keep the Pittsburgh Penguins in Pittsburgh, where they belong.

Along with the Steelers and Pirates, the Penguins are a part of Pittsburgh's heritage. A new stadium was built for the Steelers and the Pirates have a new ballpark. It's time to keep the Penguins in Pittsburgh and get them a new arena. Give the last gambling license to the Isle of Capri.

Developing the uptown section of the City and the Hill District will create revenue and jobs. The development of this section will also help Pittsburgh get rid of the "dirty smoky steel town" image and attract new businesses, which will make the City look even better.

I can't stand the thought of losing the Penguins because they can't get new arena when there is a very real possibility that they can attain this goal.

I, CAROLINE M. BETLYN verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Caroline M. Betlyn



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: BRUCE ARNOLD

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer: DMI COMPANIES

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

DEAR GAMING CONTROL BOARD, I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY FEELINGS REGARDING THE AWARD OF THE PROPOSED GAMING LICENSE IN THE PITTSBURGH AREA. IT IS OF MY OPINION AND ANY OTHER TESTIMONY THAT I HAVE SPOKEN WITH THAT THE ONLY LOGICAL CHOICE IS TO AWARD THE LICENSE TO ISLE OF CAPRI. THEY ARE THE ONLY APPLICANT THAT HAS OFFERED TO PREPAY THE FUNDING OF A NEW MULTI FLOOR ARENA FOR THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH. WHILE I UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE OTHER APPLICANTS

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ARENA, IT WOULD MEAN THAT THE CITY OR SOME OTHER ENTITY WOULD HAVE TO SEEK FINANCING FOR A NEW MULTI PURPOSE ARENA FOR THE CITY WHICH MEANS INTEREST PAYMENT AND THE REAL COST OF THE ARENA WOULD BE STAGGERING.

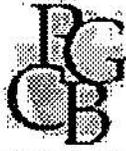
WE ALL ARE AWARE THAT EACH APPLICANT IS A VIABLE CANDIDATE SO THE ONLY RATIONAL CHOICE IS TO PICK THE ONE THAT WILL DO THE MOST FOR THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH AND IN TURN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. TO TURN DOWN 285 MILLION DOLLARS UP FRONT WOULD BE TOTALLY IRRESPONSIBLE ON THE GAMING COMMISSIONS PART. THE ONLY CHOICE IS ISLE CASINO. ANY OTHER CHOICE IS PURELY POLITICALLY <sup>MOTIVATED</sup> ~~FOR~~ AS THE ~~PEOPLE~~ PEOPLE OF PA. ARE WELL AWARE THAT MANY OF YOU WERE APPOINTED BY ED RENDELL.

I, BRUCE ARNOLD verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Bruce Arnold EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DMC COMMISSION

P.S.

IT'S TIME TO PUT THE WELFARE OF THE STATE FIRST. MAKE IT BE



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Richard James Grasky

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: JEFFERSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

As a citizen of Pittsburgh my entire life, I have examined all the proposals for the Pittsburgh slots license. It is my sincere opinion that the "Isle of Capri" proposal can best benefit the city and surrounding areas. I look forward to attending events at the new multi-purpose arena which is desperately needed by this community.

Thank you in advance for awarding the slots license to the

+ AA . . . 1 1 + 1

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, RICHARD J. GRASKY verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Richard J. Grasky



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

MARTIN CRIBBS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I support The Iste of Capri For Pittsburgh.

Rarely is there so clear a choice.

Iste of Capri ① new arena Pittsburgh — COST TAX  
\$0

② Hill District Improvements — COST TAX  
\$0

③ Slots Revenue to PA Reduction = \$0

④ Location & Accessibility = Unmatched By  
Other Plans

⑤ Penguins & millions in secondary income  
and taxes = stay in Pittsburgh

I MARTIN CRIBBS  
Verify the information  
contained in this  
written comment is  
true and correct to  
the best of my knowledge  
and belief

[Signature]  
M.C.



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: T.J. SCHIAVO

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Please read the enclosed letter (David's comments) and ponder the very significant points that have been analyzed. I cannot summarize any better.

Thank you,

TJ Schiavo

(David's comments)

Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

Rarely have I seen such an opportunity for revitalization and renewed hope for such a large cross-section of the Pittsburgh public as I do in the Isle of Capri proposal for building a slots casino, hotel, and new multipurpose entertainment facility, and upgrading a blighted neighborhood. I have reviewed the three proposals and considered their benefits and costs, and have concluded that Isle of Capri plan is vastly superior in what I call "the community value margin" – the accrued benefits and revenues minus all associated costs. In my view it is not even close.

Several important points underscore the superiority of the Isle of Capri plan:

The first is the fact that the Isle of Capri has committed \$290 million to build the entertainment facility, obviating the need to raise, transfer, or solicit taxpayer funds for such a facility. This statement needs to be read several times to realize its full impact. In a city where businesses and residents are taxed to the extent that it gives rise to massive capital and human flight, an opportunity like this is the perfect salve for the tax-beleaguered Allegheny County public. Please do not let it pass through our fingers.

Secondly, no one should expect the new owners of the city's professional hockey team to exhibit sentimental loyalty to the city of Pittsburgh or to choose to keep the team in Pittsburgh if a superior economic opportunity is present elsewhere. A brand new arena with expanded revenue opportunities at no cost to the new owner will secure the team in Pittsburgh. The other plans, and plan B, all require the new owners to pay in several million dollars a year over an extended time period for a new arena to be built. Comparatively, that is not incentive, that is disincentive. When the owners are planning to buy the team at fair market value, their anticipated profit margin and estimated return on investment will not be sustained under a scenario in which they are required to payout millions of dollars year after year.

Regarding the team, I have learned that though the Penguins were the second worst team in the NHL this past season, their attendance averaged 94% capacity. That is remarkable. It reveals that there is not only a sizable and loyal fan base, but that there is tremendous 'hard' and 'soft' equity in having the team in Pittsburgh. 'Hard' in that this fierce loyalty will translate into direct revenue opportunities for the team, local businesses, and governments. The 'Soft' value involves the things that give rise to the quality of life in the city and county. I sense, from both the numbers and the buzz in the street, that there is a deep affiliation with this team and its legacy, and that the quality of life and the pride of being a 'Pittsburgher' are strongly associated with the Penguins. In addition, when employers make decisions about where to locate facilities they are concerned with attracting talent and want to promote a city that has several professional sports teams. Consideration of factors that expand employment and the tax base in Pittsburgh should be prioritized. Therefore great care should be taken with this precious asset, and ~~that~~ it should not be exposed to risks that could lead to the team's departure. The path of least risk, the only sure path, is to embrace the Isle of Capri offer.

