COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

GAMING CONTROL BOARD

* * * * * * * *

PUBLIC MEETING

* * * * * * *

BEFORE: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

DENISE J. SMYLER, CHAIR

Frank Dermody

Shawn Dillon

David S. Hickernell

Sara Manzano-Díaz

Nedia Ralston

Frances J. Regan

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE:

Adria Zimmerman, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Revenue

Fred Strathmeyer, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Agriculture

Jennifer Langan, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Treasury

Reporter: Jessica L. Ashman

Any reproduction of this transcript is prohibited without authorization by the certifying agency.

MEETING: Wednesday, October 23, 2024,

10:01 a.m.

LOCATION: Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

Strawberry Square Complex

303 Walnut Street, 2nd Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101

		5
1	OPENING REMARKS	
2	By Chair	7 – 8
3	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	8
4	PRESENTATION	
5	By Mr. O'Toole	9 - 13
6	By Mr. Rhen	13 - 17
7	By Ms. Zula	17 - 18
8	By Attorney Cook	18 - 24
9	By Attorney Zimmermann	24 - 40
10	By Mr. Hannon	40 - 52
11	By Attorney Pitre	52 - 53
12	By Attorney Crohe	53 - 56
13	By Attorney Diehl	56 - 57
14	QUESTIONS	
15	By Board Members	58 - 69
16	PRESENTATION	
17	By Attorney Pitre	6 9
18	By Attorney Sanchez	70 - 71
19	By Attorney Scirrotto	71 - 72
20	By Attorney Kolesar	72 - 75
21	By Attorney Groody	76 - 77
22	By Attorney Pitre	77 - 78
23	By Attorney Groody	78 - 80
24		
25		

			6
1	I N D E X (cont.)		
2			
3	PRESENTATION		
4	By Attorney Monaghan	80 -	85
5	By Attorney Roberts	85 -	91
6	By Attorney Crohe	91 -	92
7	By Attorney Kolesar	93 -	9 4
8	DISCUSSION AMONG PARTIES	94 -	95
9	ADJOURNMENT		95
10	CERTIFICATE		96
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

PROCEEDINGS

2 ------

CHAIR: Good morning. I'm Denise

Smyler, Chair of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control

Board. I would like to ask everyone at this time to

please silence your cell phones and all electronic

devices. Also, while masks are no longer mandatory,

please feel free to wear one if you believe it is

required or necessary for your own wellbeing. With

seven Board Members present, I'd like to call today's

meeting to order.

In addition to the Board Members, we also have our Ex-Officio Members, Adria Zimmerman, representing Pat Browne, Secretary for the Department of Revenue. Fred Strathmeyer, representing Russell Redding, Secretary for the Department of Agriculture and Jennifer Langan, representing Stacy Garrity, State Treasurer. Thank you Ex-Officios for joining us.

As the first order of business, I'd like to ask everyone to please stand and join me for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

23 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED

CHAIR: By way of Announcements, the Board held an Executive Session yesterday, Tuesday,

```
8
   October 22nd to discuss personnel matters, pending
1
2
   litigation and to conduct quasi-judicial
3
   deliberations relating to matters coming before the
 4
   Board.
 5
 6
   (PUBLIC HEARING HELD)
8
                   CHAIR: Okay.
9
                   So, we're back on the record.
10
   like to now ask for Approval of the Board Meeting
11
   Transcript and Minutes from the July 24, 2024
12
   meeting. May I have a motion, please?
13
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board
14
15
   approve the Minutes and Transcript of the July 24,
16
   2024 meeting.
17
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
18
   Hickernell seconds.
19
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
20
   (AYES RESPOND.)
21
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
   (NO RESPONSE.)
22
23
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
24
                   CHAIR: Next, I would like to ask for
25
   approval of the Board transcript and minutes from the
```

a

```
August 21, 2024 meeting. May I have a motion please?
1
2
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
 3
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve
 4
   the minutes and transcript of the August 21, 2024
5
   meeting.
 6
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
7
   seconds.
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
9
   (AYES RESPOND.)
10
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
11
   (NO RESPONSE.)
12
                   CHAIR: Motion's approved.
13
                   CHAIR: Now we will hear from our
   Executive Director, Kevin O'Toole. Kevin?
14
15
                   MR. O'TOOLE: Good morning, Chair
16
   Smyler and Members of the Board. On the agenda
17
   today, I have two items, 3.1 and 3.2. So, I wasn't
18
   sure what that meant, but 3.1 is my Executive
19
   Director's Report. And although I was going to have
20
   this statement about the multistate poker agreement
21
   initiative, I would like to comment that this week
22
   the Commonwealth Financing Authority and other
23
   grantors announced the grants that they were awarding
24
   through the local share assessments. And we heard
25
   Director Vinci talk about the very good uses of the
```

local share assessments, the money that Wind Creek has paid as required. And today, we have a very full crew.

We have about five or six casino licensees represented here today. And it's great that they work so hard to be successful because that ensures that every year there's a substantial amount of money available for grants on the local share assessment program. And the news articles that appeared throughout the Commonwealth today named quite a lot of the beneficiaries at the local municipality level.

And these are projects that would normally, you know, not necessarily if they got started, they wouldn't get completed or they wouldn't even be started because, you know, the money from real estate tax and property tax and whatnot doesn't necessarily foot the whole bill for everything that a municipality wants to do in their location. So, it's really to the credit of the industry that they're able to, you know, be successful enough to keep that program very, very important to the Commonwealth. And it's just important to be regulated and taxed in the Commonwealth as well.

So, my second item is about the

Multistate Internet gaming agreement. On October 10th of 2024, I received a letter from Governor Josh Shapiro requesting that the Board begin the process of negotiating the Commonwealth's entrance into the Multistate Internet Gaming Agreement.

As the Board is aware, the

Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act
authorizes Pennsylvania to enter into a Multistate

Internet Gaming Agreement with other states where
iGaming is authorized. However, the Governor of
Pennsylvania must approve any such action on behalf
of the Commonwealth. Governor Shapiros expressed
desire, we can now pursue online interstate gaming.

In consultation with the Governor's staff, it was agreed that Pennsylvania will initially only pursue multistate gaming for peer-to-peer poker games.

Presently, the Multistate Internet

Gaming Agreement exists between New Jersey, Delaware,

West Virginia, Michigan and Nevada. Pursuant to this

agreement, operators licensed in two or more of those

states can share patrons in the play of interstate

online games. As will be the case with Pennsylvania,

most of these states only allow operators to offer

interstate peer-to-peer poker games.

Pursuant to the agreement, tax revenues for the various jurisdictions are based upon the percentage of players from each state that are participating in any given game. History has shown that the increased customer base, which goes along with adding jurisdictions, which is referred to as shared liquidity, has increased the number of poker games available for play at various buy-in price points and has generally helped the online gaming industry by creating more customer interest in online poker.

The first step in joining the multistate agreement is asking the other five states involved, representatives of which are members of the Multistate Internet Gaming Association, to allow Pennsylvania to be admitted into the Association and to begin the process of entering that agreement.

Upon receipt of a notice of admission, the Board will thereafter be presented with the multistate agreement, which will be provided to Governor Shapiro for his signature.

At this time, I would respectfully request the Board for a motion to ratify the Board's Staff requesting Pennsylvania's admission into the Multistate Internet Gaming Association, thereby

```
1 starting the process of entering that group. Thank
2 you.
```

3 <u>CHAIR:</u> Thank you, Kevin. Any questions or comments from the Board?

5 Hearing none, may I have a motion,

6 please?

MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner
Regan moves that the Board ratify Board Staff

9 requesting entry of the Commonwealth into the

10 Multistate Internet Gaming Agreement, as well as

11 becoming a member of the Multistate Internet Gaming

12 Association, LLC, as described by the Executive

13 Director.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston

15 seconds.

16 CHAIR: All in favor?

17 (AYES RESPOND.)

18 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

19 (NO RESPONSE.)

20 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion passes.

MR. O'TOOLE: Thank you.

22 CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin. Now, we

23 will hear from our Director of Budget, David Rhen.

24 Dave?

MR. RHEN: Dave Rhen, R-H-E-N. Good

morning, Chair Smyler and Board Members. I have two items today. First Quarter Budget Report and the '25-'26 Fiscal Year budget request.

Board expenses for the first quarter, which include the period July 1st through September 30, were \$12,472,093. Of this total, 90 percent or \$11,212,926, were for payroll, while remaining ten percent, or \$1,259,167, were for operating expenditures.

\$1.7 million higher versus the first quarter of last year. This includes increases of \$1.2 million for personnel and 571,000 for operating expenses.

Payroll expenses were higher due to benefit and salary increases and the expansion of the Boards complement. Operating expenses increased due to IT modernization efforts and invoice timing differences.

Payroll costs for the quarter included \$6.6 million for salaries and \$4.6 million for benefits. The largest operating costs included \$436,000 for services, including interagency billings and IT modernization consultants. \$414,000 for rentals and leases and \$205,000 for subscriptions and other operating costs.

That includes my brief remarks on

agency expenses. If there are not any questions, I'll move into the budget request.

CHAIR: Any questions?

(NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: You may proceed.

MR. RHEN: Okay.

The proposed budget requests for Fiscal Year '25-'26 include \$61,587,000 for administration, which includes oversight of casinos, iGaming and sports wagering. \$489,000 for Video Gaming Terminals administration, and \$288,000 for fantasy contest operations.

The administrative request of \$61,587,000 includes \$54,051,000, or 88 percent of the overall request for personnel expenses. This includes additional staff for gaming expansion, including the anticipated opening of a new Category 4 casino. The budget includes salary and benefit rate increases consistent with union negotiated contracts and at levels consistent with those used by agencies throughout the Commonwealth.

