

## Philip Browndeis

date created: 4/13/2013 4:10:51 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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April 11, 2013 testimony of Philip Browndeis

Registrant ID number: 3794

Members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

My name is Philip Browndeis and I appear here today to state my opposition to the Provence Casino.

I live and own property in the Callowhill / North Chinatown neighborhood. I chose to live in this neighborhood because of my conviction that it would prosper due of its proximity to Center City. I am not convinced that living two blocks from a casino will increase the value of my property or enhance the quality of my life.

What troubles me the most about the casino is the corrupt bargain that has been offered to the nearby communities. Last November, a lawyer named Kevin Greenberg appeared in the neighborhood offering to represent the civic associations, churches and schools under the name of the North Broad Community Coalition. Mr. Greenberg advised the members of the Coalition not to take a public position either for or against the casino during the licensing process and that he would negotiate a Benefits Agreement with Bart Blatstein should he be granted the license. It seemed as though Kevin Greenberg just wanted to do a mitzvah for the community.

It turns out that Kevin Greenberg is a partner in the law firm Flaster / Greenberg, the same firm representing Bart Blatstein's casino operating partner, the Isle of Capri.

The Isle of Capri's diversity plan calls for it to "make donations when possible, to local civic and charitable causes." In other words, Kevin Greenberg has offered to negotiate an agreement that the Isle of Capri has already pledged to give to the area.

Kevin Greenberg and Paul Snitzer, the chairman of the North Community Coalition, dwell on the casino's impact on traffic and parking in the area, both of which will turn a bad dream into an absolute nightmare, and how helpful Mr. Blatstein has been in offering to pay for a new traffic study. However, what they do not dwell on is the casino's social impact. There are also hundreds of school children in the area every day, as well as numerous churches; two of the closest are the Church of Latter-day Saints and the Arch Street United Methodist Church. The Church of Latter-day Saints opposes all forms of gambling including state sponsored lotteries, "Church leaders encourage Church members to join with others in opposing the legalization and government sponsorship of any form of gambling." The Church of Latter-day Saints goes on to say that "Gambling is motivated by a desire to get something for nothing. This desire is spiritually destructive." The United Methodist Church has also publicly stated that "gambling serves as a 'regressive tax' on those with lower income. In summary, gambling is bad economics; gambling is bad public policy; and gambling does not improve the quality of life." Truer words have never been spoken.

The Provence's location is also very close to Philadelphia's Chinatown. The Asian community in particular has suffered the ill effects of gambling addiction. The Isle of Capri's diversity plan states plainly that it will develop "strategies that market to ethnic minorities and niche groups to patronize the casino complex. Such efforts are to include targeted ethnic publications; ethnic entertainment events, promotions and other forms of special events." Zhang Wei will be more than welcome at the Provence; it wants him as a loyal customer. How can a casino be a good neighbor when it is promising to prey upon its neighbors?

But what profit is there for our communities, if we gain everything we want in a Community Benefits Agreement and lose our integrity in the process?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before this Board today.

**Emily S. Brown**

date created: 4/21/2013 9:15:55 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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As a long term resident of the Spring Garden neighborhood, and a mother, grandmother and teacher I oppose the Provence proposal. It is within walking distance of many elementary, middle and high schools and also various colleges. It could easily attract the young and curious into potentially very negative situations, even destructive habits.

It is also very close to Vine Street and the newly improved Parkway where many cultural, medical, religious and artistic institutions line the revered historic greenway. The area attracts both local residents and tourists of many kinds to enjoy the inspiration these offer. An improved Little League field and a new children's garden add to the natural beauty and humanitarian sense of the area.

The development of property along the east side of Broad street north to Fairmount is expected to provide venues for similarly wholesome and healthy activities and businesses for people of many ages. It would be a shame to have a casino embedded in the midst of all this careful work.

Thank you for your consideration

ATTENTION : PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD MEMBERS. December 30, 2013

This statement is in promotion of the gaming license issuance to Tower Entertainment CEO Bart Blastein.

The city can greatly profit from the revenue and employment generated by this world class resort, entertainment and business complex. The location is convenient and ideal and will attract tourists from around the world.

Mr. Blastein is a true native son, he loves and respects Philadelphia. His development in our neighborhood of Northern Liberties has enhanced the area and increased the value of our real estate. I am a long time resident of the area and have benefitted from the presence of Tower Investment.

I have attended the hearings, meeting and presentations for the applicants. Tower Entertainment was outstanding in their presentations. They led in attractiveness and sophistication of their ideas and vision. I would like to see the Provence become a reality for Tower Entertainment and Bart Blastein, the most deserving group to serve our fair city.

Thank you

HARLENE E MONTGOMERY

CC Bart Blastein



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601 N. 17<sup>th</sup> St. 1<sup>st</sup> Fl., Phila., PA 19130  
Tel. 215-802-8613; Fax 215-236-9303

November 25, 2013

Mr. William H. Ryan, Jr.  
Chairman  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Bd.  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

The Honorable Darrell L. Clarke  
President and 5<sup>th</sup> District Councilman  
Philadelphia City Council  
Room 494, City Hall  
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3290

Mr. Alan Greenberger  
Deputy Mayor for  
Planning and Economic Devel.  
Chairman, Planning Commission  
City of Philadelphia  
One Parkway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1515 Arch St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Mr. Bart Blatstein  
President  
Tower Gaming LLC,  
c/o Tower Investments, Inc.  
1033 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Re: Provence Casino Application, Philadelphia

Dear Chairman Ryan, Council President Clarke, Mr. Greenberger, Mr. Blatstein:

I am writing on behalf of the Spring Garden Civic Association ("SGCA") and the many area residents and interests we represent. We seek your respective consideration, on behalf of our community, of our concerns regarding the potential "Provence" mixed-use and casino development, as proposed by Applicants Bart

Blatstein and Tower Gaming, LLC, for the second Philadelphia Category 2 Licensed Gaming Facility.

By way of introduction, the Spring Garden Civic Association ("SGCA") was organized by community leaders in the late 1960s and is one of the oldest Civic Associations in the City. The SGCA (along with our local CDC, see below), are the duly-recognized Registered Community Organizations ("RCOs") representing some 5,000 households in an area bounded by Spring Garden St. to the south, N. Broad St. to the east, Fairmount Ave. to the north and Pennsylvania Ave. to the west.

Since its inception, the SGCA has taken a very active role in the stewardship of the neighborhood's renaissance and emergence as one of the most desirable, ethnically and economically diverse, and eminently "livable" and "walkable" communities in the City. Through an affiliated 501(c)(3) non-profit development and services organization, Spring Garden Community Development Corporation ("SGCDC"), we have redeveloped hundreds of affordable residential units and market rate houses, and have acquired, repurposed and successfully marketed numerous properties for high-end redevelopment by others (including mixed-use commercial development on our commercial corridors). We have also provided primary funding and programs for ongoing neighborhood clean-ups over a broad area; the recent transformation and daily maintenance for our local playground; development and maintenance of community gardens; large-scale tree-plantings and tree-and-sidewalk care programs; numerous economic development projects; and attending to the countless daily social needs of our many residents living below the poverty line, including medical attention, legal representation, jobs and job training, continuing education, computer literacy, various other critical needs of our adult populations; and youth programs, including a youth work corps, after-school homework help program, computer training and free computers, free summer day camps and overnight camps, and numerous services for the local grade school (including a full time art teacher and other staff), among other activities.

As you can imagine, the attendant efforts (and costs) to continue to carry out these vitally-important programs and projects, and to provide ongoing social services, year in and year out, has been staggering.

Given our immediate proximity to the site of Mr. Blatstein's proposed "Provence" casino and mixed-use complex, and along with our good neighbors in the adjacent Logan Square area, we represent the two neighborhoods that will be most profoundly affected, for better or worse, from a development of this magnitude. As you are aware, the issue of locating a casino can be divisive, and

there are always some individuals in any community who find the very use objectionable, so we doubt that, even under the best of circumstances, a clear consensus can be achieved. Accordingly, and in fairness, we do not believe we are in a position, at this point in time, to outright endorse or oppose the project. We also understand that the decision to license a particular applicant and facility will, by statute, lie solely with the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

That said, we do anticipate significant impacts on our community and would like the Gaming Control Board, our District Councilman/Council President, the City's representatives, and the Applicant, Mr. Blatstein, to fairly consider our concerns.