Finally, you may be aware of the sentiments of the African American community regarding the blighted Hill District. Once a thriving center of black culture, entertainment, and business, it is now known for crime, drugs, and dilapidated housing. The deterioration of this region can be partly attributed to the construction of the Civic Arena in the 1960s, which removed key commercial and cultural zones. More than any other, the Isle of Capri plan commits to rebuilding efforts in this area, and the proximity of the proposed slots, hotel, and entertainment complexes provide many more job opportunities for Hill District residents. Of course the leaders of this community recognize this hope and support the Isle of Capri plan, but one can't help but also to recognize the great opportunity to help redress a past grievance and to contribute to the social and economic transformation so desperately wanted by this community.

Thank you for considering these factors as you ponder the choices set before you.



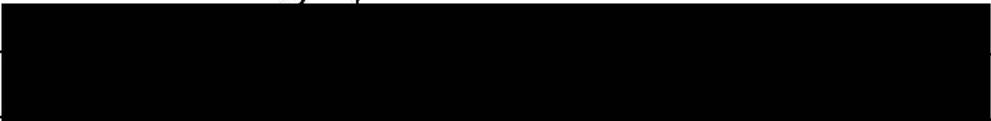
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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Anne Quigley

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Ann Quigley verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ann Quigley



May 29, 2006

Office of the Clerk  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
P. O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Gentlemen:

As a concerned citizen, I am writing you today to seek your selection/approval of the Isle of Capri development plan. I am a very small time gambler who enjoys an occasional Penguins hockey game.

I feel that this is the best plan for economic growth within our region and that many areas will reap its benefits. As the development of Pittsburgh continues, please vote for the Isle of Capri plan.

Sincerely,

Anne Quigley



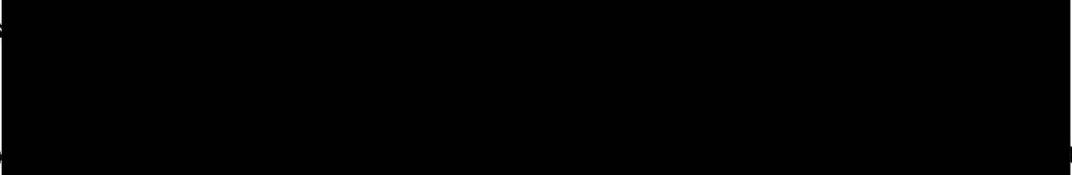
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Gaming Control Board**

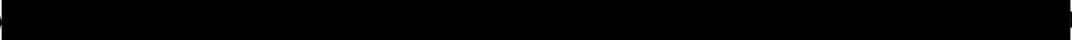


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I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: April D. Swauger

Address: 

Telephone:  m

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: The Guidance Center, Bradford PA

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I am writing in support of the Pittsburgh First proposal. It is my belief that this proposal would bring the most benefit to the city of Pittsburgh and the surrounding area. As you know, the Pittsburgh First plan would rebuild the lower Hill district and connect it to the downtown area. It would bring in over \$1 billion of revenue to the city in development. The building of the new arena and gaming facility would provide many jobs for the area. In addition,

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

The Pittsburgh First proposal is the only one that will ensure a new arena for the Penguins. The Penguins bring in millions of dollars for the city every year and are a wonderful part of Pittsburgh history. This proposal will ensure that they stay in Pittsburgh, where they belong. Thank you for your consideration.

I, April D. Swauger verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

April D. Swauger



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Stephanie Waite

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

Beaver County Times

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

The gaming license should be awarded to the plan that will benefit Pittsburgh most. That plan is the Isle of Capri. The Penguins are the main reason I come into the city of Pittsburgh and spend money several times a year. I will never support a casino at Station Square (next)

and I will urge my family, friends and visitors not to patronize it. There is no downside to the Isle of Capri plan.

Thank you for allowing me to comment

1. Stephanie Waite verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Stephanie Waite



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: South West Communities Chamber of Commerce

Address:

Telephone:

com

Organization, if any:

Employer:

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

The South West Communities Chamber of Commerce is a regional chamber serving over 400 member businesses in the south-west suburbs of Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh Penguins are a member of our Chamber, and we support their efforts in regards to the Pittsburgh First Plan. We believe that the Penguins are a vital part of our region's past, present, and future.

From an economic standpoint, we support the investment of private funds into the business community and infrastructure of the city, and believe that these investments will help to create jobs and revenue that our area needs to survive and compete economically.

I, James D. Grimes, Vice President of the South West Communities Chamber of Commerce and Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee, verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: SHERRY PROCTOR - OONK

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

My family lived in Pittsburgh from the mid 60's to the early 70's (and as an adult, I lived there during the 80's). I learned my love of sports from watching the local teams with my dad. I remember trips out to Forbes field to watch Stargell and Clemente play. Our family followed the Steelers thru the glory days of four Super Bowls from out here in California. And I remember, on a return trip to Pittsburgh years later, being thrilled with the surprise opportunity to see the Pens play live at the Igloo.

Much as changed since then in the world of professional sports, but my love for and die hard interest in the sports teams of "The 'Burgh" has not. My favorite sport is hockey, and the beleaguered Pens are the team most dear to my heart these days. I caught every game I could on television this past season, and the thought that they might some day soon, be forced to leave Pittsburgh owing to the lack of a competitive, up-to-date arena in which to play, just about makes my heart stop.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Even though I am no longer a resident of Pittsburgh, and as such would not presume to have comprehensive knowledge about the issues surrounding this subject, I have heard and read that one thing the people of Pittsburgh do not want to do is to finance a new arena out of their own pocket. The Isle of Capri plan is a solution that sure seems to give the people what they want and the city what it needs.

