

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

GAMING CONTROL BOARD

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PUBLIC MEETING

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BEFORE: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

DENISE J. SMYLER, CHAIR

Frank Dermody (Phone)

Shawn Dillon

David S. Hickernell

Sara Manzano-Díaz

Nedia Ralston

Frances J. Regan

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE:

Fred Strathmeyer, Ex-Officer Member,  
Department of Agriculture

Adria Zimmerman, Ex-Officio Member,  
Department of Revenue

Jennifer Langan, Ex-Officio Member,  
Department of Treasury

Reporter: Jorganna Showers

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MEETING: November 20, 2024, 10:02 a.m.

LOCATION: Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Strawberry Square Complex  
303 Walnut Street, 2nd Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

## A P P E A R A N C E S

PA GAMING CONTROL BOARD EXECUTIVE STAFF WHO APPEARED  
BEFORE THE BOARD:

Kevin F. O'Toole, Executive Director

Steve Cook, Chief Counsel

Cyrus Pitre, Chief Enforcement Counsel

Sean Hannon, Director of Licensing

Heidi Zula, Human Resources Director

Office of Enforcement Counsel - Also presenting:

David Tepper, Juan Sanchez, Andrea Roberts, Dustin  
Miller, Thomas Monaghan, Kelci Scirrotto,

OTHER ATTENDEES FOR MEETING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores, Inc., d/b/a

Love's Travel Stop #407 - Consent Agreement:

Bradley McAllister, Esquire, External Regulatory  
Counsel, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Richard Ketchum, Senior Manager of Other Income,  
Love's Travel Stops

A P P E A R A N C E S (cont.)

OTHER ATTENDEES FOR MEETING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

TA Operating, LLC, d/b/a TravelCenters of America

#12 - Consent Agreement:

Erin Cordier, Esquire, External Counsel, Taft Law  
Firm

Greg Coleson, Director of Gaming, TravelCenters of  
America

OTHER ATTENDEES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Josh Ercole, Council on Compulsive Gambling of  
Pennsylvania

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIR: Good morning. I'm Denise Smyler, Chair of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board. I would like to ask everyone to please silence your cell phones and all electronic devices at this time. Also, while masks are no longer mandatory, please feel free to wear a mask if you do believe it is necessary or required for your own wellbeing.

With six Board Members present this morning and Commissioner Dermody by telephone, I'd like to call today's meeting to order. Commissioner Dermody, can you hear me?

MR. DERMODY: Yes, I can, Madam Chair.

CHAIR: Excellent. Thank you so much. I would also like to note for the record that in addition to the seven Board Members, we also have our Ex-Officio Members, Fred Strathmeyer representing Russell Redding, Secretary for the Department of Agriculture. Adria Zimmerman representing Pat Browne, Secretary for Department of Revenue and Jennifer Langan, representing Stacy Garrity, State Treasurer. Thank you, Ex-Officios, for joining us.

As the first order of business, I'd

1 like to now ask everyone to please stand and join me  
2 in recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED

4 CHAIR: By way of announcements, the  
5 Board held an Executive Session yesterday, Tuesday,  
6 November 19th to discuss personnel matters, pending  
7 litigation and to conduct quasi-judicial  
8 deliberations relating to matters coming before the  
9 Board.

10 And we will now hear from our  
11 Executive Director, Kevin O'Toole. Kevin?

12 MR. O'TOOLE: Good morning, Chair  
13 Smyler, Members of the Board. Today, our Office of  
14 Communications released this morning, the Gaming  
15 Control Board's Press Release reporting October  
16 revenue from all forms of gaming regulated by the  
17 Board. And I thought that I would just describe a  
18 few of the highlights. Total combined revenue for  
19 October 2024 was \$496,585,461, an increase of 2.18  
20 percent compared to revenue generated in October of  
21 2023. Total tax revenue generated collectively  
22 through all forms of gambling was \$209,157,522 during  
23 October of 2024.