There are two scheduled union negotiated salary increases included in next year's request; 2.25 percent in July of 2025 and 2.25 percent in January of 2026. Amounts budgeted for

specialized items such as overtime, retirement leave payouts and shift differential are based on historical averages.

The operating portion of the request is \$7.1 million. This includes \$2 million for the Board's continuing IT modernization project to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board and streamline information gathering. The remainder of the operating budget is primarily for real estate leases, investigative costs, hardware and software licenses, and telecommunications, which are the traditional cost drivers of the operating budget.

The proposed budget would be funded through a combination of \$7.1 million in restricted revenue, which includes application and license fees, and chargebacks of the gaming lab costs, and \$54,487,000 in drawdowns from escrow accounts funded by casino operators. The VGT, or Video Gaming Terminal budget is \$489,000. This includes \$464,000 for personnel and \$25,000 for operating, which will be utilized mostly for travel and investigative costs.

And finally, the Fantasy Contest budget is \$288,000. This includes \$278,000 for personnel and \$10,000 for operating with both VGT and

```
1 Fantasy Contest budgets, the costs are billed back to 2 the respective operators.
```

That concludes my presentation of the budget. I'd be happy to take any questions.

Otherwise, I would appreciate your consideration for

5 Otherwise, I would appreciate your consideration for 6 the motion to approve the budget request.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board approve the Fiscal Year '25-'26 budget request as described by the Director of Financial Management.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
seconds.

15 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

16 (AYES RESPOND.)

17 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

18 (NO RESPONSE.)

19 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion passes.

MR. RHEN: Thank you.

21 CHAIR: Thank you, Dave. Now we will

22 hear from our Human Resources Director, Heidi Zula.

23 Heidi?

3

4

7

8

9

10

11

12

MS. ZULA: Good morning, Madam Chair

25 and Members of the Board. The Office of Human

```
Resources has one motion for your consideration today relative to the hiring of one individual who has completed the background investigation and drug screening process.
```

Bradley Beal has been selected as a Casino Compliance Representative at the casino at Nemacolin and is recommended for hire by Greg Hazzouri, Director of Casino Compliance.

Unless you have any questions, I ask the Board to consider a motion to approve the hiring action as indicated.

12 <u>CHAIR:</u> Any questions or comments from 13 the Board?

May I have a motion, please?

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the applicant for hire as proposed by the Human Resources Director.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan

20 seconds.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

14

15

16

17

18

21 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

22 (AYES RESPOND.)

23 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

MS. ZULA: Thank you.

<u>CHAIR:</u> Thank you, Heidi. Next is our Office of Chief Counsel.

ATTORNEY COOK: Morning.

CHAIR: Morning.

MOTTORNEY COOK: I think it's still morning. Before the Board today we have three petitions. Each of these petitions will be decided on the documentary record by agreement of the parties or because OEC and one of the parties in one of these cases has negotiated a resolution.

The first Petition before the Board today is HSP Gaming, LP's Request for Approval of a Unit Redemption. HSP Gaming, LP is the 100 percent indirect owner of Category 2 Slot Machine Licensee SugarHouse HSP Gaming, LP, which does business as Rivers Casino Philadelphia. HSP Gaming, LP is currently owned by HP Gaming Partners, LP; High Penn Gaming, LP and RPRS Gaming, LP.

RPRS has now reached an agreement with HSP Gaming, LP, whereby, all of RPRS's interest will be redeemed by HSP Gaming, LP in exchange for a financial payout. No new licensing in the current - there is no new licensing requirements as the current ownership structure is entirely licensed and the only

```
licensing requirement necessary to complete this transaction pertains to a limited liability company, which will be serving as a guarantee to the financial obligations.
```

Petitioners have also requested that certain petition or certain portions of their filing be maintained as confidential. The OEC has no objection to this Petition or the confidentiality request subject to certain conditions, and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?

MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Regan moves that the Board Grant HSP Gaming, LP's Petition for Approval of Unit Redemption, as

described by the OCC, subject to the conditions requested by the OEC. I further move that HSP

Gaming's request for confidentiality be granted in

19 part.

1

2

3

4

5

6

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

22

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston

21 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

23 (AYES RESPOND.)

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY COOK: The next request before the Board today is Mountainview Thoroughbred Racing Association, LLC, which does business as Hollywood Casino York. Their request to expand their gaming floor.

Hollywood Casino York holds a Category 4 Slot Machine License and has a current complement of 638 slot machines, and 27 table games on 27,966 square feet of gaming floor, inclusive of the sportsbook.

The current floor plan also consists of a closed restaurant which encompasses 4,615 square feet of non-gaming space. Hollywood is proposing that this space be added to the gaming floor and then an additional 77 slot machines be added for a total complement of 715 machines. This modification will not require any changes to staffing. Hollywood does, however, plan to install an additional 19 surveillance cameras to ensure compliance that there's adequate coverage in all gaming areas.

After a review by the Bureau of
Investigations and Enforcement, the OEC does not
object to the requested relief, but proposes that the
Board impose several standard conditions to which

2.2

```
Hollywood has agreed. There is also a request by
1
2
   Hollywood that some sensitive information in the
3
   record in this matter be maintained as confidential
 4
   and the OCC would concur in that request and this
5
   matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.
 6
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
                   May I have a motion, please?
8
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
9
   moves that the Board grant Mountainview Thoroughbred
10
   Racing Association, LLC's Petition to Modify the
11
   Gaming Floor Plan at Hollywood Casino York as
12
   described by the OCC. I also move that the
   Petitioner's request for confidentiality be granted.
13
14
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
15
   Manzano-Díaz, second.
16
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
17
   (AYES RESPOND.)
18
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
19
   (NO RESPONSE.)
20
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
21
                   ATTORNEY COOK: The last Petition
22
   before the Board today is a request from a Self-
23
   Excluded Individual to recover monies confiscated
24
   from him while on both the casino and Video Gaming
25
   Terminal Self-Exclusion Lists.
```

By way of background, on May 19, 2021 an individual with the initials C.F. placed himself on both of these lists for a period of five years. He signed an acknowledgement, which included acknowledging that he was prohibited from collecting winnings, money or anything of value from gaming activity while he was on the list.

On June 22, 2024, C.F. was gaming at the Valley Forge Casino Resort. It was discovered that he was a self-excluded individual and \$630 was confiscated from him. He was also cited for trespassing. Thereafter, two days later on June 24, C.F. filed a petition to recover the funds that were confiscated. The OEC filed Answer to the request wherein it indicates that after reviewing all the surveillance footage monitoring C.F.'s play on the day in question that he was entitled to have \$456 of the \$630 returned to him, as that amount constituted buy-in money, not money that was wagered or won.

Upon reviewing OEC's answer, C.F. contacted Board staff and indicated he agreed with this resolution of the matter and therefore, the matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May have a motion, please?

2.4

```
MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
1
2
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board grant,
3
   in part, C.F.'s Petition and that $456 should be
   remitted to him. I further move that C.F.'s request
 4
 5
   for removal from the Self-Exclusion List be denied
 6
   and he remain on the casino and VGT'S Self-Exclusion
7
   List.
                   MR. HICKERNELL:
                                    Commissioner
9
   Hickernell seconds.
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
10
11
   (AYES RESPOND.)
12
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
13
   (NO RESPONSE.)
14
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
15
                   ATTORNEY COOK: Next, presenting
16
   Withdrawals and Reports and Recommendations is Deputy
17
   Chief Counsel Chad Zimmermann.
18
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Good morning,
19
   Commissioners. The next matter before the Board
20
   today pertains to several unopposed Petitions to
   Withdrawal Applications or Surrender the credentials
21
22
   of the following individuals and entities.
23
                   Dermot Smurfit, Jason Park, City Turf
24
   Club Op Co., Justin Arcemont, Barry Cottle, Kimberly
25
   Hancock, Playstar Gaming Group AB, Playstar Gaming,
```

2.5

```
Inc., Nominus Invest AB and Playstar PA, LLC.
1
2
                   The OEC has no objections to any of
3
   these withdrawals or surrenders. As a result, the
 4
   Board chooses to grant these requests in nearly every
5
   case it would be doing so without prejudice to the
 6
   requester. However, by agreement of the parties, the
7
   surrender of Dermot Smurfit's credential is with
   prejudice. These matters are all now ripe for
9
   Board's consideration.
10
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
11
                   May I have a motion please?
12
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
13
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board issue
14
   Orders to approve the Withdrawals and Surrenders as
15
   described by the OCC.
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
16
17
   seconds.
18
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
19
   (AYES RESPOND.)
20
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
21
   (NO RESPONSE.)
22
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
23
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the
24
   Board are eight Reports and Recommendations received
```

from the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

25

Reports and Recommendations, along with the evidentiary record for each hearing been provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Additionally, the persons involved have each been notified that the Board is considering their matter today and that each have the ability to come forward and briefly address the Board. If any of the persons who are the subject of one of these Reports and Recommendations would like to address the Board, I would ask them to come forward when their matter is called.

The first Report and Recommendation before the Board today pertains to Ashley Rodriguez. The underlying facts in this matter are that on July 10, 2021, while a patron at Mount Airy Casino and Resort Ms. Rodriguez took \$500 left by another patron in a ticket redemption unit, placed the cash in her pocket and left the casino. She was permanently banned and she was charged with theft-related offenses where she was ultimately admitted to the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition Program, which she completed.