To his tremendous credit, Mr. Blatstein has made himself and his development team available at convenient times to give numerous enthusiastic presentations to both our General Membership and our Zoning Committee and Board, and has kept us abreast of changes and refinements as his plans have evolved. The open lines of communication have been much appreciated and the discussions to date can be characterized as positive, constructive and responsive. Should Mr. Blatstein's pending application ultimately be successful, we would look forward to continuing the dialogue and cooperation.

In the interim, however, we do have some concerns and suggestions, and are confident that these could all be easily addressed without detriment to Mr. Blatstein's vision for the property, or his business model. Our concerns, and those most frequently expressed anecdotally by many of our constituents, fall into four basic categories:

- I. Tangible employment opportunities and funding benefits to help address our community's social needs and revitalization efforts.
- II. Physical impacts primarily related to the availability of off-street parking and loading.
- III. Operational considerations of a mixed-use facility potentially attracting minors, and area-wide security and surveillance.
- IV. Contextual and aesthetic considerations.

## **I. Employment Opportunities; Community Revitalization and Social Programs**

First and foremost, we take Mr. Blatstein at his word that he is committed to becoming an actively involved stakeholder in the area's continued success. That said, our community has many needs, including job training and job creation.

### **A. Jobs and Job Training**

We have many bright and gifted residents, some already trained in the hospitality industry and others in need of training (but with initiative), who are in need of employment opportunities. We are seeking from the Applicant and their casino operator, IsleCorp., a commitment to consider and hire local Spring Garden residents for living-wage jobs. This can be accomplished through local job fairs; assistance in interviewing and/or waiving application fees and the cost of Gaming Control Board background checks (which can be an impediment to many unemployed and low-income individuals); and giving fair consideration to pre-screened applicants from the community for available jobs in construction and at the completed facility. Also, providing employment opportunities that include on-the-job training would greatly assist many of our residents who are struggling to become fully and gainfully employed.

### **B. Community Revitalization and Social Services**

We are proud of the many physical improvements, enhancements, and ongoing maintenance and social service programs that our Organizations, along with our committed residents, have been able to effect in our area, including, as mentioned, in part, above, a fantastic newly-revitalized playground (which we maintain on a daily basis); a large community garden and other satellite gardens; an ambitious and successful bi-annual tree-planting and tree and sidewalk maintenance program; a team of sweepers to keep the area clean and tidy; crime cameras to deter crime and apprehend criminals; construction/revitalization of market rate and affordable housing; façade restoration projects; and numerous economic development programs, to name just a few. In addition, we continually fund/provide open space and recreational programs, a full time art teacher at the local elementary school, summer activities and free day camps and overnight camps for deserving local youths, youth work programs, jobs and job training, a broad array of other social services, and many civic gatherings that bring all of our neighbors together.

We are also situated between two commercial corridors, Spring Garden St. and Fairmount Ave., both of which are sorely in need of focused comprehensive



planning, and funding for enhanced lighting, landscaping, façade restoration, and cooperative parking solutions that will allow our commercial corridors to thrive.

By way of an appropriate precedent for a Community Benefits Agreement, we are aware of both the basic intent and the financial substance of the agreement between Fishtown Action, New Kensington CDC and HSP Gaming, LP (SugarHouse Casino) that was established when the first Category 2 Licensed Gaming Facility was awarded; and we further understand that Council President Clarke was instrumental in acting as an ombudsman in this process. We understand from both residents and casino management alike that this has been a very successful partnership between the casino and area residents.

At our last meeting, Mr. Blatstein seemed to concur, suggesting that it would be most beneficial to all parties that a Community Benefits Agreement be put in place with our community as soon as possible. We wholeheartedly agree and believe that such an Agreement - - to be contingent, of course, upon a favorable decision for the Provence site - - can and should be put into place before the award. Towards that end, we would like to prevail upon Council President Clarke to help us to facilitate this in advance of the Gaming Control Board's decision. Thereafter, we look forward to working in good faith with the Applicant, the Council President's office, and the various City agencies that will be called upon to review and approve the rezoning of the parcels.

## **II. Parking, Loading, and Deliveries**

With respect to our concerns regarding adequate parking and loading, these are the kinds of concerns that any community might have, given the already taxed and congested streets leading to and from Center City (and within our neighborhood), and the sheer size of the contemplated development.

We understand that the proposed parking ratio is less than required by the current zoning ordinance for Special Purpose Entertainment Districts, and which is applied to the City's only other casino, SugarHouse. It may be arguable that a location such as Mr. Blatstein's, being so close to the downtown core and available public transit, may in fact experience reduced parking demands in practice. (This has been the subject of innumerable debates). However, we do think the reduction below the current 4 dedicated on-site spaces/5 gaming positions should be modest at most, perhaps 3:4 at best, particularly in light of all the other ancillary commercial uses that are proposed. We can perhaps be persuaded that it will be incumbent on the developer and casino operator to provide safe, free and proximate

parking, or otherwise risk losing customers. However, the same may not be true of casino employees, with shifts of between 300 and 400 full time employees, who may be more inclined to roam the surrounding neighborhood in search of parking, if not otherwise provided with safe and convenient free parking. For this reason, we are strongly suggesting that dedicated free parking be provided to employees.

In addition, we are concerned about off-street loading facilities and deliveries. Given that Mr. Blatstein's assembled parcel spans some three city blocks, including a central block between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets comprised entirely of new construction, we believe that a proper loading dock, where all truck movements occur off-street, and in forward gear, should be easily attainable. The need for a proper solution to this issue is only exacerbated by the fact that this is a large mixed-use facility, with loading and delivery requirements that extend far beyond what is required solely for a casino.

### **III. An Age-Restricted Entertainment Facility; Neighborhood Security**

Consistent with what we understand to be the City's and the Planning Commission's position, we are not adverse to a mixed-use facility to include a hotel, restaurants, retail, and other uses. These are in fact the kinds of uses that can make a project and a neighborhood that much more vital and vibrant. However, Mr. Blatstein has stated that he wants his facility, other than the casino proper, to be "family-oriented"; and we understand that his proposed program includes a large entertainment and concert performance venue.

On this point we seem to respectfully disagree. The Provence complex should in no way become an attractive nuisance to minors who should have little business being in or around an adult-oriented facility with such proposed uses as a Mega Sports Bar, Beach Club, etc., not to mention a Casino. We are not suggesting the outright elimination of the entertainment/concert venue, but rather that its programs be age-restricted by ordinance or, alternatively, that the casino operator, IsleCorp., be charged with its management and bookings, thereby ensuring, by law, an age-21-and-over crowd. This is a very important consideration for us.

We are also aware that the Gaming Board will require that the successful Applicant provide a state-of-the-art and fully-manned surveillance and security operation within the facility and that State Police jurisdiction is limited to the gaming floor proper. We would respectfully request that the camera network and routine security patrols be extended beyond the confines of Mr. Blatstein's Provence facility to include, at a minimum, those areas bounded by Vine St., Spring

Garden St., 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Broad St., with a cooperative security service agreement with Community College of Philadelphia. Mr. Blatstein has already discussed with us the issue of an expanded security and surveillance operation.

#### **IV. Aesthetics and Design; Streetscape-Friendly Considerations**

Some of our neighbors have expressed aesthetic concerns, particularly about the earlier designs being “too literal” or “Disney-like” in their pseudo-historical references to a French renaissance streetscape. To be sure, Philadelphia has some wonderful French roots, but we also have our own and well-deserved aesthetic sensibilities that can be at once timeless and appropriate in scale and detail. Fortunately, Mr. Blatstein’s more recent plans seem to be addressing this, as the more literal vocabulary has since been “tamed” down; and we encourage further refinement in this area.