And it seems that the city would definitely benefit from people like me who would jump at the chance to not only take in a Pens game at the new arena, but also, to infuse the local economy by leaving my money in the casino slots. It's not a leap to think that many others would do likewise. Even taking the Pens out of the equation, it seems obvious that Pittsburgh is desperately in need of new multi-purpose arena to provide a new venue for other types of cultural events, not only for the locals, but for tourists who come to see and enjoy all that Pittsburgh has to offer.

And, putting the Penguins back into the equation, how can the city, in all respects, not get behind the Penguins and do all they can to ensure their future in Pittsburgh? The history of the Pens franchise in the Burgh aside, the current team, while bruised and battered during this last season, is positively brimming with potential. The city and the people of Pittsburgh are blessed with some incredible, young talent in the Pens (and Steelers), and it seems a shame to think that instead of someday, once again, being the "City of Champions," Pittsburgh is willing to squander that future.

One last thing - Mario deserves to see the Pens future cemented in the Burgh. He built it, he saved it - and he has given so much to the people and city of Pittsburgh that anything short of a long and storied legacy for the Penguins in Pittsburgh, forever linked to Mario Lemieux, is a travesty.

Sherry Proctor-Oonk  
San Diego, CA

I, SHERRY PROCTOR-OONK verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sherry Proctor-Oonk 5/24/06



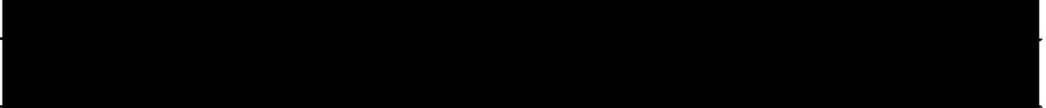
# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Reverend Carmen A. D'Amico

Address: 

Telephone:  org

Organization, if any: St. Benedict the Moor Parish (Church)

Employer: Diocese of Pittsburgh

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I am the pastor of St. Benedict the Moor Church in the Hill District and Epiphany Church in the Uptown neighborhoods of Pittsburgh. The Isle of Capri is proposing to build a casino which would be situated between these two historic churches. While the building of a casino, by itself, may not be something that we would support, the Pittsburgh First project also includes the building of a new arena and the development of the Mellon Arena site with a residential and retail community. Furthermore, the plan to reconnect the Hill District with downtown is extremely beneficial to our community. With this in mind, we support Pittsburgh First and the Isle of Capri proposal as most advantageous to our neighborhood, our churches, and the city at large.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Carmen A. D'Amico verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Carmen A D'Amico



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:

Gary Goldberg MD

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Medical Rehabilitation, Inc.

Employer:

self-employed

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I am submitting these comments because I am very concerned that the PGCB understand the important implications of their decision regarding the selection of the recipient of a gaming license for the Western Pennsy region, particularly with regard to how the citizens of this region of the state will benefit from such selection. It is clear for a variety of reasons that the city of Pittsburgh needs a major boost to its tax base given the there has been significant growth in the nonprofit sector that demands services but does not contribute in a proportionate manner to the tax base. However, it is also very clear that a proposal which provides a maximum

opportunity for both direct as well as indirect employment will be of greatest economic benefit to the region. It is very clear to anyone who takes a moment to review the proposals that there is only one proposal that leverages the gaming license opportunity into a major cultural and economic opportunity for the citizens of Pittsburgh and that is the Pittsburgh First proposal which includes the construction of a major new indoor presentation venue for sports and entertainment in the form of a state-of-the-art arena to be gifted to the citizens of Pittsburgh without requiring any public monies to realize this major addition to the community.

This aspect of the proposal from Isle of Capri sets it way above the others in terms of what the region stands to get back from the casino operators. The direct benefits in terms of employment and construction jobs are clear, but there is a tremendous indirect benefit that relates to the effect that this institution (arena) will have on the surrounding areas and neighborhoods of downtown Pittsburgh and the phenomenal benefit that will be gained by having a year-round indoor presentation venue available.

I, Gary Goldberg verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Gary Goldberg

Please select Pittsburgh First and make right decision for the city and western



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Danny Falleroni

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Falleroni Dental LLC

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I believe the Isle of Capri should be awarded the slots license by the PA. Gaming Board. First, you have a plan that involves a new arena BEFORE any ~~money is received from the slots.~~ I feel all of the parties have inflated their profits from the slots, therefore if they do not reach their goals, the money promised for the arena, may not be obtained. What will stop the company from closing shop if profits are not attained? Who will pay for the arena then? Therefore, doesn't it make sense to award the license to the party who will have an arena in place before any profits ~~are made~~? Second. Pittsburgh

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Cannot afford to lose a Professional Sports Franchise. How will you fill an arena for an additional 40-60 dates if the Penguins leave? Especially in a delapidated structure. Entertainers skip Pittsburgh due to the antiquated sound system.

Why would the Gaming Board consider Harrah Transportation in the Station Square Area is already congested. People will stay away from that area, not flock to it if the SLOTS License is awarded to the Station Square Area.

I, Danny Falleroni verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Danny Falleroni



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Terence Quigley

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Allen Systems Group

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*Members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,*

*As an occasional gambler and sports fan, I'm writing this letter in support of the Isle of Capri proposal under consideration by the PGCB. While I feel that the gambling component of all three proposals will benefit the city and state equally, the ancillary benefit of guaranteed funding of a new arena and redevelopment of the Lower Hill district tips the scales in favor of the Isle of Capri.*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I trust that you will consider the needs of the community at large and hope that the board reaches the same conclusion that I have; that the Isle of Capri proposal offers the greatest long term benefit for the region.

Sincerely,

Terry Quigley

I, Terry Quigley verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Terry Quigley



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Rev. Calvin Cash

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*John Wesley AME Zion Church*

*Rev. Calvin Cash Pastor*



May 18, 2006

Gaming Control Board

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am the pastor of the John Wesley AME Zion Church located in the Hill District of Pittsburgh. The Hill District has been underserved for a number of years with little economic reinvestment and job creation opportunities. The results have been a community plagued with vacant buildings, empty lots, decaying commercial district and high unemployment. We have an unprecedented opportunity to see the reinvestment of significant private resources into the community as an integral part of the Gaming Application submitted by the Isle of Capri/Pittsburgh First.