Consequently, on February 22, 2023, the Board issued an order placing her on the Involuntary Exclusion List. On March 19, 2024, Ms. Rodriguez filed her Petition requesting removal from

2.7

```
the list. The OEC filed an Answer objecting to the request and a hearing was scheduled and held in June of 2024. Ms. Rodriguez failed to appear for her hearing. OEC appeared in the hearing and moved to dismiss a petition based on Ms. Rodriguez absence.
```

A Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Ms. Rodriguez petition be dismissed or denied and this matters now ready for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC and that Ashley Rodriguez remain on Involuntary Exclusion List.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody seconds.

19 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

20 (AYES RESPOND.)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

21 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

22 (NO RESPONSE.)

23 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion passes.

24 <u>ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN:</u> Next, before the 25 Board is a Report and Recommendation pertaining to

Bendu Saylee's Request for Removal from the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List. On March 6, 2019, the Board granted the OEC's request to enter Default Judgment and place Ms. Saylee on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

The underlying facts in this matter are that while a patron at Parx Casino, Ms. Saylee took a \$601 voucher left in a slot machine by another patron. Ms. Saylee was charged with theft, admitted into the ARD program and permanently banned from Parx. In March 2024, Ms. Saylee filed her current request for removal from the list, having previously filed for reconsideration of the original Board Order and a request for early removal. OEC filed an Answer objecting to the current request. Thereafter, a hearing was held in June 2024. Ms. Saylee failed to appear for the hearing and OEC made an oral motion to dismiss the matter.

Subsequent to the hearing, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Ms.

Saylee's Petition be dismissed and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?
MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC and that Bendu Saylee remain on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan seconds.

<u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

8 (AYES RESPOND.)

CHAIR: All opposed?

10 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: The next Report and Recommendation before the Board today stems from a request for early removal from the Voluntary Self-Exclusion List by an individual with the initials, J.B.

By way of background, J.B. placed himself on the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion List on January 9, 2023, choosing a five-year exclusion period. The OEC filed an Answer objecting to J.B.'s request to come off the list and thereafter, the Director of the OHA issued a Staff Decision and Order denying the request. J.B. appealed the Decision and a hearing was held in July of 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing presenting documentary and testimonial

evidence. J.B. appeared and testified on his own behalf.

Evidence and testimony presented at the hearing showed that J.B. had properly filled out all the exclusion forms, sending all required acknowledgments which included warnings that by excluding from interactive gaming, brick and mortar facilities in both the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions may choose to prohibit access to those facilities. J.B. testified that his job requires him to often attend trade shows that take place at casinos and that he was unaware that by selfexcluding from iGaming in Pennsylvania, it could prevent him from going to casinos in other states.

Evidence and testimony further showed that J.B. had previously been enrolled in both the Casino Self-Exclusion List and iGaming Self-Exclusion List and had been removed from those lists at the duration of the exclusion periods. After hearing all the evidence presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that J.B.'s request for early removal from the Self-Exclusion List be denied and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

```
May I have a motion please?
1
2
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
3
   that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation
 4
   issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC and that
5
   J.B. remain on the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion
   List.
 6
 7
                   MS. RALSTON:
                                 Commissioner Ralston
8
   seconds.
9
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
10
   (AYES RESPOND.)
11
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
12
   (NO RESPONSE.)
13
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
14
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the
15
   Board is a Report and Recommendation stemming from
16
   another request for removal from the Self-Exclusion
17
   List. On January 22, 2023, J.R. placed himself on
   the Self-Exclusion List, choosing the five-year
18
19
   exclusion period. In January 2024, J.R. filed his
20
   request for removal from the list. OEC filed an
21
   Answer objecting to the request and thereafter the
   Director of the OHA issued a Staff Decision and Order
22
23
   denying the request.
24
                   J.R. appealed the decision and a
25
   hearing on the matter was scheduled and held in June
```

```
of 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing. However, J.R.
1
2
   failed to appear and OEC made an oral motion to deny
3
   J.R.'s Petition, a Report and Recommendation was
 4
   issued recommending that J.R.'s request for early
5
   removal be denied and these matters are ripe for the
 6
   Board's consideration.
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
8
                   May I have a motion please?
9
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
10
   moves that the Board adopt the Report and
11
   Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the
12
   OCC and that J.R. remain on the casino Self-Exclusion
13
   List.
14
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
15
   Manzano-Díaz, second.
16
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
17
   (AYES RESPOND.)
18
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
19
   (NO RESPONSE.)
20
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
21
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the
22
   Board is a Report and Recommendation stemming from a
23
   request to recover funds confiscated while on the
24
   Self-Exclusion List. On January 22nd, 2024, F.H.
```

filed a Petition requesting recovery of funds

25

confiscated from him. A hearing in this matter was held June of 2024. The OEC appeared and presented documentary and testimonial evidence. F.H. also appeared and testified on his own behalf.

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that on February 20, 2016, F.H. met with a Board employee at Harrah's Philadelphia Casino and Racetrack, completed all the necessary Self-Exclusion paperwork choosing a lifetime exclusion period and signed all acknowledgments including an acknowledgment that he is a problem gambler and he was prohibited from collecting winnings, money or things of value from gaming while on the list.

On April 9th and 10th, 2023, F.H. was gaming at Parx Casino. He went to the cage to cash out and was discovered to be a self-excluded individual and \$6,100 in gaming chips were confiscated from him. F.H. testified that when he enrolled in the list he was under distress because he had been losing money gambling, thought he was only excluding himself from Caesar's-owned properties, but acknowledged he did not fully listen to what was being explained to him during the Self-Exclusion interview.

After hearing all the evidence

presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending F.H.'s Petition be granted in part, but that he only be allowed to recover his remaining buyin amount of \$500 as that amount does not constitute winnings and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner

Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC and that F.H.'s Petition be granted in part, and denied in part.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

Hickernell seconds.

16 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

17 (AYES RESPOND.)

1

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

21

22

23

24

25

18 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

19 (NO RESPONSE.)

20 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the Board is another Report and Recommendation pertaining to a self-excluded individuals request to recover monies confiscated while on the list.

On December 1st, 2022, J.S. placed

himself on the Board's Self-Exclusion List for a period of one year, signing all acknowledgments, which included an acknowledgement that he was prohibited from collecting winnings from gaming activity while on the list as well as an acknowledgement that he would need to request removal from the list after the one year period had elapsed.

On December 27, 2023, J.S. entered and gamed at Wind Creek Bethlehem while still on the exclusion list. The one-year period had run, however, J.S. had failed to remove himself from the list. Upon attempting to cash out a \$1,008 voucher, it was discovered that J.S. was on the list and the voucher was confiscated and he was charged with defiant trespass. On December 28, J.S. then filed his request for removal from the list and his request to recover funds.

A hearing in this matter was held June of 2024. However, J.S. failed to appear for his hearing. OEC appeared at the hearing and moved orally to deny the petition based on J.S.'s absence. Subsequently, a Hearing Officer issued a recommendation that J.S.'s Petition be granted in part and that he be allowed to recover the documented buy in amount which remained, which was \$100, and

```
that the rest be remitted to the Board.
1
2
                   This matter is now ready for the
3
   Board's consideration.
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
 4
 5
                   May have a motion, please?
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
 6
7
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board adopt
   the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as
   described by the OCC's and that J.S.'s Petition be
10
   granted in part and denied in part.
11
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
12
   seconds.
13
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
14
   (AYES RESPOND.)
15
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
16
   (NO RESPONSE.)
17
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
18
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: M.H.'s Report
19
   and Recommendation is next before the Board today and
20
   once again stems from a request to recover monies
21
   confiscated.
22
                   On February 8, 2024, M.H. filed a
23
   Petition requesting recovery of funds confiscated
24
   from him. A hearing in this matter was held May of
25
   2024. The OEC appeared and presented documentary and
```

testimonial evidence. M.H. appeared and testified on his own behalf.

Evidence presented at the hearing showed that in May 2023, M.H. completed all the necessary Self-Exclusion paperwork choosing the one-year exclusion period, signing all acknowledgments regarding the collecting of winnings or money or things of value from gaming, as well as acknowledgement that you would need to request removal from the list.

On February 7, 2024, believing he was no longer on the list, M.H. entered Live! Casino and Hotel in Philadelphia and gamed. M.H. testified he believed the one-year Self-Exclusion period ran from February 2023 to February 2024 and that despite his status as a self-excluded person, he was able to enter the casino, withdraw money and gamble and he claimed that he had been treated poorly when he was escorted from the gaming floor.

M.H. did however admit that the Self-Exclusion documents he signed and acknowledged stated he would not be removed until after the expiration of his exclusion period and that the one-year period had not run. Testimony provided by OEC further showed that M.H. did not provide his correct name to casino

personnel when they came to pay him as jackpot nor did he have identification on him. They were ultimately able to correctly identify him as a self-excluded person, however.

Additionally, M.H. had violated a Self-Exclusion ban one occasion within the prior year. M.H., however, denied this. After hearing all the evidence presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending M.H.'s Petition be denied and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC and that M.H.'s Petition be denied.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
seconds.

20 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

21 (AYES RESPOND.)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

22 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

23 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

25 <u>ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN:</u> The final Report

and Recommendation today is another request to recover funds confiscated while on the Self-Exclusion List. The OEC filed an Answer objecting to the request from an individual with the initials N.D.

By way of background, on April 29, 2023, N.D. entered Presque Isle Downs and Casino and gamed while on the Self-Exclusion List. She bought into a mini baccarat table for \$1,000. Upon realizing that N.D. was on the list, Presque Isle staff confiscated \$964.50. She was charged with defiant trespass. On January 9, 2024, N.D. filed a request to recover the funds confiscated from her.

A hearing in this matter was held in June of 2024. OEC appeared presenting documentary and testimonial evidence and N.D. appeared and testified on her own behalf. The evidence showed that on October 7, 2014, after an interview with a Board employee, N.D. placed herself on the Board's Self-Exclusion List for a period of five years, signed all the acknowledgments including that she was prohibited from collecting winnings and that she would need to request removal after the five-year period had expired.