It is also important to recognize that North Broad Street, and N. 15<sup>th</sup> and N. 16<sup>th</sup> Streets, are all significant pedestrian and vehicular gateways between our community and Center City; and Mr. Blatstein’s plans propose to literally span these corridors with wide, new multi-story bridges to connect the various blocks. While we can appreciate the need to aggregate large contiguous floor-plates for the casino, we fully expect that quality materials, thoughtful lighting, and abundant landscaping will be employed to make these physical transitions more attractive for those of us who use these thoroughfares (both by vehicle, and on foot) on a daily basis.

In conclusion, as the Commonwealth and the City consider what amounts to a very real “business partnership” with this Applicant, we, as a host community, respectfully request that our eminently reasonable considerations also be respected and codified in a timely manner. Towards that end, and with your help and cooperation, we will be looking forward to concluding a Community Benefits Agreement with the Applicant in the coming months, and, thereafter, addressing our operational concerns as the property is rezoned and redeveloped under the auspices of the Planning Commission and our District Councilman/Council President.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,



Justino Navarro

President

**Faith M. Quintavell**

date created: 3/7/2013 10:00:28 AM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I support efforts to place casinos in Philadelphia in areas such as the old Philadelphia Inquirer building (which is a few blocks from my home), the Navy Yard, and other such areas near and in neighborhoods. I believe it is a form of class-ism that so many of my neighbors are against the idea of a casino in the Philadelphia Inquirer building. I welcome the jobs and activity the casino will bring to the neighborhood, and the entertainment it will provide to people who will enjoy it.

However, I strongly disagree with putting another casino on the waterfront from Spring Garden Street to South Street. There needs to be a comprehensive plan for waterfront development that would attract tourism to Philadelphia, similar to the Baltimore Inner Harbor, and putting a casino there is incompatible with this idea.

-- Faith Quintavell

Democratic Committeewoman

8th Ward, 24th Division

Philadelphia, PA

**Noah Ostroff**

date created: 3/15/2013 4:32:12 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I very much support Tower Developments proposal for a casino. I believe their proposal is by far the best one and will have the most positive impact on the city both financially and as a destination spot. As a local Real estate professional, what Tower Development has done in the Northern Liberties neighborhood has impacted my business greatly. 10 years ago, no one wanted to live in Northern Liberties, and now, it is a highly desirable neighborhood for home buyers, businesses and renter. The amount of money that Tower Development has not only brought into the city of Philadelphia, but also to local businesses, Real Estate Professional as well as many other companies and people is astronomical.

The new casino they are proposing has the ability to have that same positive impact. I am very much in support of their project.

**Barbara J. Kelley**

date created: 3/22/2013 5:01:32 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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Dear Chairman Ryan,

I am knowledgeable about the gaming field, since I am a dealer at one casino, manager of a community group, involved in the nonprofit and gaming fields and coordinate community and business associations with the City of Philadelphia close to this casino development. I was also born in Phila, went to school in Philly, left Philly and came back to work in the North Section City (close to the La Provence Casino).

I have made it my mission to learn about all the Casinos, their communities, business associations, police and leaders in all of the areas. I meet with their CDC coordinators, business and resident associations on a regular basis. I know what they are thinking and not one of the other location community groups, economic development representatives are as supportive, knowledgeable of and truly interacting with their Casino owners like Bart Bladstein and our area (all of our areas community groups). It is amazing the difference between the language, body language, interaction, attitude and caring about a major expansion in all of their areas as compared to Tower proposal. The other area (especially Wynn, 8th Market, Cornish) reps are repulsed, overwhelmed, frustrated, and puzzled by their developments whereas our entire community is positive, involved, supportive and pleased that a native Philadelphian who is going to revitalize a Corridor that has been forgotten by the City, agencies and officials.

Only Bart Bladstein has been already working with the other developers, residents, religious and community leaders in the surrounding area on an ongoing basis. He has supported the area in many ways that the other Casino candidates have not done and don't even feel necessary. One other CDC said Wynn has not even met or give answers their questions. Because of this lack of respect, that is why the one Civic Association has openly come out adamantly against the Wynn Casino development, and will continue to make havoc. That CDC will support the Civic Associations, so that development should not even be considered.

The 8th and Market Casino will be a diaster for the casino goes late at night. The players will not go to Casino and it will be a diaster waiting to happen. It is competition for the restaurants in the area, which will be even a bigger problem with the businesses in the area.

Now, anyone who wants a Casino anywhere near the Stadium is nuts! As a dealer and community organizer, the traffic will put the death to not only the Casino but to some of the concerts and sporting events. I WILL NOT want to attend anything down there, especially the games, if the Casino goes in there. I will go to the Wilmington Blue Rocks! This community does NOT want this Casino (and the other So Philly locations) and they will speak out when the time comes. They are already complaining about parking, noise, traffic, late night problems, and they did not even want Xfinity! They were quiet about Xfinity but they will NOT be quiet about the three Casinos down in So. Philly area, especially near the Stadium. Traffic will add time to go Grocery shopping....remember Casino is 24 hours!

I feel that Tower's LaProvence Casino is a win-win-win story of all time! He has been involved already, will hire community residents (who can walk to work), work with Philly Works (unemployed personnel first), have a prepared EOP proposal that befits the area demographics, work with community groups (he has already), work with officials and agencies to make this a City-Community-Casino Collaboration!

Bart Bladstein has secured his funding up front by selling the prestigious Northern Liberties to ensure the completion of this new venture to revitalize an area that needed it so bad.

The Casino owners are not revitalizing South Philly. Wynn is not revitalizing Wynn's Northern location when the community does not support you. Market Street location is not being supportive of the other businesses, but competitive. Bart is REVITALIZING a community that wants his casino, supports his casino, embraces his development. Avenue of the Arts will benefit from this expansion on the North Broad Street corridor and WE want La Provence!

I hope this explains the need, want and pride of the community in support of Bart Bladstein Tower La Provence Casino development.

Thank you,

Barbara Kelley

Francisville Commercial Corridor Manager

FNDC

(also a part of Greater Art Museum Business Alliance)



**Thomas Beebe**

date created: 3/24/2013 7:55:18 AM

speaking for: \* Casino Gaming in General \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I know Mr. Blatstein by reputation only, but feel that his endeavor would be beneficial to the overall economy of Philadelphia, and believe that his application should be approved.

**dodie l. layton**

date created: 3/25/2013 10:26:51 AM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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great appeal, excitement

public transportation perfect for location

location / proximity perfect to show off the spectacular city of Philadelphia

combined with divide Lorraine this could be an example of what a city and developers can do create hope dreams

time to believe with opportunities

**Stacey L.. Dowling**

date created: 3/27/2013 12:03:20 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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My name is Stacey Dowling, owner of a business located on north Broad St.  
also raised in the North Philadelphia area and attended Strawberry Mansion H.S.

I was

I am in support of this project to be located on north Broad street because I would very much like to see the continued development of the area. Especially, if it would mean employment opportunities for the immediate community.

My business also host many cultural events; live jazz, poetry/spoken word, live music, etc. This would also serve as an opportunity to work in conjunction with another anchor business neighbor to further support our efforts.

**Brendan W. Flynn**

*date created: 3/29/2013 10:50:36 AM*

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I have had the opportunity to work with Bart for the past three years in the capacity of a commercial real estate agent. We have marketed his properties both for sale and lease. I have always found Bart to be a shrewd business person, a creative deal maker and his ambition/vision makes you want to work harder.

I support Bart's project on north Broad Street because of his history of transforming neighborhoods and I feel his energy and vision will be a boon to a part of the City that is in desperate need of the right developer.

**Nicole A. Cashman**

date created: 3/29/2013 4:40:43 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I'm writing in support of Tower Investments. I have been a professional colleague of Tower and Bart for almost ten years. I've seen him completely reinvent and transform Northern Liberties into a thriving vibrant neighborhood. I think is an asset to the city and has vision that most developers lack.

**Kenneth Mallin**

date created: 4/1/2013 11:22:34 AM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I am the president & CEO of Mallin Panchelli Nadel Realty Inc., a very active commercial real estate brokerage company located in center city Philadelphia. Our firm specializes in the brokerage of investment properties, development opportunities, general commercial transactions as well as retail leasing. We have been in business for 21 years and have handled a number of the higher profile transactions in downtown Philadelphia. I have been in the real estate business for over 35 years.