The Isle of Capri's plan to locate a casino and a public arena on a site contiguous to the Hill District along with developing the Mellon Arena site into a twenty eight acre mixed use commercial/housing development will create an economic generator that will revitalize the Hill and Uptown neighborhoods. I am in full support of the Isle of Capri's application for a Pittsburgh slots license. They have the most comprehensive development plan with a long term sustainable benefit to the neighborhood and to the region.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Calvin Cash".

Rev. Calvin Cash, Pastor

**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Joe Berret

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: Fairfax County Public Schools

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

I will admit that I am a die hard Penguin fan and there is nothing I want more than for the team to stay in the city. However, if there is one thing I love more than the Penguins it's the City of Pittsburgh itself. That being said, for the sake of the city and even the entire region, the slots license needs to be awarded to a party that will build a new arena for the City of Pittsburgh.

I was born and raised in Pittsburgh and stayed in the DC area after finishing college. If I could find a job back home, that's where I would be. I visit Pittsburgh at least twice a month. In my time away from the city, I have made many friends from all over the country. As a 'tourist', I have brought friends from DC, Las Vegas, New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Orlando and even as far as Edinburgh, Scotland, to Pittsburgh.

Almost to a fault, they all say the same two things: they never knew Pittsburgh was such a nice city and it's a shame there isn't a downtown area.

These two comments are why the city needs a new arena. The national perception of Pittsburgh is that of a city on a decline, made ugly by the steel industry and then dried up because of its decline. If the Penguins were to leave the city, that would be yet another reason for people to see Pittsburgh as a city on the decline. Losing a professional sports team-especially one with such a strong fan base-is a black eye for a city, and that is something Pittsburgh cannot afford.

Additionally, a new arena would give the city a new, progressive look. The decrepit Mellon Arena is a symbol of the sort of stuck in the past thinking that is often associated with our city. A new arena and a revitalized downtown area would give the city a new look and improve the national perception of our city.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Too many people think the benefit of a new arena is for the Penguins only. Those people are the same ones who have yet to move out of the '70s in their minds. A new arena will vastly improve every aspect of Pittsburgh and will reap benefits for every person in the region. The slots license needs to be awarded to a party that is dedicated to the improvement of the City of Pittsburgh, and that starts with building a new arena for the region and keeping the Penguins in Pittsburgh.

Thank you

I, Joe Berret verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.





Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: *Rep. Ramaley; Rep. Spinato; Rep. Walko; Rep. DeLuca; Rep. LaGratta; Rep. Kotik; Rep. Markosik; Rep. Pistella; Rep. Pallone; Rep. Costa*

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*SEE ATTACHED...*

Name: *Rep. Preston; Rep. Ruffing; Rep. Harhai; Rep. Solobach; Rep. Gergky; Rep. Bianucci; Rep. Pyle; Rep. Frankel; Sen. Ferlo.*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, (see page 1) verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signatures contained on attached letter



## House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

HARRISBURG

May 1, 2006

Honorable Tad Decker  
Chairman  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P. O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Dear Chairman Decker:

We are writing you as fellow public officials and leaders dedicated to the progress and advancement of the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and our region to urge you to publicly endorse the casino and development plans of Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc., Pittsburgh First and the Pittsburgh Penguins.

We represent Western Pennsylvania citizens and businesses from the streets of Monroeville, to the suburbs of Moon Township to the rolling hills of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler and Indiana Counties. While we represent different constituencies and geographies, we are speaking with a united voice about a compelling issue facing us all: the selection of the Category 2 casino for the City of Pittsburgh.

This issue could not be more important for our entire region. The awarding of the Pittsburgh casino license presents the opportunity to redefine the economic and social landscape of the City, County and Western Pennsylvania. Ensuring that the selected casino proposal will be the best – for economic development, job creation, tourism, promoting diversity and supporting our communities – will be vital. The fact that we have only one chance to get it right makes the stakes even higher.

The Isle of Capri's proposal represents well over \$1 billion of investment in Pittsburgh, will generate thousands of new, good-paying construction and permanent jobs (90% of which will be filled locally), will enhance the annual income of our citizens by some \$90 million and will produce at least \$400 million annually in gaming tax revenues (eligible for property tax reductions) in the first few years even before reaching the full complement of machines permitted by law.

Isle of Capri has committed to provide \$290 million in private funds for the construction of a new, first class multi-purpose arena for our region. The new Pittsburgh Arena will provide the entire region with a venue for entertainment, recreation, sporting events and conventions – as well as a new home for one of Pittsburgh's greatest champions,

Honorable Tad Decker  
May 1, 2006  
RE: Isle of Capri  
Page 2 of 3

our beloved Penguins. For this reason, the Isle's proposal is the only casino plan the Penguins endorse. Just as important, we oppose using any of the scarce state tax dollars allotted for Western Pennsylvania on an arena when the Isle of Capri's proposal enables us to fund the project privately.

But that's not all. The proposal will reinvent a neighborhood lost to the wrecking ball, and reconnect Downtown with the lower Hill creating a seamless and vibrant transition between the communities of new homes, offices, shops and restaurants.

The Isle of Capri is also dedicated to being a good neighbor, working with the community, and supporting its new home with a \$1 million annual contribution to the Pittsburgh First Foundation, an entity to be run by an independent group of local community members and representatives.

While we all know that the decision to award the license is not ours, we think it will be hard for the Gaming Commission to ignore the will of the people of Western Pennsylvania and their elected leaders if we stand together. Furthermore, we think it is our duty to do all we can to make sure that the plan that puts the interests of the people of our region first will win.

Considering all these factors, the choice is clear that Isle of Capri Casino's development proposal is the best choice for Pittsburgh, Allegheny County and our region. We invite you, and respectfully urge you, to join us in working for the betterment of our citizens and supporting the Isle of Capri's application.