In February of 2015, shortly after going on the list, N.D. did violate her Self-

Exclusion ban by gaming at Rivers Pittsburgh. N.D. testified at the hearing that she does believe she has a gambling problem, that her parent's initially forced her to go on the Self-Exclusion List and she believed she was no longer on the list as the five-year period had expired in 2019.

N.D. further argued that her money should not have been confiscated due to the amount of time that it had elapsed since her enrollment on the list. After hearing all the evidence presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that N.D. only be allowed to recover funds that do not constitute winnings, which was her remaining buyin amount. However, this matter is now ready for the Board consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board reject the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA as described by the OCC and that N.D.'s Petition be granted.

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

 $\underline{\text{MS. REGAN:}} \quad \text{Commissioner Regan}$ seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

```
1 (AYES RESPOND.)
```

2 CHAIR: All opposed?

3 (NO RESPONSE.)

4 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY COOK: That concludes the matters of the Office of Chief Counsel.

CHAIR: Thank you, Steve and Chad. We will now have the Bureau of Licensing matters presented by the Director of the Bureau of Licensing, Sean Hannon. Sean?

MR. HANNON: Good afternoon, Madam
Chair, Members of the Board, today the first
licensing matter for your consideration is the
renewal of Wind Creek Bethlehem, LLC's Category 2
License. The license renewal hearing for this entity
is now complete. The BIE has completed its
investigation of the company and the Bureau of
Licensing provided you with a Background
Investigation and Suitability Report regarding the
renewal.

As a result, the license renewal is ready for your consideration. I have provided you with a draft Order and ask that the Board consider the Order to renew the Category 2 License for Wind Creek Bethlehem, LLC.

```
ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no
1
2
   objection.
 3
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
 4
                   May I have a motion, please?
 5
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
   that the Board grant the Category 2 License Renewal
6
7
   as described by the Bureau of Licensing.
8
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
9
   seconds.
10
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
11
   (AYES RESPOND.)
12
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
13
   (NO RESPONSE.)
14
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
15
                   MR. HANNON: The next licensing matter
16
   for your consideration is the approval of Slot
17
   Machine and Interactive Gaming Manufacturer Licenses
   for Empire Technological Group Limited, doing
18
19
   business as, Aruze Gaming Global.
20
                   Originally formed in the British
21
   Virgin Islands on September 20, 2012, Empire's
22
   principal place of business is in Las Vegas, Nevada.
23
   The company develops slot machines and interactive
24
   gaming software and distributes its products directly
25
   to licensees in the Commonwealth. Empire received
```

4.3

```
interim authorization on June 13, 2024.
1
2
                   The BIE has completed its
3
   investigation and the Bureau of Licensing has
 4
   provided you with a Background Investigation and
5
   Suitability Report and the approval is ready for your
 6
   consideration. I have provided you with draft Orders
7
   and ask the first that you first consider the Order
   to approve Empire for a Slot Machine Manufacturer
9
   License.
10
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
11
   has no objection.
12
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
13
                   May I have a motion, please?
14
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
15
   moves that the Board grant the Slot Machine
16
   Manufacturing License as described by the Bureau of
17
   Licensing.
18
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
19
   Manzano-Díaz, second.
20
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
21
   (AYES RESPOND.)
22
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
23
   (NO RESPONSE.)
24
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
25
                   MR. HANNON: Next is consideration of
```

```
Empire for an Interactive Gaming Manufacturer
1
2
   License.
 3
                   CHAIR: Enforcement Counsel?
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
 4
5
   has no objection.
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
 6
                   May have a motion, please?
8
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
9
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board grant
10
   the Interactive Gaming Manufacturer License as
   described by the Bureau of Licensing.
11
12
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
13
   Hickernell seconds.
14
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
15
   (AYES RESPOND.)
16
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
17
   (NO RESPONSE.)
18
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
19
                   MR. HANNON: In addition for your
20
   consideration is the Renewal of the Slot Machine,
21
   Table Game and Interactive Gaming Manufacturer
22
   Licenses for AGS, LLC, doing business as, America
23
   Gaming Systems. Formed in Delaware on April 12,
24
   2005. AGS's principal place of business is located in
25
   Las Vegas, Nevada. AGS develops and distributes
```

```
various gaming equipment including, but not limited
1
2
   to, electronic gaming machines, table game products
3
   and systems software.
 4
                   The BIE has completed its
5
   investigation of the company and the Bureau of
   Licensing has provided you with a Background
 6
7
   Investigation and Suitability Report. I have
   provided you with draft Orders and asked that the
   Board first consider the Order to renew the Slot
10
   Machine License for AGS, LLC.
```

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} \hline ATTORNEY & PITRE: \\ \hline has no objection. \\ \hline \end{tabular} \begin{tabular}{lll} Enforcement Counsel \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May have a motion, please?

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant the Slot Machine Manufacturer License Renewal as described by the Bureau of Licensing.

MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon seconds.

21 CHAIR: All in favor?

22 (AYES RESPOND.)

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

23 <u>CHAIR:</u> All opposed?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

25 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion passes.

```
46
                   MR. HANNON: Next is the order to
1
2
   renew AGS for the Table Game Manufacturer License.
 3
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
   has no objection.
4
 5
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
 6
                   May have a motion, please?
                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
   Dillon moves that the Board grant the Table Game
   Manufacture License Renewal as described by the
10
   Bureau of Licensing.
11
                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
12
   seconds.
13
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
14
   (AYES RESPOND.)
15
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
16
   (NO RESPONSE.)
17
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
18
                   MR. HANNON: And finally, the order to
19
   renew AGS for the Interactive Gaming Manufacturer
20
   License.
21
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
22
   has no objection.
23
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
24
   May have a motion, please?
25
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
```

```
1
   Commissioner Dermody moves with the Board grant the
2
   Interactive Gaming Manufacturer License Renewal as
3
   described by the Bureau of Licensing.
 4
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan
5
   seconds.
                           All in favor?
 6
                   CHAIR:
7
   (AYES RESPOND.)
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
9
   (NO RESPONSE.)
10
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
11
                   MR. HANNON: Next are Principal and
12
   Key Employee Licenses. The Bureau of Licensing
13
   provided you with a proposed Order for five
14
   Principals and two Key Employees. I ask the Board
15
   consider the Order approving these licenses.
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
16
17
   has no objection.
18
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
19
                   May have a motion, please?
20
                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner
   Regan moves that the Board grant the Principal and
21
22
   Key Employee Licenses as described by the Bureau of
23
   Licensing.
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
24
25
   seconds.
```

CHAIR: All in favor? 1

2 (AYES RESPOND.)

3 CHAIR: All opposed?

4 (NO RESPONSE.)

5

6

15

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

MR. HANNON: There are also Principal 7 and Key Employee Temporary Credentials. The Bureau of Licensing provided you with an Order regarding the issuance of temporary credentials for three 10

Principals and eight Key Employees. I ask that the Board consider the Order approving these credentials. 11

12 ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel 13 has no objection.

14 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston 16 moves that the Board grant the Temporary Principal 17

18 and Key Employee credentials as described by the

19 Bureau of Licensing.

20 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner

21 Manzano-Díaz, second.

22 CHAIR: All in favor?

23 (AYES RESPOND.)

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted. 1 2 MR. HANNON: Additionally for your 3 consideration are Gaming Employee Permits and Non-4 Gaming Employee Registrations. The Bureau of 5 Licensing has provided you with a list of 648 individuals to whom the Bureau is granted Temporary 6 7 or full Occupation Permits and 241 individuals to whom the Bureau has granted registrations under the authority delegated to the Bureau of Licensing. 10 ask that the Board consider a motion approving the Order. 11 12 ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel 13 has no objection. 14 CHAIR: Any questions or comments? 15 May I have a motion, please? 16 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair, 17 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board 18 approve the Application for Gaming Employee 19 Occupation Permits and Non-Gaming Employee 20 Registrations as described by the Bureau of 21 Licensing. 22 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner 23 Hickernell seconds. CHAIR: All in favor? 24

25

(AYES RESPOND.)

```
50
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
1
2
   (NO RESPONSE.)
 3
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
 4
                   MR. HANNON:
                                There's a recommendation
5
   of denial for three Gaming and three Non-Gaming
6
   Applicants. The Bureau of Licensing has provided you
7
   with the Order addressing the applicants who the OEC
   has recommended for denial. I ask that the Board
   consider the Order approving these denials.
10
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
11
   continues to request denial in each matter.
12
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
13
                   May have a motion, please?
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
14
15
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board deny the
16
   Gaming and Non-Gaming Employee Applications as
   described by the Bureau of Licensing.
17
18
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
19
   seconds.
20
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
21
   (AYES RESPOND.)
22
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
23
   (NO RESPONSE.)
24
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
25
                   MR. HANNON: Next matter for your
```

```
51
   consideration is Withdrawal Requests. In each case,
1
2
   the license, permit or registration is no longer
3
   required. For today's meeting, I've provided the
 4
   Board with 32 Gaming and 12 Non-Gaming Applicants.
                                                         Ι
5
   ask that the Board consider the Orders approving
   these withdrawals.
 6
 7
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
8
   has no objection.
9
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
10
                   May I have a motion, please?
11
                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
12
   Dillon moves that the Board grant the Withdrawal of
13
   Gaming and Non-Gaming Employee Applications as
14
   described by the Bureau of Licensing.
15
                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
16
   seconds.
17
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
18
   (AYES RESPOND.)
19
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
20
   (NO RESPONSE.)
21
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
22
                   MR. HANNON: Finally, for
23
   consideration are Gaming Service Provider
24
   registrations. The Bureau of Licensing provided you
25
   with an Order and an attached list of three
```

```
52
   Registered Gaming Service Provider Applicants.
                                                     I ask
1
2
   that the Board consider the Order registering these
3
   Gaming Service Providers.
 4
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement counsel
5
   has no objection.
 6
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
                   May I have a motion, please?
8
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
9
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
10
   Gaming Service Provider Registrations as described by
11
   the Bureau of Licensing.
12
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan
13
   seconds.
14
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
15
   (AYES RESPOND.)
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
16
17
   (NO RESPONSE.)
18
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
19
                   MR. HANNON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
20
                   CHAIR:
                           Thank you, Sean. Next is the
21
   OEC, Cyrus Pitre. Cyrus?
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Good afternoon, Madam
22
23
   Chair, Members of the Board. The OEC will present 20
```

matters today for the Board's consideration in which

we will request approval of one Consent Agreement,

24

25

one Suspension, four Revocations and 14 Involuntary Exclusions.