24 In reviewing the October Revenue Report, I  
25 have three takeaways. First, there was a continued



1 strong showing in the area of land-based slot machine  
2 revenue. Any month with a total slot machine revenue  
3 figure over \$200 million is outstanding and October's  
4 slot revenue was slightly over \$200 million.  
5 Secondly, there was a very strong showing in the area  
6 of online slots revenue. Online slots revenue  
7 increased 28.26 percent over the previous year and  
8 the total online slots revenue of 140.8 million  
9 dollars for October of 2024 is the highest monthly  
10 online slot total to date.

11 And third, VGT revenue at Board-  
12 licensed VGT truck stops in Pennsylvania continue to  
13 show strong revenue figures. October's VGT revenue  
14 of all truck stops combined, of which, we have 74  
15 truck stops who are licensed, that revenue for  
16 October was \$3,556,562, which was 4.42 percent higher  
17 than the revenue from a year ago and it's been strong  
18 all year. So, we're fortunate to have very good  
19 operators who are generating revenue and taxes for  
20 Pennsylvania.

21 And before I conclude this morning, I  
22 would like to recognize Chair Denise Smyler for a  
23 recognition that she recently received very  
24 deservedly. She was named as one of the most  
25 influential African-Americans of Philadelphia by the

1 Tribute Magazine of Philadelphia. So,  
2 congratulations again on your recognition.

3 CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin. Totally  
4 unnecessary to actually say that, but I appreciate  
5 it.

6 MR. O'TOOLE: You're welcome.

7 CHAIR: Okay.

8 Next we will hear from our Human  
9 Resources Director Heidi Zula. Heidi.

10 MS. ZULA: Good morning, Madam Chair  
11 and Members of the Board. The Office of Human  
12 Resources has one motion for your consideration  
13 today, relative to the hiring of two individuals.  
14 Both individuals have completed the background  
15 investigation and drug screening.

16 Brendan Bevel has been selected as an  
17 Assistant Enforcement Counsel I in the Office of  
18 Enforcement Counsel and is recommended for hire by  
19 Cyrus Pitre, Chief Enforcement Counsel. Daniel  
20 Mandara has been selected as a Legislative Specialist  
21 in the OCC and is recommended for hire by Steve Cook,  
22 Chief Counsel.

23 Unless you have any questions, I ask  
24 that the Board consider a motion to approve the  
25 hiring actions as indicated.

1                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?  
2                   Hearing none, may I have a motion,  
3 please?

4                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves  
5 that the Board approve the applicants for hire  
6 proposed by the Human Resources Director.

7                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
8 seconds.

9                   CHAIR: All in favor?  
10 AYES RESPOND

11                   CHAIR: All opposed?  
12 NO RESPONSE

13                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

14                   MS. ZULA: Thank you.

15                   CHAIR: Thank you, Heidi. Next is our  
16 OCC.

17                   ATTORNEY COOK: Good morning. Our  
18 first order business today we have two resolutions  
19 for Board's consideration. The first resolution  
20 before you delegates authority to the Executive  
21 Director to approve or deny the transfer of a casino  
22 surveillance department employee to a non-  
23 surveillance position within the same facility.

24                   The Board's regulations state that a  
25 person - I'm sorry. That a present or former

1 surveillance department employee may not accept  
2 employment as a Key Employee or a Gaming Employee  
3 with the same slot machine licensee for which he or  
4 she was previously employed as a surveillance  
5 department employee, unless one year has passed from  
6 the employment as a surveillance department employee.  
7 This provision further states, however, that an  
8 employee may file a petition requesting that the  
9 Board waive that regulation and permit the transfer  
10 in employment.

11                   Since 2006, the Board has approved  
12 several requests to transfer surveillance employees  
13 to other positions within the same facility after  
14 careful review of the situation indicated that the  
15 transfer did not create a risk to the slot machine  
16 licensee. However, experience has shown that the  
17 requirement of filing a petition, the Office of  
18 Enforcement Counsel answering the petition and then  
19 the matter having to be placed on a Board agenda can  
20 cause delay for both the employee and the slot  
21 machine licensee and is not in the best interest of  
22 either.

23                   For that reason, we would ask for  
24 regulation or resolution delegating authority to  
25 approve these transfers to the Executive Director in

1 consultation with the OEC and OCC, and this matter is  
2 now ready for the Board's consideration.