Sincerely,

Nick White

Joseph Marchant Frank Pistor

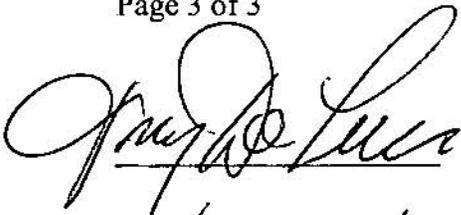
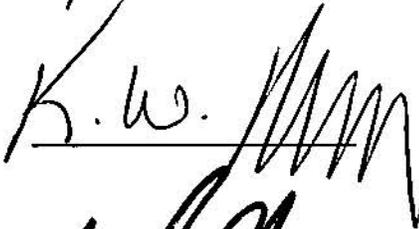
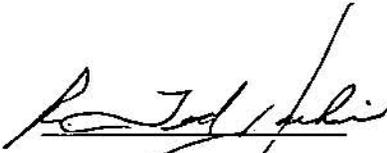
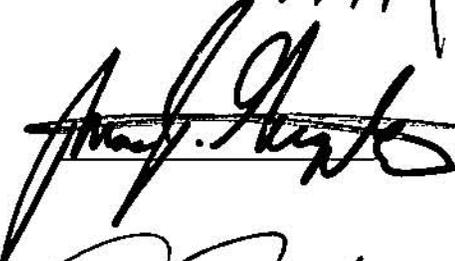
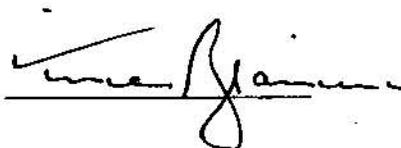
John E. Ballone

Paul B. G. Jim M. Pannaloni

Chris Savino

Mike Sam Walker

Honorable Tad Decker  
May 1, 2006  
RE: Isle of Capri  
Page 3 of 3

		
		
		
		
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cc: Honorable Mary DiGiacomo Colins  
Honorable Jeffrey W. Coy  
Honorable Kenneth T. McCabe  
Honorable Joseph W. Marshall, III  
Honorable Sanford Rivers



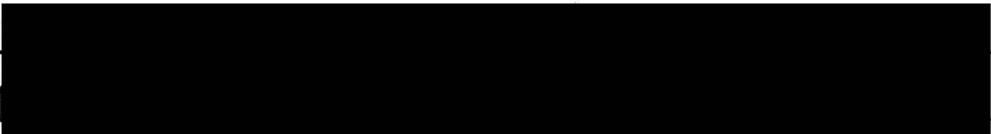
Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Vincent Cominale

Address: 

Telephone: 

Organization, if any: n/a

Employer: SharpVisions, Inc.

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

The intent of this letter is to urge the gaming board to award Pittsburgh's love slots license to the Isle of Capri. I've educated myself on the 3 applicants & Isle of Capri undoubtedly has the most realistic plan.

I attended school at Duquesne University for 5 1/2 years earning a BSBA & MBA in business, & I currently work near the area Isle of Capri is proposing to revitalize; so I know the area well. I can assure you this area is in the most dire need of revitalization. The saving grace of this area are the events held at the arena Mellon Arena.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

Without a state of the art arena more events will pass Pittsburgh by, not to mention the very real possibility of losing NHL Hockey.

Please help to take the Hill District off life support by breathing new life into the area by awarding Pittsburgh's lone slots license to Isle of Capri.

This is the one proposal that benefits an entire community, not just a casino operator.

Thank you for considering & reviewing my comments.

I, Vincent Comunale verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOHN E. PALLONE, MEMBER



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

EDUCATION  
FINANCE  
JUDICIARY  
POLICY  
TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

May 29, 2006

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

IN RE: City of Pittsburgh Gaming License  
Applicant: Isle of Capri

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing with expressed interest and in support of the Gaming License Application recently submitted by the Isle of Capri for the state gaming license to be issued within the City of Pittsburgh. The Isle of Capri has professionally represented its application in good faith as the only applicant with a substantial presence in the gaming industry throughout the Country with a selfless and voluntary offer of economic assistance to the City of Pittsburgh by providing the perfect, no cost opportunity to ensure that the Pittsburgh Penguins Franchise will remain in the City.

The Isle of Capri, with many active gaming facilities located throughout the Country, has a proven track record of success operating similarly situated gaming venues comparable to the proposed facility in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In addition to the Isle of Capri's knowledge and experience in the gaming discipline, in an effort to keep the Penguins in Pittsburgh, the Isle of Capri sought out and established a contractual relationship with the Pittsburgh Penguins Organization, and as part of their application for the state gaming license, has offered to build and provide a new arena to serve as the host facility for the Pittsburgh Penguins and other exhibits and entertainment shows.

I heartily support the Isle of Capri's Gaming License Application and encourage the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to act favorably upon this application. This opportunity for unrestricted funding for the critically needed arena for our local professional hockey team and other shows, together with the outstanding gaming and full service entertainment facility as proposed by the Isle of Capri, is second to none and will prove to be beneficial to the City of Pittsburgh and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Region.

Help keep Pittsburgh and the Region a thriving place to live, play and work. Your favorable consideration of this application shall be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of John E. Pallone in cursive script.  
John E. Pallone



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: STEVEN M. TOPRANI

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: SLOTS FOR MARIO

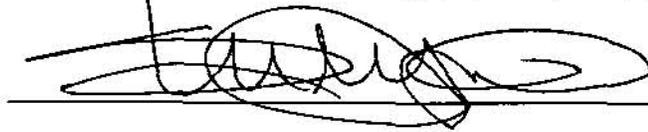
Employer: TOPRANI AND POPOJAK

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, STEVEN M. TOPRANI verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven M. Toprani", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

**TOPRANI & POPOJAS**

Attorneys at Law

www.tandplawyers.com

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Steven M. Toprani, Partner  
steve@tandplawyers.com  
Admitted to Practice in Pennsylvania

Dennis P. Popojas, Partner  
dennis@tandplawyers.com  
Admitted to Practice in Pennsylvania

June 1, 2006

To the Honorable Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board,

In 2004, Pennsylvania passed slots legislation which originally intended to salvage the horse racing industry. Since, the slots issue has snowballed as a means to assist in a variety of targeted areas, including property tax relief. The legislation permitted for 14 slot licenses to be awarded with a single license to be awarded to the city of Pittsburgh. The licensees will be charged an initial fee of 50 million dollars and all revenue will be taxed at a rate of 52%.

By the time proposals were due in late 2005, three applicants for the Pittsburgh license had emerged. The three potential licensees were Harrah's/Forest City, Isle of Capri, and Majestic Star. The three plans, as set forth publicly are detailed below.