It has been my pleasure to have known Bart Blatstein for over 35 years. I consider Bart to be one of the most creative minds in real estate development in the Philadelphia marketplace. His extraordinary track record of success and impact on the growth of Philadelphia is unparalleled.

I knew him "back when" he was developing smaller-scale properties and through his years when he changed the landscape of Delaware Avenue from a series of vacant parcels to a thriving commercial community.

I watched him solidify the commercial corridor in Manayunk as well as observed his incredible success in turning Northern Liberties into a vibrant and great community in which to live and have fun. Who ever thought there could be an Italian Piazza in Philadelphia!

I have observed his recent successes on North Broad Street at Temple and now his development along North Broad just above City Hall.

Bart has been a visionary who has been a "doer", not just a "talker". I believe his plan for a casino and entertainment center on North Broad is exactly what the city and the state need to generate the greatest impact for a successful casino development. I also know that Bart will "get it done" – just as he has in everything else in which he has been involved.

Kenneth Mallin

Mallin Panchelli Nadel Realty Inc.

**Richard D. Cottom**

date created: 4/1/2013 5:25:14 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I have had an opportunity to work with Bart Blatstein and Tower at 2 of their apartment complexes. My experiences with his organization have been great. As a MBE business owner in the city they have been extremely supportive of my business. They make sure that we have been paid in a timely manner. We are given fair opportunities at doing business with his firm. He has been a true strategic partner for my company. Mr. Blatstein and his company are good for small businesses in Philadelphia region.

I support his bid for a gaming license in Philadelphia.

**Larry Bergen**

date created: 4/2/2013 6:43:50 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I have known Bart Blatstein for 35 years and have had the good fortune to witness the real estate success that Bart has created and nurtured in Philadelphia.

Bart is so passionate about his commitment to Philadelphia and the communities that blend the exciting ethnic, cultural and academic personalities of this great and historic City.

I have listened over decades to Bart talking about improving neighborhoods and generating new life, jobs and tax ratables to the City. I often was disbelieving, but time and time again he has set a vision, acted upon it, and, each time, has created a transformation of a neighborhood to achieve its potential.

Bart has the intelligence and a macro view to identify a need and build upon it. He has successfully planned and built retail and residential properties that have thrived. He recognized a need for student housing and took action.

Now he has identified an entertainment and hospitality vacuum that the Provence will fill, and our City will once again be enriched by Bart's passion, vision and commitment.

Bart undertakes projects because they make sense and he can be proud to be the imagineer. He does it because he wildly believes in it and knows that it will improve the fabric of the City and the affected communities.

I believe that the location of the Provence is so ideal, completing a tract of North Broad Street that has been so ready for a visionary like Bart. And its proximity to the Convention Center makes it so perfectly logical that additional bookings for the Center will likely ensue.

Every single project that Bart has envisioned and built has been successful in every way imaginable. Fortunately for many of us, Bart imagined it possible.



**Mitch Gyger**

*date created: 4/5/2013 3:03:48 PM*

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I would like to express my support for Tower Entertainment LLC and the proposed casino, The Provence. I have worked with Tower in their previous projects and they firmly believe in the revitalization of Philadelphia and care about this great city. Being a company that was started and is headquartered in Philadelphia means they have a vested interest in the success of this venture. They care and want to give back to the city of Philadelphia, by offering numerous jobs and opportunity's to philadelphia residents and businesses. I believe that Tower Entertainment is the best choice to bring a great casino to this city.

**Justin P. Cleary**

date created: 4/8/2013 10:23:20 AM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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I have know and worked with Bart Blatstein since the inception of my company (The Philly Apartment Company Inc.) in 2004. Our dealing's have always been utterly professional and fair. Bart is a man of his word, a strong business man and a tremendous asset to the city of Philadelphia. I strongly support his application.

**Larry Magid**

date created: 4/8/2013 12:55:37 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

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It is my extreme pleasure to attest to the good character of Bart Blatstein.

Over the twenty years that I have known him, I have found Mr. Blatstein to be, unquestionably, one of the finest men I have ever known. I have known him to be an astute businessman and a caring, charitable person.

We served together on the Presidents Advisory Council of Temple University, for several years. That is where I saw first hand his ability to manage and make unique observations and well informed decisions. In addition, his charitable activities in the Philadelphia area are well documented. In early May, he will be honored by the Boy Scouts of America.

As a tenant in an office building he owns, I have seen his many acts of kindness and charity, dealing evenly with the ordinary people, as well as the successful. He always seems to have time for everyone. Mr. Blatstein handles business decisions with a genuineness and even demeanor not always found in successful businessmen.

It has been an honor to have known and worked with Bart Blatstein for the past twenty years.

Sincerely,

Larry Magid

**Phillip W.. Cuffey**

date created: 4/16/2013 12:02:01 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

---

*Tower investments has an impressive record of improving the quality of life for neighbors, adding value to neighborhoods and economy.*

**HARLENE MONTGOMERY**

date created: 5/8/2013 4:22:51 PM

speaking for: \* Tower Entertainment, LLC (The Provence)

---

*I support the Provence Project.*

Bart Blastein with Tower Entertainment and Tower Investments would be the best choice for the developement in center city. He has a proven record for top developement for the city of philadelphia. I reside in Northern Liberties and have seem the value of my property multiply many times without a great increase in taxes. All due to the innovation of Tower investments and how they go about developing throughout the city.

Center city is much in need of a Resort complex to draw tourism and give the citizens of philadelphia a world class resort, such as the Provence. I have seen the presentations and fully agree that Tower Entertainment is by far the only choice the city has to make monumental improvement to our city. Northern Liberties is a Prime exampe of the excellent developments of 'Tower'.

Thank You



# 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 a license for slots operators:

Name: Joseph D. Ruff

PLEASE SIGN AND HAND IN TO GAMING BOARD STAFF MEMBER OR MAIL TO:

PGCB – BOARD SECRETARY, P.O. Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

COMMENTS REGARDING:

(Please use reverse side if more space is required)

Boat. Blackston  
(Name of Applicant/Project)

WE HAVE SEEN THE PROPOSAL BY MR. BLACKSTON AND WE ARE IN FULL SUPPORT OF HIM. WE ARE A SMALL VENDOR LISTED AS A MINORITY WITH THE CITY OF PHILA, AND A MBE WITH THE STATE OF PA.

I, Joseph Ruff verify that any factual information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Signature]  
Signature



# 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 a license for slots operators:

Name: JEFF KEEL

PLEASE SIGN AND HAND IN TO GAMING BOARD STAFF MEMBER OR MAIL TO:

PGCB – BOARD SECRETARY, P.O. Box 69060 Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060

COMMENTS REGARDING:  
(Please use reverse side if more space is required)

Jeff Keel  
(Name of Applicant/Project)

COMMENTS ON ATTACHMENT

I, JEFF KEEL verify that any factual information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jeff Keel  
Signature

- Good morning, ladies and gentlemen of the Gaming Board. My name is Jeff Keel and I own two restaurants in the Fairmount section of the city – The Bishop’s Collar and St. Stephen’s Green - both within easy walking distance of Bart Blatstein’s proposed Provence (“**PRAH-vonce**”) Resort and Casino.
- I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak today.
- Fairmount is a community in transition. Pockets of the community are flourishing, with new restaurants and bars springing up, and home prices on the rise.
- Other sections of the neighborhood are lagging behind.
- What would most benefit the Fairmount community – and the entire city – is an anchor, a resort destination that would not only be a major attraction for Philadelphians, but a tourism draw for the entire region.
- Mr. Blatstein’s Provence Resort and Casino is exactly the type of game-changing development we need.
- Far from just another slots-in-a-box project, The Provence, with its mix of restaurants, nightclubs, swim clubs, theaters, shops, world-class casino and other attractions, would be a true destination.
- As a restaurant owner, I would welcome The Provence in my back yard because it would give my patrons an exciting entertainment option nearby for post-dinner fun that would increase my business dramatically.
- The Provence would also spark new residential and commercial development in the still emerging sections of Fairmount that would benefit everyone. A rising tide lifts all boats.