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

5 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
6 moves that the Board approve the delegation of  
7 authority regarding the transfer of casino  
8 surveillance to the Executive Director, as proposed  
9 by the OCC.

10 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
11 seconds.

12 CHAIR: All in favor?

13 AYES RESPOND

14 CHAIR: All opposed?

15 NO RESPONSE

16 CHAIR: Motion passes.

17 ATTORNEY COOK: The next proposed  
18 resolution before the Board today establishes a  
19 uniform policy for submission of requests seeking a  
20 waiver of the Board's regulations related to games,  
21 gaming systems and gaming devices.

22 As the Board is aware, the Bureau of  
23 Gaming Laboratory Operations approves all games in  
24 the various gaming verticals and in this approval  
25 process, the Gaming Lab tests the game against the

1 Board's regulations. When Board staff is presented  
2 with a new table game or side wager to an existing  
3 table game, the OCC, in consultation with the Gaming  
4 Lab, drafts regulations outlining the Board's  
5 approved rules of play.

6 In this process, there have always  
7 been instances when the submission to the Gaming Lab  
8 seeking approval of a game or side wager varied only  
9 slightly from the Board's existing regulations for a  
10 game, but not so much as to impact the integrity of  
11 the game, or varied enough to justify required  
12 drafting regulations for an entirely new game. In  
13 those instances, the manufacturer of the game or  
14 device will typically seek a waiver of the Board's  
15 regulations until such time that the existing  
16 regulations can be modified and amended to bring the  
17 game into complete compliance.

18 The Board's Executive Director, in  
19 consultation with Board staff, has long been  
20 delegated authority to approve these regulatory  
21 waivers. Over the past few years, however,  
22 particularly with the expansion of gaming into the  
23 online market and which ultimately resulted in a  
24 large increase in the number of waiver requests being  
25 submitted, there's also an ever-increasing number of

1 game manufactures and persons in the employment of  
2 gaming manufacturers entering the field, and this has  
3 resulted in a situation whereby submissions seeking  
4 regulatory waivers are now regularly being made for  
5 products not appropriate for a waiver, as they  
6 diverge significantly from the Board's regulations,  
7 situations where formal requests fail to provide  
8 everything the Gaming Lab needs to evaluate the  
9 waiver and also waivers being sent to various persons  
10 within the agency.

11 As a result, the OCC is requesting the  
12 Resolution presently before the Board, which will go  
13 out to the industry and establish a clear and precise  
14 policy relative to making regulatory waivers and what  
15 is appropriate for a regulatory waiver, and this  
16 matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

17 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

18 May I have a motion, please?

19 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,  
20 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board  
21 approve the regulation waiver request policy, as  
22 proposed by the OCC.

23 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
24 Hickernell seconds.

25 CHAIR: All in favor?

1 AYES RESPOND

2 CHAIR: All opposed?

3 NO RESPONSE

4 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

5 ATTORNEY COOK: Next before the Board  
6 today are four petitions. Each of these petitions  
7 will be decided on the documentary record by  
8 agreement of the parties or because the OEC has no  
9 objection to the requested relief. In each of these  
10 matters, the Board has in advance of this meeting,  
11 been provided with the complete evidentiary record.

12 The first Petition before the Board  
13 today is Luz Velazquez's Petition to Lift the  
14 Suspension of her Gaming Employee Occupation Permit.  
15 By way of background On October 16, 2023, the OEC  
16 filed a complaint seeking the emergency suspension of  
17 Ms. Velaquez's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit  
18 after receiving notice that she was criminally  
19 charged with felony and misdemeanors relating to a  
20 firearm offense.

21 As a result of her charges, the  
22 Board's Executive Director issued an emergency Order  
23 suspending her permit. A hearing was subsequently  
24 held and a recommendation was issued by the Board's  
25 Office of Hearings and Appeals, recommending that the



1 suspension remain in effect because the criminal  
2 charges remain pending.