As this honorable Board will recall, public opinion was provided during sessions on April 17th and 18th. Of the dozens of witnesses that testified, a majority spoke in favor of one plan, Isle of Capri. Testifying to the desires of Pittsburghers to tie the slot license with urban redevelopment and a new arena.

Harrah's/Forest City presented a proposal with a full capacity casino of 3,000 slots and multi-purpose entertainment center. The entire complex would be located in Station Square. It would include a casino, riverside restaurants, high-end shops, and a 1,200 seat event hall. The Station Square Sheraton hotel would also be expanded by 200 rooms. Another portion of the plan includes room to build 1,200 condominium units.

The plan fails to appropriate any amount to the Mellon Arena replacement fund. The major investment plan of Harrah's would be a \$25 million endowment for the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Also included would be an annual \$1 million community investment fund.

Majestic Star, run by Detroit owner Don Barden includes a proposal of a 17-acre site between the Carnegie Science Center and the West End Bridge on the North Side of Pittsburgh. The site would include a casino, entertainment venues, and a riverfront



promenade. The proposal includes a temporary riverboat casino that located on the North Shore until a permanent casino is constructed.

Recently, Don Barden committed \$350 million to redevelop the Lower Hill District. Barden's proposal involves no funding for the development of a new arena in Pittsburgh. However, Barden has stated that he would be willing to work with the Penguins on the development of a new arena.

Isle of Capri casinos proposal included a site which would have a casino located in the Hill District. The plan includes a large island themed casino, along with restaurants. The Isle of Capri plan is coupled with the Pittsburgh Penguins.

The Isle of Capri plan commits an upfront \$290 million to develop a new arena in Pittsburgh. The Isle of Capri plan also commits \$600 million to redevelop and revitalize the lower hill district. The Isle of Capri plan has a commitment to keeping the Pittsburgh Penguins in Pittsburgh.

I will now compare Isle of Capri to other two plans.

When comparing the Isle of Capri plan to Majestic Star, Isle of Capri has a strong advantage in its commitment to urban development. While Majestic Star stated a commitment, Barden made his proposal late, the time of the Gaming hearings in Pittsburgh. Isle of Capri made its plans to develop the Hill District in the initial proposal.

Majestic Star's \$300 million dollars to redevelop fails in comparison to Isle of Capri's \$600 million. The Majestic Star's plan to redevelop lacks sound backing for redevelopment. Isle of Capri, conversely was already appointed Nationwide Realty and has conducted in depth economic impact studies. Nationwide has a quality record of redevelopment, as evident by the success in Columbus. Barden's plan lacks many specifics, whereas Isle of Capri has a concrete plan in place.

The location of the Majestic Star's casino has also raised concerns. The Steelers and the Pirates have both voiced concern over having a casino near their sports complexes. However, Isle of Capri has already partnered with the Penguins, allowing no conflict by the sports team for the area of development.

The comparison between Harrah's/Forest City and Isle of Capri runs deeper. Harrah's lacks strong commitment to redevelopment and has failed to commit funds to a new arena. The only development money Harrah's has committed to the city is a \$25 million dollar endowment to Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, along with an annual one million dollar community development fund. Curiously, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation is the group that first enabled Station Square to initially develop. Harrah's is also promoting a plan that would add more development to an area already well developed area. Due to the above mentioned facts, we must assume that the only interests of Harrah's are economic and overlook the need for redevelopment.

Harrah's promoted its plan as most beneficial because of its famous and well-established customer rewards plan. This points program was touted as having world wide recognition. Harrah's has made statements of bringing customers from places as far off as Spain to play in Pittsburgh. However, the majority of the casinos that Harrah's are talking about are majority owned by them. This raises speculation of why Harrah's would bring someone to Pittsburgh from Nevada, where they could earn a higher return on revenue, due to the lower gaming tax.

As a resident of the area, there is concern on my part of who will ultimately be awarded the casino license. Looking at the plans objectively, it is clear that Isle of Capri's plan stands above the other two. This plan is tantamount for its clarity in helping the city with \$1 billion worth of redevelopment for the city of Pittsburgh. This plan eliminates any concern of how much will truly be given back to the city of Pittsburgh from the tax revenue.

Accordingly, I encourage the Board to award the license to Isle of Capri, the only proposal with a significant proposal with a significant commitment to urban development of our dear city.

Thank you for your great attention in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sto', with a large, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the signature.

Steven M. Toprani  
Attorney at Law



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: DAN REGAN

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, if any: ARAMARK

Employer: ARAMARK

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

(PLEASE SEE ATTACHED)

Aramark Corporation has been providing food service to the Mellon Arena and has been part of the Pittsburgh community for over 32 years. Not only is it in the best interest of Aramark to continue to do business in Pittsburgh and in a new arena, it is in their best of each and every Aramark employee to keep their current job. Aramark employs hundreds of people who call Pittsburgh their home and who are dedicated to this company as well as to this community.

Pittsburgh First is dedicated to putting the interests of the people of Pittsburgh first. The Isle of Capri proposed the BEST plan from the time they submitted their gaming application. They didn't modify it later by adding perks just to make their proposal seem more attractive.

Gaming came to Pennsylvania partly to help alleviate high property taxes. We have also been trying to get a new arena for years and now have the opportunity to do so. The Isle of Capri Casino will accomplish both. They are prepared to write a check within 90 days after the issuance of the license to begin construction on a new arena. This will allow our region to build a much-needed new facility free of taxpayers' dollars. No other competitor for the slots license has offered anything that remotely compares to what Isle of Capri has proposed. One competitor still hasn't agreed to help with the cost of a new arena at all.

Although the Governor has come up with "Plan B," I feel it will surely exploit tax dollars and use money shifting. A new arena may not get off the ground in a timely manner should another casino get this slots license. I don't see how we can give money back to the people on the property tax end and take it away from them to help fund a new arena. To me this is robbing Peter to pay Paul.

We talk about building a casino to bring new jobs to Pittsburgh. It should also be considered which casino will displace people from their current jobs. The Isle of Capri plan is the only one that will guarantee that the Pittsburgh Penguins will stay in Pittsburgh and, in turn, guarantee that Aramark employees and others currently employed by other companies in the area, will keep their jobs.