- Far from viewing The Provence as competition, I view the project as a catalyst for economic development in North Philadelphia and a source of pride for the city and state.
- Of all the casino designs I've seen, none rival The Provence for its scope and beauty.
- I urge the Gaming Board to focus not just on which project can drive the greatest revenue, but which project can have the greatest long-term, beneficial impact on city and state tourism - which project can be a true game-changer. That project is The Provence.
- Thank you for your time and attention.

April 4, 2013

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Attn: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

RE: Isle of Capri/Tower Entertainment Gaming License

Dear Gaming Board:

It has come to my attention that the Isle of Capri and Tower Entertainment partnership has applied for a gaming license in Philadelphia, PA. It is the objective of this letter to illustrate the Port Authority of Kansas City's support for such application.

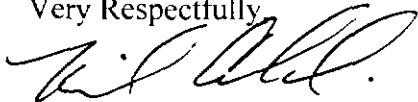
In 2000, the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. purchased a casino located in the heart of Kansas City, MO. While Isle of Capri owns and manages the casino, the property is leased from the Port Authority of Kansas City. Therefore, over the past twelve years we have enjoyed a healthy and productive relationship between the Port Authority, Isle of Capri-Kansas City and their corporate office.

The Isle of Capri Casino-Kansas City has created a diversified workforce, which simulates the demography of Kansas City. Additionally, Isle of Capri has become a leader in developing and working with minority vendors in Kansas City as well as throughout the state of Missouri.

Through the Isle's "Community Aces" program the company is actively engaged in numerous charitable events including the Susan G. Komen race, United Way, Ronald McDonald House and Kansas City's annual July 4<sup>th</sup> "Riverfest" festival.

Isle of Capri is a great community and economic partner for the City of Kansas City and I know they will meet Pennsylvania with the same mission and benefit. I appreciate your time and consideration of the gaming license application. It is my hope that you give this application full and favorable consideration.

Very Respectfully,



Michael M. Collins  
President & CEO

# City of Caruthersville

200 West Third Street  
Caruthersville, MO 63830



Phone (573) 333-2142  
Fax (573) 333-4247  
DIANE SAYRE, Mayor

[www.caruthersvillecity.com](http://www.caruthersvillecity.com)

April 4, 2013

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P. O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, Pa. 19107

Dear Chairman Ryan and Commissioners:

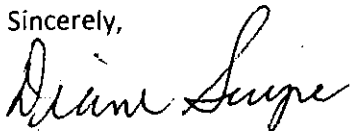
As the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board considers the application of Tower Entertainment with Isle of Capri as manager, I would like to share our city's positive relationship with Isle of Capri. Since purchasing the casino in Caruthersville in 2007, Isle of Capri has provided support to our local community by providing monetary donations and hours of community service to local organizations. Isle of Capri has made significant monetary contributions to local projects that enhance the quality of life in our community including a new tennis court complex and a skate park. In the past year the company also assisted the local American Legion post with the upgrade of their facilities and helped the local school district with much needed repairs to their athletic fields.

During the historic Mississippi River flood of 2011, Isle of Capri's Lady Luck Casino once again opened their facilities to the responding agencies to use as staging areas. The Missouri National Guard was able to use their parking lot to stage vehicles, equipment and material as they worked to build a retaining wall adjacent to the floodwall that protects the city.

The working relationship between the city and the casino has been and continues to be strong. Based upon the foregoing, we view Isle of Capri as a valued member of our community, and it is my pleasure to write in support of them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Diane Sayre, Mayor



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
CITY COUNCIL  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

DARRELL L. CLARKE  
PRESIDENT  
ROOM 494, CITY HALL  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
(215) 686-2070  
Fax No. (215) 563-3162

COUNCILMAN - 5TH DISTRICT

April 26, 2013

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 12106-9060

To The Members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board:

I greatly respect the important role each of you play in deciding not only the recipient of Philadelphia's second casino license, but the very future of gaming in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As the President of City Council it may be inappropriate for me to weigh in on any of the proposals submitted, therefore am not endorsing a particular site. However, I appreciate this opportunity to share with you my personal knowledge of one of the applicants.

I have known and respected Bart for decades. Our careers in Philadelphia have run nearly concurrently. The word "visionary" has been overused to the point of cliché, but with Bart Blatstein the term truly applies. Bart is a Philadelphian, born and raised here. He loves this place, its neighborhoods, its traditions and the inherent toughness of its work-a-day people. He embodies the passion and no-nonsense work ethic of his fellow Philadelphians. It's why he's never left us, despite building a hugely successful development firm and amassing a personal fortune that would allow him to live anywhere in the world.

Bart's love of this city is evident in the numerous transformational projects he has undertaken over the years. Rather than looking to develop or redevelop parcels in the city's more established and densely populated neighborhoods, Bart looks elsewhere. Where others see blight and decay, he sees opportunity for transformation and neighborhood revival. He's done it time and time again. He has finished every project he set out to build.

The Avenue North project (1600 North Broad Street) was an early success story for Bart in my district. Bart's company, Tower Investments, was selected as redeveloper by the Redevelopment Authority after two previous developers were unsuccessful. Tower received final selection as the project redeveloper by the RDA in late 2004, the project commenced construction in 2005, and both project components - the entertainment/retail complex and

City. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact me at my office,  
. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrell L. Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

The Honorable Darrell L. Clarke  
President  
Philadelphia City Council



March 27, 2013

PA Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P O Box 96060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

PA Gaming Control Board,

Special Olympics Missouri has had the good fortune to be a benefitting charity of Isle of Capri throughout the state of Missouri. With our close relationship with law enforcement and the MO Gaming Commission we have seen first hand the great work of Isle of Capri in supporting their communities.

In Missouri, Isle of Capri is considered the most charitable of all gaming operations. Their culture is to not only donate funds but as important, they volunteer at our events and constantly look for ways to better their communities. When gaming was new to Missouri many residents believed it was the beginning of the end. As it turns out, Isle of Capri has demonstrated again and again they will make our communities safer, financially more stable and greater pride from the numerous people they employ.

Without any reservation whatsoever, I recommend Isle of Capri as a first-class business that will make Philadelphia an even greater city. If I can provide additional information, please contact me. I have copied my counterpart at Special Olympics Pennsylvania to alert him of the great things to come for his program should Isle of Capri secure a gaming license in your fine state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark C. Musso'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mark C. Musso  
President/CEO

cc: Matt Aaron, President, Special Olympics Pennsylvania



1609 State Street • Bettendorf, Iowa 52722-4937 • (563) 344-4000

April 02, 2013

PA Gaming Control Board  
Attn: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA. 17106

To Whom It May Concern:

It is an honor to be asked for a letter of recommendation for Isle of Capri and its management. They are a leader in our community, setting an example to which others aspire.

We were fortunate to have the Isle of Capri choose the City of Bettendorf for their operation many years ago. Since that time, the relationship has taken on many endeavors, all of which have been successful. Every discussion, every idea and project is accepted enthusiastically and through that, our partnership has been extremely productive. It is a joy to have such a well run, successful business as the anchor of our City's downtown.

When the City built its Waterfront Convention Center a few years ago, it was a natural match for the City to contract with the Isle of Capri and their staff for management and operation of the center. Every event there is "top of the line." Every negotiation and detail handled professionally by Isle Executives and personnel. The City of Bettendorf is truly fortunate and proud to be a home to the Isle of Capri.

We hope you will give them every consideration to assist with your operation. We are confident that they will succeed with whatever expectations are presented to them.