The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is a Consent Agreement between the OEC and Category 2 Licensee Stadium Casino RE, LLC, doing business as Live! Casino and Hotel Philadelphia. The matter will be presented by Senior Enforcement Counsel John Crohe. Representatives for Live! are present, and at this time I request that those individuals please introduce themselves for the record and that all non-attorney witnesses please stand and be sworn.

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Madam Chair, I'm Tom Diehl, Vice President of Legal on behalf of Stadium Casino RE, LLC, and with me is Craig Clark who's our Executive VP and General Manager.

CHAIR: Mr. Diehl, can you just spell your name for the Court Reporter?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: I certainly can.

It's D-I-E-H-L, and although he does not intend to present today, he was available for question and answers. So, it would be appropriate to swear him in.

CHAIR: Okay.

Please stand and be sworn in, please.

CALLED AS A WITNESS IN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING, AND

HAVING FIRST BEEN DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AND SAID AS

CRAIG CLARK,

2

1

3

4

5

FOLLOWS:

6

7

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

21

20

22

23 24

25

And could you just state and

spell your name for Court Reporter?

MR. CLARK: Yeah, it's Craig Clark,

C-R-A-I-G, C-L-A-R-K.

CHAIR: Okay.

CHAIR:

Enforcement Counsel?

ATTORNEY CROHE: Thank you. Good

morning, Chair, Members of the Board, John Crohe,

C-R-O-H-E, for the OEC. This matter concerns Self-

Exclusion violations which occurred at Live! Casino

Philadelphia.

Regarding count one on December 12,

2021, an individual on the Casino Self-Exclusion

List, D.S. was on the gaming floor at Live! Casino

for a total of 1 hour and 55 minutes, gamed at a

total of ten slot machines and was issued a Players

Club Card by Live! before successfully departing the

casino undetected. This matter was self-reported

after Live! discovered the incident during an

internal report review process.

Regarding count two, between December 15, 2021 and December 16, 2021, an individual on the casino Self-Exclusion List, H.E. actively gamed at Live! Casino for a total of approximately 55 minutes, buying in for a total of \$36,900. This matter was also self-reported after Live! discovered the incident during an internal report review process following the creation of a duplicate Players Club Account. While on the Self-Exclusion List, H.E. was also issued a Players Club Card and received comps in the form of \$3,000 worth of Match Play coupons and Philadelphia Eagles game tickets.

Regarding Count 3, on November 9, 2022, an individual on the Casino Self-Exclusion
List, D.Y., was on the gaming floor for approximately 21 hours and 11 minutes before Live! Casino removed
D.Y. from the gaming floor. During that time, D.Y. bought-in for \$9,600 and completed three cash outs at the main cage for a total of \$4,700. D.Y. was identified as being on the Self-Exclusion List by Live! security personnel while D.Y. was on the gaming floor.

Regarding count four, on December 24, 2022, an individual on the casino Self-Exclusion

List, J.A., was on the gaming floor for approximately six hours and 16 minutes, bought in for a total of \$3,000, completed two cash outs at the main cage for a total of \$700, and also successfully obtained one cash advance from the main cage. J.A. was identified as being on the Self-Exclusion List while attempting to obtain a second cash advance.

The Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder require that Slot Machine Licensees identify and remove self-excluded individuals from the gaming floor, prevent excluded individuals from gaming and deny gaming related activities to self-excluded individuals.

The OEC and Stadium Casino RE, LLC, doing business as, Live! Casino and Hotel
Philadelphia respectfully requests that the Board approve the Consent Agreement and Stipulations of Settlement that Stadium Casino RE, LLC, doing business as Live! Casino and Hotel Philadelphia pay a civil penalty of \$50,000, as well as a \$2,500 administrative fee for costs incurred by Board staff in connection with investigations into this matter.

CHAIR: Thank you. Live!, would you like to address the Board?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Yes. We heard the

recitation of the facts by OEC and I'm confirming on behalf of Stadium Casino RE, LLC, that is accurate and we also accept the terms of the Consent Agreement. Also within the Consent Agreement, there is a list of remedial actions that we've taken since these occurrences that took place I believe in 2021 and 2022 that just would like to briefly overview.

One of the issues that we did was create a - or, I'm sorry, implement a duplicate report that would help us to identify any type of inadvertently-created duplicate accounts. The second thing we did was change the system that we used for signing up new player accounts. The third thing that we did was conduct mandatory training of all team members that have authorization to sign on new accounts. And we did that across all of our properties.

Although this Consent Agreement is obviously for Philadelphia, as you know, we have a casino in Pittsburgh, we also have one in Maryland. So, we made sure that when we learned something in one property, we rolled out to all our properties. We also reemphasized with both our cage department and table games department that the necessity and the emphasis on making sure that we log unrated patrons,

particularly if they have a large buy-in.

And as you can probably go, as we're going through the counts, counts one and two were addressed by the first three issues. The fourth remedial action with respect to count three, and the last one here is obviously conducting retraining for the cage to ensure there's proper ID checks in advance of cash advances. And this is of course in addition to having responsible gaming training for all new team members, which is then revisited annually.

That concludes what we'd like to present to you. And certainly we make ourselves available for questions you may have.

CHAIR: Any questions from the Board?
Commissioner Manzano-Díaz?

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Thank you, Madam Chair. The question I have is the first two. In terms of who got the players card. You said you found that through an internal review process. So, that means that you found out after the fact.

Is that right?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Yes. That is correct. Like if we, if we saw them right when we were there, we'd obviously intervene. What we end up

doing when we merge accounts, you'll have -. I'll use myself as an example.

If I was a self-excluded patron and I would show up to our casino in order to create, like, a Player's Card. What I'd end up doing is showing my driver's license and having it dipped in our process to for new player signups which would then pull up, you know, Thomas Diehl, and at that point a card would be issued and so forth.

The tricky part happens sometimes when if I would sign up for Self-Exclusion, I may sign up myself as Tom Diehl, in which case we then use our systems, we're talking about the duplicate account system to be able to match those two because what we want to happen whenever someone signs up for a self-excluded and it's been rolled out from the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's API, we said that and we want to create - if we do not have that patron in there in our account, we want to create a new account that's obviously flagged, so, when they show up at our property, they'll be recognized immediately whenever they conduct a transaction or carded at the door.

Now, what may take place in some cases if Tom Diehl and Thomas Diehl are not recognized as

the same patron, now we have the duplicate account that we're trying to vet through. And though the flag may be on one, it may not be on the other.

That's what we're trying to safeguard against.

So, back to your underlying question. When we reconcile those two and make sure we have this vetting process which includes an additional step of this duplicate report, that's when they piece them together and realize, oh, these are two separate - these are two separate accounts. One was flagged and the other wasn't.

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: And when you have those duplicates, do you not match just the name or do you match the addresses as well?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: A great point.

There's a couple different things. The initial thing, whenever the initial flush comes in, where you want to create a new account to make sure it's flagged, it's an exact match between first name, last name and date of birth. The problem is when you start to get into larger numbers, like date of birth sounds like it would be fantastic. But if you have, for instance, a sample of 10,000 accounts divided by 365 days, now all of a sudden, presume normal distribution, then you have 27 different people for

every single day of the year.

So, what happens - then we go to the next step, which would include address. The problem with address is it's not as immutable as a date of birth. People move and so forth. And it's also a little bit tricky with respect to whether it's a street, whether it's an address. Sometimes numbers may be transposed upon sign up and even gets down to the point where even names themselves, which seem like they'd be very straightforward, sometimes it may be exchanged between Tom and Thomas, sometimes it may be written with a dash or a space and it becomes -.

It's been education for me. I found it's a much more tricky process than I initially expected, but to answer your question, yes, we would initially start off with those name and date of birth and then expand out to address as appropriate.

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: The last question is with regard to the individual who was on the floor for 21 hours, what happened with that? And also how do you safeguard? You had another individual who was there for six hours as well.

So, what is it that you're doing to address what happened and what are you doing to address that issue?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Oh, certainly with respect to somebody that was in there, I believe that was count three, the gentleman that was on for 21 hours. There's a couple of things that take place. First of all, when he shows up the door, he was over 30, over the age of 35. So, he wouldn't be somebody that would necessarily be carded because he's kind of like, I'm not carded when I'm served a drink in a restaurant. Obviously, well over 21.

So, then you have an instance where if the patron doesn't present an ID when they - in this case, it was - I think in his case he cashed into - bought into table games. He didn't present an ID. He didn't present a Player's Card obviously because he would have been flagged at that point. The trick then is for our team members to log this person and identify him as best they are able without the advantage of a name, an ID or a Player's Card.