It is imperative that we award the gaming license to the applicant that will bring the most benefit the City. Pittsburgh will win with the Pittsburgh First Plan. We have been trying for so long to revitalize the downtown area and this is our chance. The Isle of Capri Casino offers redevelopment of the Hill District area of downtown, which will attract more people and allow those families currently living there to maintain their homes. It will also bring many ADDITIONAL jobs to the Hill District & Uptown area of the City, not merely take employees away from the companies that have been loyal to the Hill and the City for many years.

Tax relief might have been a big part of the original reason for gaming, but this community can benefit in so many other ways if Isle of Capri is awarded the license, including a new arena, redevelopment and reconnection with downtown of an oppressed neighborhood, a guarantee that the Pittsburgh Penguins will remain in Pittsburgh and donate \$1 million annually to the Pittsburgh First Foundation: I ask you, how can this be beat?

As the Regional Vice President of Aramark, I believe it is in the best interest of our City to choose the Isle of Capri Casino for the Pittsburgh slots license and I hope you do too.

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, DAN REGAN verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.





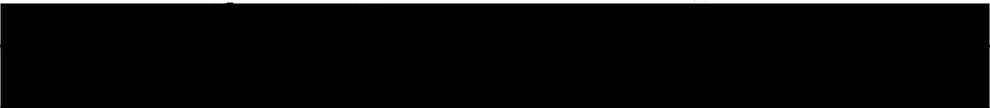
Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board

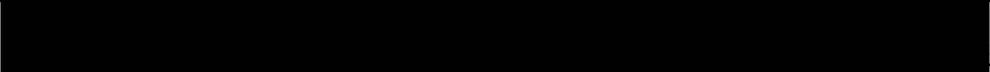


WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Robert J. Lewis

Address: 

Telephone:  com

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: I am the CEO of Orbital Engineering Inc

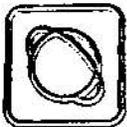
COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*Please see attached letter.*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, Robert J. Lewis verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

R. J. Lewis



**ORBITAL ENGINEERING,® INC.**

June 2, 2006

Office of the Clerk  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert Lewis and I am the President and CEO of Orbital Engineering, a Pittsburgh-based company located in the Hill District section of the City of Pittsburgh and I am writing to urge the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to award the single slots license to Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.

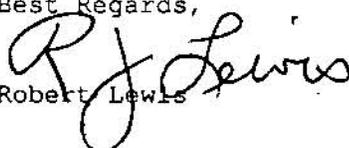
As a business owner and long time city resident, I appreciate the significance of the casino license and its impact on our City. Located in the Hill District for more than twenty years, I've seen the Hill and downtown community continue to lose businesses and fall further behind most other major metropolitan cities. The Pittsburgh First project includes a world-class casino, a new multi-purpose arena and redevelopment of the current Mellon Arena site. This project would bring needed development to my neighborhood, but also reconnect the Hill, Oakland and downtown Pittsburgh. The effect this will have on developing the economics of the business community will unify the financial communities of the Hill, Oakland, and Downtown.

As my business continues to grow, the need for larger office space becomes essential to the success of Orbital Engineering. We would very much like to stay in the area, however, we are limited by the number of buildings that can accommodate our company. If Isle of Capri were to be awarded the license, more opportunities for my business to thrive will become available and more businesses would be inclined to move back into the City.

We witnessed at the two-day Pittsburgh hearings that The Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. has the best plan for the City of Pittsburgh. It not only proposes the best location and access for a casino, the plan is also supported by a majority of elected officials. It is obvious that the downtown area needs this redevelopment project in order to continue to keep and support growing businesses and attract new business to the area.

It is not only 'loyal Penguins fans' that support the Isle of Capri, but local business-owners that see this as the only plan to help the economic development of the Oakland and downtown region. I urge you to choose the best plan for our City and award the single Pittsburgh Slots license to the Isle of Capri.

Best Regards,

  
Robert Lewis

PITTSBURGH • CHICAGO • PHILADELPHIA • TOLEDO • BIRMINGHAM

WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Barbara A. Mateer

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any: none

Employer: self

COMMENTS: At a time when the revitalization of Pittsburgh is of paramount concern, it is crucial to adopt a casino plan that facilitates the development of a part of the city that has been neglected. The vision of the Isle of Capri and the Penguin partnership enriches the city with more than just the revenue from the slots. The casino will be easy to get to and close to the convention center. In addition, the agreement gives Pittsburgh the world-class multiuse arena it needs and deserves--one that will play host to concerts and hockey, drawing people downtown to eat and shop. Adopting the Isle of Capri proposal ensures that Pittsburgh will be the winner--that's no gamble.

I, Barbara A. Mateer verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Barbara A. Mateer

Hal Martin



May 31, 2006

Office of the Clerk  
PA Gaming Control Board  
PO Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

Please accept this letter as my personal testimony in support of the **Isle of Capri** proposal of a slots facility located in the city of Pittsburgh.

In addition to the **Isle of Capri** being a very viable entity in running a facility of this nature, **Isle of Capri** has proposed a level of community support that vastly exceed the other entities submissions.

There is a multi-level benefit of this plan that will succeed in solidifying the Gaming presence in this region. Not only will revenue be maximized and enjoyed on a direct tax basis there will be a positive secondary impact that will contribute to enhancing the infrastructure of the region that will ensure the long-term viability of the Isle of Capri proposal.

The secondary impact will invest over \$1 billion in development while revitalizing the Lower Hill/Uptown area and reconnecting the area to downtown. It will also help to create thousands of new jobs for local companies. The crucial part of this secondary impact will be keeping the Penguins hockey franchise in Pittsburgh.

- *This is crucial to this region. The organization has been very giving of resources on both an economic and philanthropic basis. I am Chief Financial Officer of a non-profit human services agency in the region and appreciate the level of support the Penguins have provided to many agencies and individuals in need. To lose them would have a direct and indirect impact of thousands of citizens in need. There is also an important psychological aspect of having a major league franchise in this region. This region would receive great benefit of their assistance as a "partner" in attracting crowds of visitors ensuring successful gaming in Pittsburgh!*

The **Isle of Capri** plan is the **BEST** for the city of Pittsburgh. From location to access, private funding of a multi-purpose arena and redevelopment in an area that truly needs it, I strongly urge you to accept their plan that is supported by over 80 state and local elected leaders.