Most sincerely,

Robert Gallagher  
Mayor



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF PHILLIPS COUNTY

March 28, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

The Isle of Capri has, for many years, been a leader in our community in attempting to help an impoverished community. The Isle of Capri staff members volunteer at Boys & Girls Club special events and in the homework help program. The Isle of Capri also helps by donating funds to help the organization meet the needs of the youth served. The Isle of Capri is also quick to help supply food and drinks for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas Party. Recently the Isle of Capri helped furnish the teen center with new television sets. The support of Isle of Capri has been instrumental in the success the Boys & Girls Club of Phillips County has had over the past few years. Support by volunteers, funds, and supplies help the organization fulfill its mission of helping the youth who need it the most.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Rolett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jason Rolett  
Executive Director



One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

TEACHFORAMERICA

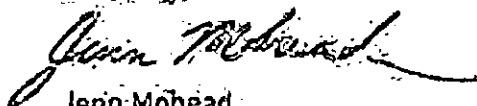
Jose Oakley  
Isle of Capri  
777 Isle of Capri Pkwy.  
Lula, MS 38644

Dear Jose,

We wanted to thank you and your staff members for joining us in Clarksdale on February 12th. It was so much fun getting to spend a morning in one of our Delta classrooms and it was obvious that the kids loved the visit as well.

You have been great supporters of our efforts to bring more great teachers into our classrooms across the Mississippi Delta. We appreciate your financial support of \$25,000 in our 2012 Sponsor A Teacher program and the personal support you show by visiting the schools and communities that we are privileged to serve.

Sincerely,



Jenn Mohead  
Manager, Development  
Teach For America-Delta



AN AMERICORPS PROGRAM



# CITY COMMISSION

Lamar Fisher, Mayor

E: [lamar.fisher@copbfl.com](mailto:lamar.fisher@copbfl.com) | P: 954.786.4623 | F: 954.786.4504

April 2, 2013


Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Dear Commissioners,

I understand that a public hearing will be held in the coming days for category 2 applicants regarding the Philadelphia gaming license. I am writing on behalf of the Tower Entertainment LLC (The Provence) with Isle of Capri as Manager application. Isle Casino Racing is a subsidiary company of Isle of Capri and is located in the City of Pompano Beach, FL where I serve as Mayor.

The 'Isle' is not only Pompano's largest employer but they are involved on a number of fronts aimed at improving our community including Economic Development, Tourism and local charities. We have found Isle management to be diligent and responsive in the areas of compliance and life safety. I consider the 'Isle' an outstanding corporate citizen and submit this letter to serve as our support of their application.

Sincerely,



Lamar Fisher  
Mayor

PA Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 6906  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17106

My name is Don Hoth, founder of Black Hawk County Gaming Association, the nonprofit license holder for the Isle of Capri Casino in Waterloo, Iowa.

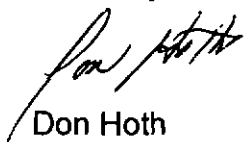
In 2003, when we were trying to get a casino in Waterloo, I recruited two others to help in the effort to bring a casino to Waterloo. We wanted to get the best operator we could that would fit into our goals and fit into the community. My wife and I visited 21 casinos in five different states without their knowledge to score the operators on various criteria. We talked to employees and guests at the casinos. We measured the employees' friendliness and happiness with their jobs and how they were treated by management. The guests were measured by their satisfaction with the casino operation; their attitude toward the variety of gaming machines and tables; how they were treated by the casino employees; and their satisfaction with the casino perks. We also rated the cleanliness of the facility as well the layout and ease of movement for guests. We then shared the results with a casino consultant, who helped advise us on selecting an operator.

The Isle of Capri was ranked at the top in every category. There was no question that we selected the Isle of Capri as the operator. The top management of the Isle of Capri stood with us the entire way in obtaining a license. To this day, I have not met even one employee of the Isle of Capri that did not exceed our expectations.

As part of the regulations within the State of Iowa, a casino operator must have an operating agreement with the non-profit license holder. Because of our agreement, Isle of Capri provides 5.75% of the adjusted gross revenue to Black Hawk County Gaming Association that is in turn donated throughout our area for capital improvements, property tax relief and charitable contributions. However, the Isle's support of the community does not stop there. In addition to our agreement, the Isle donates additional dollars and holds additional events to raise funds for other community needs. Employees of the casino have also integrated themselves into the community by their involvement in several boards and commissions.

The Isle of Capri receives my highest recommendation as manager of the casino for Tower Entertainment LLC.

Sincerely,



Don Hoth

Gentleman,

It is my extreme pleasure to attest to the good character of Bart Blatstein.

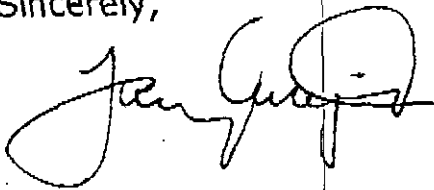
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We served together on the Presidents Advisory Council of Temple University, for several years. That is where I saw first hand his ability to manage and make unique observations and well informed decisions. In addition, his charitable activities in the Philadelphia area are well documented. In early May, he will be honored by the Boy Scouts of America.

As a tenant in an office building he owns, I have seen his many acts of kindness and charity, dealing evenly with the ordinary people, as well as the successful. He always seems to have time for everyone. Mr. Blatstein handles business decisions with a genuineness and even demeanor not always found in successful businessmen.

It has been an honor to have known and worked with Bart Blatstein for the past twenty years.

Sincerely,



LARRY MAGID  
ENTERTAINMENT GROUP





# Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley

Lauren Finke  
Executive Director

Anne Nass  
Communications  
Coordinator

Jean Seeland  
Program Coordinator

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Cindy Braatz

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Tina Hummel

Jillian Jorgensen

Julie Kacher

Jason Pence

Ellen Vanderloo

Floyd Winter

Lindy Winterscheidt

Bob Wright

April 5, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure I submit this letter of support for the Isle of Capri.

The Isle of Capri and the local Isle Casino Hotel Waterloo has been a strong partner in service to the community through volunteerism and financial support. During the recent years since established in the Cedar Valley, the Isle has provided the opportunity for hundreds of employees to volunteer for various projects, programs, organizations, and disaster-related service needs. Service isn't just an option; it is part of the culture of the organization. For that, our community is grateful.

It is known in the Cedar Valley community that the Isle's Community Aces volunteers are proud partners with many organizations like the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley. Each year, the employees from the Isle continue to provide not only volunteer hours to various agencies in the Cedar Valley, but also work to assist in helping raise funds for the many needs, both for individuals and organizations, so that they are successful in meeting the needs of the community!

The Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley strongly supports the Isle of Capri in continued expansion.

In Service,

Lauren Finke, Executive Director



Hands On  
network

POINTS  
OF LIGHT





GREATER SAINT LOUIS  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

April 8, 2013

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Mara "Mitch" Meyers

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*General Counsel*

Matthew J. Madsen,

Lewis, Rice & Fingersh, L.C.

*President & CEO*

Amelia A. J. Bond

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

Attn: Board Secretary

P.O. Box 69060

Harrisburg, PA 17106

fax: 717-346-8350

Dear Board members,

It is our pleasure to support the application of the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. in partnership with Tower Entertainment LLC (The Provence), as generous community citizens.

Since 2010, when we began working with the leadership of Isle of Capri Casinos to hold and manage the organization's charitable funds, their employees, the vendors who work with them, and the corporation itself have given generously to support charitable causes and support employees in times of crisis. During this time period, over 200 employees have received emergency assistance totaling well over \$300,000. In addition, charitable grant dollars have generously supported projects to improve the communities in which there are Isle of Capri properties.

Employees raise money with spirit building jeans days and pizza lunches, change tossed into casino fountains is sent, profits from soda and vending machines come to the charitable funds and donations from vendors and business partners combine to assure that the generous nature of this company thrives.

It has been a joy to work with the generous professionals from Isle of Capri, from corporate officers to part time employees in need. They have set the bar very high for corporate philanthropy here and we have every confidence that they will continue this attitude of caring in Pennsylvania.

We are available for any questions about the Isle of Capri's corporate citizenship and generosity. My direct line is 314-880-4965.