So, then you then have to indicate - again I'm not a dealer, but I'm going through the process from learning this process, that you identify them as their physical attributes. There's somebody that's approximately six feet who's wearing a ball cap and an Eagle's sweatshirt and then that person plays and then they play at another table game and

another table game. And then what our team has to do is track them from table to table to accrue the buyins, and at that point there's certain trigger amounts that would flag that we ultimately got to, but it took - I believe if I went through the - when I did my homework for this report, it was 32 different transactions. I'm sorry, 32 different tables that were visited. And it is a trick.

members to be able to track that. But again, expression my father uses frequently, if it was easy I would assign it to somebody else. So, we're up for the challenge, we'll take it on. And sometimes they do get through the cracks, but it wasn't a one-time instance that we that would have immediately flagged it. It's the accumulation because we have to flag it at thresholds of \$10,000 or in some cases \$3,000 with respect to the multiple transaction log. So, I hope that answers your question. It takes a while for us to finally catch up and then figure out this.

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: So, in light of what happened with the 21 hour and the six-hour one, what is it you said you were instituting as a remediation?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Oh, certainly. With

respect to one of the ways that you flagging those people is the manual log. Because it's wonderful when we can - it's automated when we're using a driver's license, when you use a player account, manual log is a skill. It's kind of like exercise. It's not something you can do - you can train one time and then be fit. It's something that has to be revisited and something like this takes place. You have to come back to your team, in this case, our table games team and say, look, this is why we do this.

It's challenging, we know that, but we have to double down on this and emphasize this is important. Otherwise people end up getting through our nets.

MR. CLARK: And the key to this is really the training that goes on and how we make sure the communication is between departments. And in this case, when you say 21 hours, you go over different shifts and you want to really make sure you have the information conveyed from shift to shift or table to table. And we focus a lot on the training associated with that communication to ensure compliance.

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Thank you.

65 CHAIR: Any other questions or 1 2 comments? 3 MR. DILLON: I have one other 4 question. 5 CHAIR: Commissioner Dillon? MR. DILLON: Wasn't one of these 6 7 individuals also got \$3,000 in cash advances or perks or something? 9 CHAIR: Somebody went to the Eagle's 10 game and got Eagle's tickets. 11 ATTORNEY DIEHL: Like, yeah, there's. 12 That was count three, and I think in count four was the cash advance. So, I think you're accurate on 13 both counts, but it was different individuals. 14 15 MR. DILLON: Okay. 16 So, how were they able to do that if they were on this? Didn't they have to present ID to 17 18 be able to get these perks? 19 ATTORNEY DIEHL: No. I'll start with 20 that last one first. He was the gentleman that did 21 not present an ID that was moving from table games to 22 table games over the aggregate. Now, with respect to 23 the actual specific issuance of comps in that one. Craig -? 24 25 MR. CLARK: Yeah. So, in that

situation, he should have a player's account to get the match play that was issued to them, as well as the tickets. Not sure the specifics associated with why that did not occur. I would assume that it has to do with a name match. Once again, that it was different than the self-excluded list.

ATTORNEY CROHE: The individual who was given the Match Play coupons as well as the Eagle tickets, that was count two. So, this is an individual who was issued a duplicate card. So, if you were to go through the facts, it was because he had that duplicate card which when they were swiping it was not registering as somebody who was selfexcluded is how he was able to accumulate that on the non-self-excluded duplicate account.

MR. DILLON: Yes. So, the issuance occurred on the one that wasn't flagged as self-excluded.

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Thank you, John. And on the last matter with respect to the cash advance, that one was a human error. When they first approached for a cash advance, the standard protocol was to request ID. The first team member did not and the cash advance was issued.

And John's facts that he accurately

cited, that same patron came back to the same cage, encountered a separate employee 34 minutes later, and was flagged the second time, they end up catching the, requesting an ID and then he ended up being flagged.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. DILLON: So, what happens to the employee that isn't following proper procedures or protocols to, you know, ask for ID when they're asking?

MR. CLARK: They'll go through a disciplinary process of looking at their experience. Did they have other situations? They'd go through a warning process and up to termination if they're not following the procedures. And our goal is to continue to train. We want to bring awareness to different transaction types on an ongoing basis. So, a lot of that has to do with not just doing the annual training, but also having like procedure of the week in the cage specifically is a refresher for the team member. You know, our goal is to give them the tools to succeed. And a large part of that is both training, training and more training as well as technology.

In this case, as Tom mentioned, human error. They didn't follow the process and procedure

that we had in place. And the first transaction went through. The second team member did the right process and properly flagged them.

MR. DILLON: Thank you.

Crohe said the first two were self-reported. Were the second two self-reported as well?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Yeah, all of them are self-reported. Yeah, because once they immediately get reduced to our incident report, which is then copied into the Gaming Control Board, the onsite staff of the Gaming Control Board.

CHAIR: Okay.

all of the files, I mean because I know one of them was caught because of them being listed in Maryland. So, now all of your properties are all on the same page as far as files.

MR. CLARK: Oh, great. Yes, great point. Whenever a patron is barred from gaming in one of our properties, whether it be Maryland, whether it be Pittsburgh, whether it's Philadelphia, it's recognized. The ban is recognized as the other properties. So, then - so, yes, it would be reconciled not only in our property, but in all three

```
of the properties. And all three of them would recognize the ban.

CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. Any oth
```

<u>CHAIR:</u> Okay. Thank you. Any other questions or comments?

May I have a motion then, please?

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves that the Board approve the Consent Agreement between the OEC and Stadium Casino RE, LLC, doing business as Live! Casino and Hotel Philadelphia as described by the OEC.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston seconds.

13 CHAIR: All in favor?

14 (AYES RESPOND.)

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

20

21

22

23

24

25

CHAIR: All opposed?

16 (NO RESPONSE.)

17 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion's adopted. Thank you, 18 gentlemen.

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Thank you.

attorney PITRE: The next five matters on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which the OEC filed complaints seeking the suspension or revocation of permits or registrations previously issued by the Board. The complaint in each matter has been filed with the Board's OHA and properly

served upon the individual named in each complaint.

The individual named in each complaint failed to respond within 30 days as required by Board regulation. As a result, the OEC filed a request for Default Judgment in each instance and properly served the same upon each respondent. Therefore, all facts in each Complaint are deemed admitted. All filed documents have been provided to the Board and the matters are presently ripe for the Board's consideration.

In each matter, we will provide a brief summary of the facts and make a request for the appropriate Board action.

ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Good afternoon,

Madam Chair, Commissioners. Juan Sanchez,

S-A-N-C-H-E-Z, with the OEC. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the suspension of the Employee Occupation Permit issued to Essence Condon.

Ms. Condon was previously employed as a table games dealer at Rivers Casino Pittsburgh.

Essence Condon failed to disclose to the Board that the city of Pittsburgh Police Department arrested her while she was working at Rivers and criminally charged her with two separate criminal complaints for

```
two separate incidents of endangering her two-year
1
2
   old and 18-month old children. Ms. Condon is
3
   currently awaiting trial for felony and misdemeanor
 4
   offenses. She is not currently employed in
5
   Pennsylvania's gaming industry.
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
 6
7
   the Board suspend the Gaming Employee Occupation
   Permit issued to Essence Condon.
9
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments from
10
   the Board?
                   This is the individual whose one child
11
12
   was burned severely and the other one had THC in
13
   their system?
14
                   ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Yes, ma'am.
15
                   CHAIR:
                           Okay.
                   Thank you. May I have a motion,
16
17
   please?
18
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
19
   moves that the Board approve the suspension of
20
   Essence Condon's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit
21
   for the conduct described by the OEC.
22
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
23
   Manzano-Díaz, second.
24
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
25
   (AYES RESPOND.)
```

```
CHAIR: All opposed?
1
2
   (NO RESPONSE.)
 3
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
 4
                   ATTORNEY SCIRROTTO: Good afternoon.
5
   Kelci Scirrotto, S-C-I-R-R-O-T-T-O, Assistant
 6
   Enforcement Counsel with the OEC.
 7
                   The next matter on the agenda for the
   Board's consideration is the revocation of the Non-
   Gaming Employee Registration issued to George Curtis.
10
   He was previously employed as an EVS Attendant for
11
   Team Clean at Live! Casino Philadelphia.
12
                   While Mr. Curtis was working as an EVS
13
   Attendant, he stole a patron's Louis Vuitton wallet.
14
   He returned the patron's passport and credit cards to
15
   security, but did not return the wallet.
16
   result, Mr. Curtis was terminated and was criminally
17
   charged by police. Mr. Curtis is not currently
18
   employed in Pennsylvania's gaming industry.
19
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
20
   the Board revoke the Non-Gaming Employee Registration
21
   issued to Mr. Curtis.
22
                   CHAIR:
                           Any questions or comments?
23
                   May I have a motion, please?
24
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
25
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board
```

7.3

```
approve the revocation of George Curtis's Non-Gaming
1
2
   Employee Registration for the conduct described by
 3
   the OEC.
 4
                   MR. HICKERNELL:
                                     Commissioner
5
   Hickernell seconds.
 6
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
7
   (AYES RESPOND.)
                           All opposed?
                   CHAIR:
9
   (NO RESPONSE.)
10
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
                   ATTORNEY KOLESAR: Good afternoon.
11
12
   Sarah Kolesar,
13
   K-O-L-E-S-A-R, Enforcement Counsel with the OEC.
14
                   The next two matters on the agenda for
15
   the Board's consideration is the revocation of the
16
   Gaming Level 2 Employee Occupation Permit issued to
17
   Anthony Laush and the revocation of the Gaming
18
   Employee Occupation Permit issued to Robin Schnepp.
19
   With the Board's permission, I will read one set of
20
   facts and then request the revocation of the permit
21
   issued to each individual.
22
                   Mr. Laush was previously employed as a
```

Table Game Supervisor and Ms. Schnepp was previously
employed as a Table Games Dealer at Rivers Casino
Pittsburgh. In December of 2023 and February of

2024, Mr. Laush and Ms. Schnepp, while working two scheduled shifts and their respective positions, engaged in collusion. While Ms. Schnepp was acting as a dealer at an interblock roulette game and Mr. Laush was engaged in supervising the interblock roulette game.