These factors speak volumes of the benefit of accepting the **Isle of Capri** plan.

Thank you for your highest consideration. Best wishes as you move forward in this process. I appreciate your role and support for our Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hal Martin".

Hal Martin



**Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board**



**WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS**

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name:

*HAL MARTIN*

Address:

[REDACTED]

Telephone:

[REDACTED]

Organization, if any:

\_\_\_\_\_

Employer:

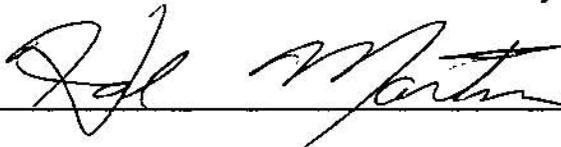
\_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

*PLEASE SEE LETTER ATTACHED*

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, HAR MARTIN verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



**BOROUGH OF VERONA**  
**Allegheny County, Pennsylvania**

**RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF VERONA OPPOSING THE USE OF ANY TAX PAYER DOLLARS OR ANY PUBLIC FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI PURPOSE ARENA: SUPPORTING THE USE OF NO TAX PAYER DOLLARS OR NO PUBLIC FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI PURPOSE ARENA; AND SUPPORTING THE ISLE OF CAPRI CASINOS, INC. AND THE PITTSBURGH FIRST PLAN, THE ONLY PLAN TO PLEDGE PURELY PRIVATE FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI PURPOSE ARENA.**

**WHEREAS**, there has been discussion regarding the need to construct a new multi- purpose arena to replace the aging Mellon Arena; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been discussion regarding utilizing certain revenues or other monies from the successful applicant who is awarded the category two category to gaming license in the City of Pittsburgh from the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Verona understands that there shall be one category two gaming license awarded to an applicant for the city of Pittsburgh from the Pennsylvania Gaming Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Verona understands that there are three leading applicants for the Gaming License, which will be awarded regardless of any action that the Borough of Verona takes; and

**WHEREAS**, only one of the three applicants has pledged that it will privately fund the construction of new multi purpose arena, and, in addition, redevelop the current 28 acre Mellon Arena site putting this property back on the tax roles; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant who has pledge to privately fund the construction of a new multi purpose arena is Pittsburgh First/Isle of Capri Casinos Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the other two applicants have not pledged that they will privately fund the construction of a new multi purpose arena, but rather, their plans contain public funding, which the Borough of Verona does not support; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Verona did not support the use of public funding to build either of the two stadiums on the North Shore; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Verona opposes the use of any public funding or taxpayer dollars to build a multi-purpose arena; and

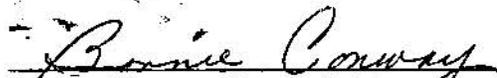
**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Verona opposes any applicant for the category two gaming license that is unwilling to commit the purely private funding necessary to construct a new multi-purpose facility.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Verona that:

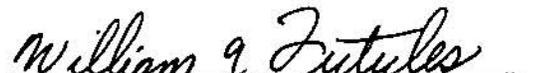
1. Council for the Borough of Verona supports the construction of a new multi-purpose facility in the City of Pittsburgh with purely private funding.
2. Council for the Borough of Verona opposes the construction of a new multi-purpose facility in the City of Pittsburgh with public funding or taxpayer dollars.
3. Council of the Borough of Verona does not support and opposes the allocation of the Category 2 Gaming License to any applicant who does not pledge to privately fund the construction of a new multi purpose arena.
4. Council of the Borough of Verona supports the allocation of the Category 2 Gaming License to the only applicant who has pledged that it will privately fund the construction of a new multi purpose arena, the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. and the Pittsburgh First Plan.
5. The Borough of Verona understands that this Resolution is not a referendum on whether gambling is in any way appropriate, but rather, is made with the understanding that a gaming license shall be awarded to one of three leading applicants in the City of Pittsburgh and with that knowledge that license should go to the only applicant willing to privately fund a multi purpose facility.
6. Nothing contained in this Resolution shall be construed in anyway as support for gambling in general. Rather, this Resolution simply supports the use of private funding for a multi purpose arena and support for the only applicant willing to do so; the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. and the Pittsburgh First Plan.
7. Any Ordinance or Resolution or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution is hereby repealed in so far as it affects this Resolution.

DULY ADOPTED at, and recorded in the minutes of a properly constituted meeting of the BOROUGH OF VERONA this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2006.

ATTEST:

  
Bonnie Conway, Borough Manager  
(SEAL)

THE BOROUGH OF VERONA

  
William A. Futules, President of Council

BORO OF VERONA



Pennsylvania  
Gaming Control Board



WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: KARYN PAPPERT

Address:

Telephone:

Organization, if any:

Employer:

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

For the City of Pittsburgh and its surrounding communities, the Isle of Capri plan is the best one. We need a new arena - trying the building of that area and refurbishing the Hill District (without cost to the taxpayers) to the granting of the slots license just makes sense. Moreover, locating a casino in that part of town alleviates what would be a horrible bottleneck if the casinos were located at Station Square.

Learn from New Orleans' experience with the Harrah group. They overestimated their revenues. From what I read, they've done that in other venues as well.

Isle of Capri will benefit our community. Please

Comments: Page 2 (continued)

I, KARYN PAPPERT verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Karyn Pappert



# Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board



## WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: SCOTT MCAFFEE

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: CHOICE ONE COMMUNICATIONS

COMMENTS: (Please use second page if more space is required)

To: PGCB  
From: SCOTT MCAFFEE

LET ME FIRST START BY SAYING THAT I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR MY ENTIRE 32 YEARS. I HAVE BEEN A PITTSBURGHER FOR 28 OF THEM. THE OTHER 4 I LIVED IN STATE COLLEGE AND ATTENDED PENN STATE UNIVERSITY. MOST OF THE PEOPLE I WENT TO COLLEGE WITH HAVE MOVED AWAY FROM PITTSBURGH, MOST OF THEM GOING TO OTHER STATES TO FIND WORK. I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE A DIFFICULT TASK IN DECIDING THE BEST PLAN & WHAT WOULD BENEFIT THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH. NOT SURE HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE SPENT TIME IN PITTSBURGH BUT IF YOU HAVE YOU KNOW THAT ...