Sincerely,

Amy Basore Murphy  
Director of Scholarships and Donor Services



**Office of the Mayor**  
201 Selak Street  
P.O. Box 68  
Black Hawk, CO 80422  
www.cityofblackhawk.org

303-582-2292 Office  
303-582-0848 Fax

**Mayor**  
David D. Spellman

**Aldermen**  
Linda Armbricht  
Paul G. Bennett  
Diane Cales  
Jim Johnson  
Greg Moates  
Benito Torres

**City Attorney**  
Corey Y. Hoffmann

**City Manager**  
Jack D. Lewis

**Assistant to the City Manager  
for Administration**  
Melissa A. Greiner

**City Clerk**  
Jeanie M. Magno

**Community Planning  
& Development Administrator**  
Cynthia L. Linker

**Finance Director**  
Lance R. Hillis

**Fire Chief**  
Donald E. Taylor

**IT Director**  
Jeffrey L. Young

**Police Chief**  
Stephen N. Cole

**Public Works Director**  
Thomas Isbester

April 4, 2013

Board Secretary  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Delivered via fax: 717-346-8350.

RE: Letter of Support

Dear Board Secretary:

I write on behalf of the Isle of Capri, Black Hawk, in support of the Tower Entertainment, LLC application for *The Provence* currently before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board.

A measure of the success the City of Black Hawk enjoys is directly attributable to the high caliber of the gaming companies located here and the outstanding working relationships these companies have with the City. Chiefly among these companies is the Isle of Capri, located here since 1998. As Mayor and a former Alderman of the City of Black Hawk, Colorado's premier gaming community, it has been my pleasure to work with the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. and their management staff. From the development phase to the operations, the Isle has always been responsive to the City's requirements and willing to make the extra effort to maintain a positive relationship with the City and ensure Black Hawk's success financially and civically.

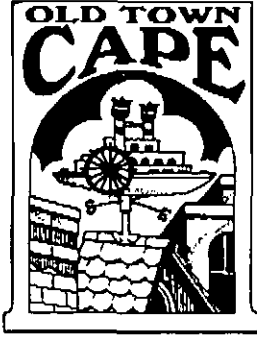
The Isle's General Manager is an active member in good standing with the Business Improvement District and also participates in numerous civic activities. In order to stay abreast on a range of issues pertaining to the gaming industry, I have on numerous occasions reached out the General Manager of the Isle Black Hawk as well as their corporate officers. They have always been attentive and this access and relationship has proven to be beneficial to the City. We find the Isle's contributions to local affairs to be valuable assets for our community.

We strongly support this application, and if approved, trust the Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc., through its management of *The Provence*, will be responsible partners with Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania, just as they are with City of Black Hawk, Colorado.

Kindest regards,

David D. Spellman  
Mayor

C: Arnold Block, Chief Operating Officer  
Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.



418 Broadway  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
Phone (573) 334-8085  
Fax (573) 334-8230  
E-mail: [info@oldtowncape.org](mailto:info@oldtowncape.org)  
Old Town is Your Town!

April 5, 2013

PA Gaming Control Board  
ATT: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Reference: Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc.

Old Town Cape is Cape Girardeau's Main Street organization and our mission is to revitalize and promote the downtown area as a destination for business, entertainment and living. The Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. recently opened the Isle Casino Cape Girardeau adjacent to Cape Girardeau's downtown district.

Throughout the process of applying for the license and in developing and building their casino property in Cape Girardeau, the Isle pledged to be a good corporate partner and to help revitalize our downtown. They have held true to their word. We consider the Isle a partner in our work and an excellent neighbor to the downtown.

The Isle truly is a great community partner and I believe they bring their professionalism, cooperation and community attitude to all of their properties, both current and future.

I would be happy to answer any specific questions in regard to both our relationship with the Isle and their work in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marla Mills".

Marla Mills  
Executive Director



Where patients and families find comfort.



# HavenHouse

ST. LOUIS

April 3, 2013

PA Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Vice President  
Virginia McDowell

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Andrew Thorpe  
Ruth Williams

**EXECUTIVE**

**DIRECTOR**  
Kathy J. Sindel

**DIRECTOR,**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT**  
Lindsey Gibson

Dear Board Secretary,

It is with great honor that HavenHouse St. Louis offers its support for Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. to the PA Gaming Control Board. Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. is historically well-known in the community for its ongoing support to numerous non-profit organizations, including HavenHouse St. Louis. HavenHouse St. Louis provides the comfort of home and a community of support to patients and their families traveling to St. Louis for medical care.

Over the last three years, Isle of Capri has stepped up to support HavenHouse in so many ways. The most notable was their involvement with our organization to win a new wheel-chair accessible vehicle in the 2012 national Toyota competition, 100 Cars for Good. They played a huge role in helping us gain public support to win this critically important vehicle for our patients. In addition to large scale projects, it's not unusual for all the Isle of Capri General Managers to roll up their sleeves and volunteer when they are in St. Louis for business. No task is too big or too small for this company with its many talented individuals. Isle is simply the best.

Please feel free to contact me at (314) 434-5863 with any additional information you might need.

Sincerely,

Kathy Sindel  
Executive Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CAPE GIRARDEAU  
MISSOURI

HARRY E. REDIGER  
MAYOR

CITY HALL  
401 INDEPENDENCE ST.  
573-339-6320

March 29, 2013

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Attention: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Re: Letter of support for Towers Entertainment LLC(The Provence) with Isle of Capri as Manager

Dear Commissioners;

*I write to you today in support of Isle of Capri Casinos as the manager of Towers Entertainment's project in Philadelphia.*

Several years ago I was introduced to Isle's management team as our city pursued a gaming license in the State of Missouri. Since the time we signed a development agreement with Isle and throughout the entire construction process, they participated whole heartedly in educating our community about the casino. They presented the project at numerous speaking engagements, they answered hundreds of questions, made many one-on-one visits to community leaders, stakeholders, merchants, prospective vendors, contractors and even those people who did not agree with gaming but wanted to learn more.

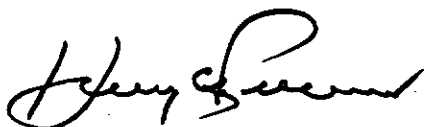
I applaud Isle for their efforts to become a true community partner and appreciate their confidence in our City of Cape Girardeau.

This \$135 million dollar project vastly improved a formerly stagnant area within our city. It greatly enhanced the probability of future commercial and residential growth and stimulated a growth mode for our City. The additional revenue has

allowed us to complete needed but unfunded capital improvement projects. We have confidence that Isle will continue to be a great corporate partner and a great addition to our business community.

I believe that Isle of Capri Casino's Inc. will be a true asset to Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harry E. Rediger".

Harry E. Rediger  
Mayor of Cape Girardeau Missouri

Tim Hurley

3/28/2013

ATTN: Board Secretary  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

**Re: Tower Entertainment LLC (The Provence) Project - Isle of Capri Management**

Dear Madam/Sir:

I am writing in support of The Isle of Capri application as manager of the proposed "Provence" casino operation in Philadelphia. I have had a business relationship with The Isle for about 10 years, first while mayor of the City of Waterloo, and currently as chair of the board of directors of the non-profit gaming license holder in Black Hawk County, Iowa. During this time, my appreciation for The Isle of Capri team has grown because of their demonstrated business acumen, their committed civic and community involvement (both from corporate and the local casino operation), their market responsiveness, and their steadfast adherence to the State of Iowa's gaming rules and regulations.

The Isle Casino Hotel Waterloo made generous donations to the public-private partnerships directed at the redevelopment of downtown Waterloo even before their casino here was built. They are members of the local economic development alliance; they are strong supporters of the area's United Way campaign; they played a critical role in planning and executing the last RAGBRAI event in Waterloo when 25,000 bicyclists from across the nation descended on our community; they have adopted a "buy local" policy which has been a real boost to local farmers, bakeries, meat lockers and other product, equipment and service providers in the area.

Both the local and corporate Isle of Capri organizations have lived up to their promises and commitments made for the Cedar Valley of Iowa in all respects. I can therefore recommend them without reservation as a partner to the Greater Philadelphia area.