On December 20, 2023 and February 15, 2024, during their assigned shifts, Ms. Schnepp deliberately spun the roulette ball in the wrong direction, which resulted in an invalid spin. And then without surveillance review and in a manner that is inconsistent with interblock roulette standing operator - standard operating procedures, Mr. Laush approved the invalid spins.

These actions allowed a female patron and a male patron to place bets and increase bets after a winning number had been determined, which resulted in those patrons being paid a total of \$10,901 to which they were not entitled to. On both dates, the same patrons were involved in these incidents and ultimately were discovered to have a personal relationship with Mr. Laush.

In addition, in February of 2024, on the same date of the above described incident, Mr. Laush fraudulently issued the male patron a comp in

```
the amount of $35 to which she was not entitled to.
1
2
   Both Mr. Laush and Ms. Schnepp currently have pending
3
   criminal charges related to this incident. Mr. Laush
 4
   and Ms. Schnepp were terminated for their actions and
5
   are not currently employed in the Pennsylvania gaming
 6
   industry.
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
   the Board revoke the Gaming Level 2 Employee
9
   Occupation Permit issued to Anthony Laush.
10
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
11
                   May I have a motion, please?
12
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve
13
14
   the revocation of Anthony Laush's Gaming Level 2
15
   Employee Occupation Permit for the conduct described
16
   by the OEC.
17
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
18
   seconds.
19
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
20
   (AYES RESPOND.)
21
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
22
   (NO RESPONSE.)
23
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
24
                   ATTORNEY KOLESAR: At this time, the
25
   OEC requests that the Board revoke the Gaming
```

```
Employee Occupation Permit issued to Robin Schnepp.
1
 2
                   CHAIR:
                           Any questions or comments?
 3
                   May I have a motion, please?
 4
                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
5
   Dillon moves that the Board approve the revocation of
   Robin Schnepp's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit for
6
7
   the conduct described by the OEC.
                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
9
   seconds.
10
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
11
   (AYES RESPOND.)
12
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
13
   (NO RESPONSE.)
14
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
                   ATTORNEY GROODY: Good afternoon.
15
16
   Sarah Groody, G-R-O-O-D-Y with OEC.
                                         The next matter
17
   on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the
18
   revocation of the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit
19
   issued to Travis Stephens. Mr. Stephens was
20
   previously employed as a surveillance agent at
21
   Harrah's Philadelphia Casino and Racetrack.
22
                   While he was working, Mr. Stephens was
23
   caught using surveillance cameras in an inappropriate
24
            Specifically, he was zooming the camera in
   manner.
25
   on patron's body parts and in a manner inconsistent
```

```
with his job duties. He was terminated by Harrah's
1
2
   after this was discovered. He is not currently
 3
   employed in the Pennsylvania gaming industry.
 4
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
5
   the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation
 6
   Permit issued to Travis Stephens.
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
8
                   May I have a motion, please?
9
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
10
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
11
   revocation of Travis Stephens's Gaming Employee
12
   Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the
13
   OEC.
14
                   MS. REGAN:
                               Commissioner Regan
15
   seconds.
16
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
17
   (AYES RESPOND.)
18
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
19
   (NO RESPONSE.)
20
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
21
                                     The remaining matters
                   ATTORNEY PITRE:
22
   on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which
23
   the OEC filed petitions seeking the involuntary
24
   exclusion of individuals who are inimical to the
25
   interests of the Commonwealth and/or licensed gaming
```

therein. In each instance, the Petition for exclusion has been filed with the Board's OHA, and properly served upon the individual named in the petition. The individual named in each petition failed to respond within 30 days as required by Board regulation.

As a result, the OEC filed a request for Default Judgment in each instance and properly served the same upon each individual. Therefore, all facts in each petition are deemed admitted. All filed documents have been provided to the Board and the matters are presently ripe for the Board's consideration.

In each instance, if the Board orders a proposed exclusion, each individual's photo, personal identifiers and a summary of the inimical conduct may be placed in the Board's public website. Once again, in each matter, we will provide a brief summary of the facts and make a request for the appropriate Board action.

ATTORNEY GROODY: Once again, Sarah Groody with OEC. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the Petition to place Lashara Benjamin on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

Ms. Benjamin arrived at Live! Philadelphia with an

```
11-year old child. After she parked in the parking garage, she walked away from the vehicle leaving the child unattended.
```

The child was discovered by Live's! security patrol. It was approximately 40 minutes before she returned to the vehicle. While the child was unattended, Ms. Benjamin was inside of Live! Philadelphia playing slot machines. She was issued a permanent eviction from Live! Philadelphia for this incident and no criminal charges were filed.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board place Lashara Benjamin on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Regan moves that the Board approve the addition of Lashara Benjamin to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston seconds.

22 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

23 (AYES RESPOND.)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 (NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

2 ATTORNEY GROODY: The next matter on 3 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the 4 petition to place Clarence Katwaroo on the 5 Involuntary Exclusion List. Mr. Katwaroo was caught 6 cheating at Wind Creek Bethlehem Casino. 7 Specifically, he was caught cheating on 14 separate occasions. On nine of those occasions he capped his 9 wager and on five of those occasions he pinched his 10 wager. His cheating resulted in him being paid out 11 \$900 to which he was not entitled and he has only 12 paid \$185 in restitution. He was issued a permanent 13 eviction from Wind Creek and was criminally charged 14 for his actions. At this time, the OEC requests that 15 the Board place Clarence Katwaroo on the Involuntary 16 Exclusion List.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board approve the addition of Clarence Katwaroo to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

25 Hickernell seconds.

1

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

All in favor? 1 CHAIR: 2 (AYES RESPOND.) 3 CHAIR: All opposed? 4 (NO RESPONSE.) 5 CHAIR: Motion passes. 6 ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: Good afternoon. 7 Thomas Monaghan, M-O-N-A-G-H-A-N with OEC. The next two matters in the agenda for the Board's consideration stem from the same or similar set of 10 facts. Therefore, with the Board's permission, I will cite one set of facts and then ask for each 11 12 individual to be placed in the Board's Interactive 13 Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List. 14 David Avery and Nathan Avery each 15 created multiple accounts on the BetMGM interactive 16 gaming platform using the personal identifying information of other individuals. All the accounts 17 were closed and the devices used were blocked from 18 19 being used by BetMGM. The OEC now requests the Board 20 place David Avery on the Interactive Gaming 21 Involuntary Exclusion List. 22 CHAIR: Any questions or comments? 23 May I have a motion, please? 24 MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair, 25 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve

```
1
   the addition of David Avery to the Pennsylvania
2
   Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Interactive Gaming
3
   Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.
 4
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
5
   seconds.
 6
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
7
   (AYES RESPOND.)
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
9
   (NO RESPONSE.)
10
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
11
                   ATTORNEY MONAGHAN:
                                        The OEC now
12
   requests the Board place Nathan Avery on the
13
   Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.
14
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
15
                   May I have a motion, please?
                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
16
   Dillon moves that the Board approve the addition of
17
18
   Nathan Avery to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive
19
   Gaming Exclusion List for the conduct described by
20
   the OEC.
21
                   MR. DERMODY:
                                 Commissioner Dermody
22
   seconds.
23
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
24
   (AYES RESPOND.)
25
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
```

(NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The next item on the agenda for the Board's consideration is a request to place Daral Cresswell on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List. Mr. Cresswell cheated by colluding with a table games dealer while playing Blackjack and Spanish 21 on multiple dates at Rivers Casino Philadelphia. The dealer committed numerous procedural violations that manipulated the game to the benefit of Mr. Cresswell. Table Games Dealer's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit was previously revoked by the Board for this incident.

At this time, the OEC requests the Board place Daral Cresswell on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?
MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the addition of Daral Cresswell to the Pennsylvania

Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

 $\underline{\text{MS. REGAN:}} \quad \text{Commissioner Regan}$ seconds.

1 <u>CHAIR:</u> All in favor?

(AYES RESPOND.)

CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The next matter in the agenda for the Board's consideration is a request to place Nicholas Hanko on the Board's Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List. Mr. Hanko opened an Interactive Gaming Account on the Hollywood Casino Interactive Gaming website. He made multiple deposits totaling \$17,625. Mr. Hanko's wagering activity resulted in losing the entirety of the money he deposited. Subsequently, Mr. Hanko failed or refused to pay \$11,125 that he owed to Hollywood Casino as a result of his gaming activity. Hollywood Casino closed Mr. Hanko's interactive gaming account. The OEC now requests the Board place Nicholas Hanko on the Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.