Sincerely,



Timothy J Hurley  
Chairman, Black Hawk County Gaming Association Board of Directors  
Past Mayor, City of Waterloo, IA 2004 - 2010



CITY OFFICES • 401 MAIN STREET • BOONVILLE, MISSOURI 65233-1567 • 660-882-2332 • FAX 660-882-6608

March 29, 2013

PA Gaming Control Board  
Attn: Board Secretary  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Isle of Capri Casinos interest in seeking a license/partnership for a gaming property in Philadelphia, PA. As the mayor of Boonville, Missouri, I have seen first hand what a wonderful business they are and how fortunate we are to have an Isle of Capri Casino in our city.


Isle of Capri has been open for over 12 years in Boonville, Missouri. Gaming was not readily accepted in our small town of 8,000 initially but over the years our citizens have come to see what an asset it is to our community. They have a very attractive gaming facility and a recently added hotel that are sized perfectly for their market. Their facilities are always immaculate and attractive and they recently announced a major remodeling project which shows their ongoing commitment to our community.

Of course, the jobs that they have brought to our town are so very important to us right now having lost over 500 manufacturing jobs over the past two years. The folks that work at the Isle are very involved in our community. I need only look around my church, community boards or groups picking up trash as a community event to see people that are employed at the IOC.

Their financial support of not-for-profit groups in Boonville and the central Missouri region is unparalleled. From the arts to sheltered workshops to local food banks - they are most generous with time and money. In other words, they are exceptional corporate citizens in every way for the entire central Missouri region.

If I may be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Julie Thacher, Mayor  
City of Boonville, Missouri  
[juliethacher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juliethacher@sbcglobal.net)  
660-882-2332 (o)  
660-888-1947 (c)



P. O. Box 1185

NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI 39121

PHONE 601.445.7500

FAX 601.442.2536

MAYOR@NATCHEZ.MS.US

LARRY L. "BUTCH" BROWN  
MAYOR

March 27, 2013

Board Secretary  
PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Gentlemen:


I have been made aware of a public hearing for Category 2 applicants in Philadelphia that will be held on April 11th, April 12<sup>th</sup>, and May 8<sup>th</sup> of 2013. I am happy to participate in those hearings through the submission of written comments. It is with great pleasure that I support the efforts of Tower Entertainment LLC (The Provence) with the Isle of Capri as manager.

The management of the Isle of Capri has long been the owner and operator of casinos here in Mississippi as well as the first licensed grantee in the State at Natchez. Their contribution to our community has been one of ambiance, safe and efficient operations, and excellent citizenship. Through the efforts of the Isle, our city has experienced very limited incident of any kind. Our police department works very closely with the security detail at the casino here in Natchez and the patrons have enjoyed a high quality of leisure time activity without distractions caused by those who would otherwise attempt to disrupt harmonious activities between the casino and our city.

Quality food service, gaming promotions and more importantly, participation in our public activities through charitable contributions and support of public promotions, has been noticeable and unique in our state.

Please accept this written statement from the City of Natchez and its citizens' endorsement and support such as to convince your board of the Isle's good citizenship as a member of our community along with a quality operations management in Natchez.

With kindness regards, I am



Larry L. Brown, Mayor

cc: Arnold Block



March 27, 2013

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board:

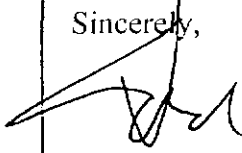
It is with gratitude that I write this letter of support for Isle of Capri Casinos. Heart of Missouri United Way has a focused history with the Isle of Capri in Boonville, Missouri. They are clearly the leader in Cooper County in the arena of civic and philanthropic giving and volunteering. They conduct the largest United Way workplace campaign in Cooper County and produce more than 50% of the total dollars raised for the community.

They are the largest workforce volunteer group, providing more volunteer hours, projects and people than all the other business, civic and governmental groups combined. Individually, the executive and some upper/mid-level managers are active in many groups, initiatives and endeavors as "Isle of Capri leaders" that help and promote the overall health of the community. You just couldn't find better community partners. We are proud to have our trusted brand linked with Isle of Capri as we partner with them and occasionally ask for their direct help and input in our work.

Currently they lead a United Way community advisory team that is discovering the greatest community needs and helping to direct our work in Cooper County. Barron Fuller is the liaison from that advisory council to the Heart of Missouri United Way Board of Directors in Columbia. he has also just been elected as the newest member of our Board. Following his lead, many of his staff, including Heather Rapp and Daniel Rumans, have done amazing jobs for us from raising money, to leading the strategic planning committee to creating grant making processes and funding agencies. That is why I say that it is with *gratitude* that I write this support letter as we are convinced that the Heart of Missouri United Way could not make an impact in Cooper County without the partnership, leadership and stewardship of the people of Isle of Capri Casinos.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

  
Timothy L. Rich,  
Executive Director/CPO

**Executive Director**  
Timothy L. Rich

**Board Members**

**President**  
Steven A. Smith

**Vice President**  
Karla DeSpain

**Campaign Chair**  
Mitzi Clayton

**Secretary**  
Brent Beahore

**Treasurer**  
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**Past President**  
Gathy Scroggs

**Marketing Chair**  
David Machens

- Jason Becking
- Chris Belcher
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- Steve Keithahn
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- Teresa Malady
- Troy Norton
- Josh Oxenhandler
- Karen Rode
- Tony St. Romaine
- Megan Sievers
- Randy Sinquefeld
- Jim Spain
- David Spencer
- Nathan Stephens
- Jan Swaney
- Pieter Van Waarde
- Andy Waters

**GIVE.**  
**AN UNLIMITED**  
**VOLUNTEER.**

1700 East Pointe Dr.  
Suite 201  
Columbia, MO 65201  
tel: 573.443.4523  
fax: 573.874.1285  
www.uwheartmo.org

Please remember the Heart of Missouri United Way in your will.





# CITY OF WATERLOO, IOWA

CITY HALL • 715 Mulberry Street • Waterloo, IA 50703 • (319) 291-4301 Fax (319) 291-4286

March 27, 2013

Mayor  
BUCK  
CLARK

COUNCIL  
MEMBERS  
.....

PA Gaming Control Board  
ATTN: BOARD SECRETARY  
P. O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

DAVID  
JONES  
Ward 1

Dear Sir/Madam:

CAROLYN  
COLE  
Ward 2

As Mayor of the City of Waterloo, Iowa, I am pleased to write this letter of support for the project known as Tower Entertainment LLC (The Provence), with the Isle of Capri as manager.

HAROLD  
GETTY  
Ward 3

The Isle of Capri Hotel and Casino opened June 30, 2007, in Waterloo, Iowa. Since that date, the city has received over \$14 million dollars in host gaming fees, development fees and grants.

QUENTIN M.  
HART  
Ward 4

I ask that favorable consideration is given to this project. I am confident it will enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Philadelphia far into the future.

RON  
WELPER  
Ward 5

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buck Clark", is written over the typed name "Buck Clark".

BOB  
GREENWOOD  
At-Large

Buck Clark  
Mayor

STEVE  
SCHMITT  
At-Large

CITY WEBSITE: [www.cityofwaterlooia.com](http://www.cityofwaterlooia.com)

WE'RE WORKING FOR YOU!

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Gagandeep	Lakhmna	PA	I have known Mr. Blatstein for a Long Time. I have also worked With Mr. Blatstein. I would Like to say that he is not fit to be awarded this Casino License because of his reputation of non payment on his many bills. He currently owes my Company and 12 other sub contractors over \$1,000,000.00. Also this is now a subject of massive litigation. He also has breached his development contract with our organization, this is also a part of the litigation. He has used bullying tactics to deter his opposition and often boasts of his political contacts that will get him the license. While I support a project in Philadelphia, I oppose Mr. Blatstein personally and on behalf of all the small sub contractors that have yet to be paid. I will also be forwarding you the complaints filed in court re these amounts unpaid.	tower
Megan	Gumbrecht	PA	The location proposed for the Provence is not ideal. It is out of the way, and less likely to boost revenue for other city businesses compared to a more centralized location. Using the Inquirer building also doesn't maximize the potential for a casino in the city - the casino needs to be ultra modern, eye-catching, provide another layer of motivation to come visit - using an old building doesn't provide this.	tower
Anthony	Palmer	Pa	Dislike the design of the building. The location is not the best and the shops and dining options are weak.	tower