 $\underline{\text{CHAIR:}}$ Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves that the Board approve the addition of Nicholas Hanko to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive Gaming Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

```
MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
1
2
   seconds.
 3
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
 4
   (AYES RESPOND.)
 5
                           All opposed?
                   CHAIR:
   (NO RESPONSE.)
 6
                   CHAIR:
                           Motion's adopted.
8
                   ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The next matter on
9
   the agenda for the Board's considerations is a
10
   request to place Mark Windle on the Board's
11
   Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.
                                                     Mr.
12
   Windle opened interactive gaming account on the
13
   Hollywood Casino interactive gaming website made
14
   multiple deposits totaling $28,100.
15
                   Mr. Windle's wagering activity
16
   resulted in losing the entirety of the money he
   deposited. Subsequently, Mr. Windle failed or
17
18
   refused to pay $21,550 that he owed to Hollywood
19
   Casino as a result of his gaming activity. Hollywood
20
   closed Mr. Windle's interactive gaming account.
21
   OEC now requests the Board place Mark Windle on the
22
   Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.
23
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
24
                   May I have a motion, please?
25
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
```

```
moves that the Board approve the addition of Mark
1
2
   Windle to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive Gaming
 3
   Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.
 4
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
 5
   Manzano-Díaz second.
 6
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
7
   (AYES RESPOND.)
                           All opposed?
                   CHAIR:
9
   (NO RESPONSE.)
10
                   CHAIR:
                           Motion carries.
                   ATTORNEY ROBERTS: Good afternoon,
11
12
   Andrea Roberts, R-O-B-E-R-T-S, Assistant Enforcement
13
   Counsel. The next matter on the agenda for the
14
   Board's consideration is the request to place Stephen
15
   Bolusky on the Involuntary Exclusion List.
16
                   Mr. Bolusky was present at Mohegan
17
   Pennsylvania Casino when he became involved in a
18
   verbal altercation with another patron at Mohegan's
19
   breakers bar. Subsequently, Mr. Bolusky physically
20
   assaulted the other patron when Mohegan security
21
   arrived and intervened in the altercation.
                                                Mr.
22
   Bolusky also assaulted Mohegan Security.
23
                   Mr. Bolusky pled guilty to harassment
24
   subject other to physical contact, a summary offense.
```

As a result of this incident, Mohegan permanently

```
banned Mr. Bolusky from their property. At this
1
2
   time, the OEC requests the Board place Stephen
3
   Bolusky on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.
 4
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
 5
                   May I have a motion, please?
 6
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
7
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board
   approve the addition of Stephen Bolusky to the PGCB
   Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described
10
   by the OEC.
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
11
   Hickernell seconds.
12
13
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
   (AYES RESPOND.)
14
15
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
16
   (NO RESPONSE.)
17
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
18
                   ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on
19
   the agenda for the Board's consideration is the
20
   request to place Mansaborie Conde on the Involuntary
21
   Exclusion List. Mr. Conde was present at Live!
   Casino and Hotel Philadelphia and stole $1,800 in
22
23
   chips belonging to another patron. Mr. Conde
24
   exchanged the chips for currency and fled the casino.
25
                   Mr. Conde was arrested by Pennsylvania
```

```
State Police upon returning to the casino and was
1
2
   criminally charged. Mr. Conde paid $500 towards
3
   restitution. Live! permanently evicted Mr. Conde
 4
   from their property. At this time, the OEC requests
5
   the Board place Mansaborie Conde on the Board's
 6
   Involuntary Exclusion List.
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
8
                   May I have a motion, please?
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
9
10
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve
11
   the addition of Mansaborie Conde to the Pennsylvania
12
   Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for
   the conduct described by the OEC.
13
14
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
15
   seconds.
```

16 All in favor? CHAIR:

17 (AYES RESPOND.)

18 CHAIR: All opposed?

19 (NO RESPONSE.)

21

22

23

24

25

20 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the request to place Julien Lee on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

Ms. Lee left three minors, 8, 9 and

```
13-years old, unattended in a hotel room at Mount
1
2
   Airy Casino Resort for 1 hour and 48 minutes while
3
   she entered the gaming floor and played blackjack.
 4
   Pennsylvania State Police were notified, but no
5
   charges were filed. Mount Airy permanently evicted
 6
   Ms. Lee from their property as a result of this
7
   incident.
                   Subsequently, Ms. Lee returned to
9
                She was identified in the Poker Room.
   Mount Airy.
10
   Pennsylvania State Police were notified and Ms. Lee
11
   was cited for trespass. Ms. Lee pled guilty to
12
   defiant trespass as a result of that incident.
                                                    Αt
   this time, the OEC requests the Board place Julien
13
14
   Lee on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.
15
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
16
                   May I have a motion, please?
17
                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
18
   Dillon moves that the Board approved the addition of
19
   Julien Lee to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for
20
   the conduct described by the OEC.
21
                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
22
   seconds.
23
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
24
   (AYES RESPOND.)
25
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
```

(NO RESPONSE.)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the request to place Fred Chavez Puy on the Involuntary Exclusion List. Mr. Chavez Puy was present at Mount Airy Casino Resort and gamed at roulette.

Mr. Chavez Puy stole four 500 value checks from the dealer stack. When confronted, Mr. Chavez Puy returned two of the checks to the dealer, but hid the remaining two checks in his shoe.

Pennsylvania State Police were notified, found the remaining checks and criminally charged Mr. Chavez

Puy. Mount Airy permanently banned Mr. Chavez Puy from their property as a result of this incident. At this time, the OEC requests the Board place Fred

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?
MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the addition of Fred Puy to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

Chavez Puy on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan

25 seconds.

91 All in favor? 1 CHAIR: 2 (AYES RESPOND.) 3 CHAIR: All opposed? 4 (NO RESPONSE.) 5 CHAIR: Motion's adopted. 6 ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on 7 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the request to place Wilbur Richardson on the Involuntary 9 Exclusion List. Mr. Richardson was present at Live! 10 Casino and Hotel Philadelphia when he reached under the float cover of a closed roulette table and stole 11 12 \$1,500 in purple chips. 13 The theft was discovered when Mr. Richardson attempted to cash out the chips at the 14 15 main cage. Pennsylvania State Police were notified 16 and Mr. Richardson was criminally charged. permanently evicted Mr. Richardson from their 17 18 property as a result of this incident. At this time, 19 the OEC request the Board place Wilbur Richardson on 20 the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List. CHAIR: Any questions or comments? 21 22 May I have a motion, please? 23 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner 24 Regan moves that the Board approve the addition of 25 Wilbur Richardson to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion

```
List for the conduct described by the OEC.
1
2
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
 3
   seconds.
 4
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
 5
   (AYES RESPOND.)
 6
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
7
   (NO RESPONSE.)
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
9
                   ATTORNEY CROHE: Chair, Members of the
10
   Board, John Crohe, C-R-O-H-E, once again for the OEC.
11
   The next matter on the agenda for the Board's
12
   consideration is the petition to place Juan Delacruz
   on the involuntary gaming - I'm sorry, Interactive
13
14
   Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.
15
                   Juan Delacruz created and accessed 16
16
   accounts on the Barstool Sportsbook Interactive
   Gaming platform using the personal identifying
17
   information of other individuals; funded the accounts
18
19
   in the total amount of $17,990 using credit cards
20
   that were not in Mr. Delacruz's name, then withdrew a
   total of $11,250 from those accounts into personal
21
22
   banking accounts registered to Mr. Delacruz.
23
                   The OEC now request the Board place
24
   Juan Delacruz on the Interactive Gaming Involuntary
25
   Exclusion List.
```

```
CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
1
 2
                   May I have a motion, please?
 3
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
 4
   moves that the Board approve the addition of Juan
5
   Delacruz to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive Gaming
   Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.
 6
 7
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner
8
   Manzano-Díaz, second.
9
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
10
   (AYES RESPOND.)
11
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
12
   (NO RESPONSE.)
13
                           Motion passes.
                   CHAIR:
14
                   ATTORNEY KOLESAR: Once again, Sarah
15
   Kolesar with the OEC.
                           The final matter on the agenda
16
   for the Board's consideration is the request to place
   Jit Khadka on the Involuntary Exclusion List.
17
18
                   Mr. Khadka was present at Hollywood
19
   Casino Grantville when he engaged in unwanted and
20
   inappropriate hugging and touching of two female
21
   patrons and engaged in the unwanted and inappropriate
22
   hugging and kissing of a female casino employee.
23
                   As a result of his actions, Mr. Khadka
24
   entered into a quilty plea to two counts of summary
25
   harassment, physical content contact and public
```

```
drunkenness and similar misconduct. Mr. Khadka was
1
2
   evicted from Hollywood Grantville following these
3
   incidents. At this time, the OEC requests that the
 4
   Board place Jit Khadka on the Board's Involuntary
 5
   Exclusion List.
 6
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
                   May I have a motion, please?
8
                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,
9
   Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board
10
   approve the addition of Jit Khadka to PGCB
11
   Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described
12
   by the OEC.
13
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
   Hickernell seconds.
14
15
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
16
   (AYES RESPOND.)
```

17 CHAIR: All opposed?

18 (NO RESPONSE.)

22

23

24

25

19 CHAIR: Motion passes.

20 ATTORNEY PITRE: Thank you. That

21 concludes our business.

> CHAIR: Thank you, Cyrus. The last item on the agenda today is Public Comment. Is there anyone in the room that would like to address the Board?

```
Seeing no one, that concludes today's
1
2
   meeting. The next public meeting of the Board will
3
   be held on Wednesday, November 20th, 2024, at 10:00
   a.m. at this location.
5
                   And now may I please have a motion to
6
   adjourn?
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair, I move
   that today's meeting be adjourned.
9
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon,
10
   second.
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
11
12
   (AYES RESPOND.)
13
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
14
   (NO RESPONSE.)
15
                   CHAIR:
                           Motions granted. Meeting is
16
   adjourned.
                Thank you.
17
18
                MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1:02 P.M.
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

	96
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	CERTIFICATE
14	I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings,
15	held before Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, was
16	reported by me on October 23, 2024 and that I,
17	Jessica Ashman, read this transcript and that I
18	attest that this transcript is a true and accurate
19	record of the proceeding.
20	Dated the 13th day of November, 2024.
21	
22	
23	Leva Aslaa
24	Court Reporter
25	Jessica Ashman