3 The Board accepted this recommendation  
4 on March 20th, 2024 and issued an Order continuing  
5 the suspension. Ms. Velazquez is now asking the  
6 Board to lift the suspension of her Gaming Employee  
7 Occupation Permit, stating that all charges have now  
8 been dismissed. The OEC, after conducting some due  
9 diligence research, confirmed that is, in fact, the  
10 case and has no objection to this request and this  
11 matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

12 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

13 May I have a motion, please?

14 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
15 Regan moves that the Board grant Luz Velazquez's  
16 Petition to Lift the suspension of her Gaming  
17 Employee Occupation Permit, as described by the OCC.

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's adopted.

25 ATTORNEY COOK: Next before the Board

1 is a request for removal from the Self-Exclusion  
2 List. On August 17, 2014, an individual with the  
3 initials D.N., placed herself on the List choosing  
4 the Lifetime Self-Exclusion option.

5 On August 19, 2024, D.N. filed a  
6 request for removal from the List. D.N. included in  
7 her Petition, a Problem Gambling Assessment  
8 Verification Form, signed by a Certified Assessment  
9 Provider confirming that after an assessment of D.N.  
10 was performed, that problem gambling treatment was  
11 not recommended.

12 The OEC filed an Answer stating they  
13 have no objection to D.N.'s request as more than ten  
14 years had passed since her placement on the list and  
15 she provided all required documentation and there's  
16 no known violations of the Self-Exclusion ban she  
17 placed upon herself. As a result, there's no  
18 objection and this matter is now ready for the  
19 Board's consideration.

20 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

21 May I have a motion, please?

22 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
23 Dillon moves that the Board grant D.N.'s Petition for  
24 Removal from the Self-Exclusion, as described by the  
25 OCC.

1                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

2 Hickernell seconds.

3                   CHAIR: All in favor?

4 AYES RESPOND

5                   CHAIR: All opposed?

6 NO RESPONSE

7                   CHAIR: Motion passes.

8                   ATTORNEY COOK: Next before the Board  
9 today is a second Petition requesting removal from  
10 the Self-Exclusion List. On February 16, 2013, an  
11 individual with the initials S.J. placed himself on  
12 the List choosing the Lifetime Self-Exclusion option.  
13 On August 21st, 2024, S.J. filed his request for  
14 removal from the List. S.J. included with his  
15 Petition, a Problem Gambling Assessment Verification  
16 Form signed by a Certified Assessment Provider,  
17 confirming that an assessment of S.J. was performed  
18 and problem gambling treatment was not recommended.

19                   The OEC filed an Answer stating that,  
20 although S.J. did have two violations of his self-  
21 exclusion, that they each occurred over six years  
22 ago, and as he has now been on the List for over 11  
23 years and it's been six years since his self-  
24 exclusion violation and the Problem Gambling  
25 Assessment Form was submitted as required by the

1 regulation, that OEC had no objection and this matter  
2 is now ready for the Board's consideration.

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

5 MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
6 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant  
7 S.J.'s Petition for Removal from the casino Self-  
8 Exclusion List as described by the OCC.

9 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
10 Manzano-Díaz, second.

11 CHAIR: All in favor?

12 AYES RESPOND

13 CHAIR: All opposed?

14 NO RESPONSE

15 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

16 ATTORNEY COOK: The final Petition  
17 before the Board today is Julien Lee's request for  
18 reconsideration of the Board's October 23rd, 2024  
19 Order placing Ms. Lee on the Involuntary Exclusion  
20 List. On July 28, 2023, Ms. Lee and another  
21 individual left three children unattended in a hotel  
22 room at Mount Airy Casino Resort while they gamed.  
23 Consequently, the OEC filed a Petition to place Ms.  
24 Lee on the Exclusion List. Ms. Lee failed to respond  
25 to the Petition, and on October 23rd, 2024, the Board

1 granted OEC's Petition and placed Ms. Lee on the List  
2 by Default Judgment.

3 On October 24, 2024, Ms. Lee's  
4 attorney sent an email to the Board Clerk stating  
5 that his client had just received the notice  
6 informing her that her matter would be on the October  
7 Board Meeting agenda on the day of the actual  
8 meeting. Counsel for Ms. Lee further indicated that  
9 she had recently relocated from Florida to New York.  
10 The notice was sent to the Florida address so there  
11 was a delay in her receiving the notice.

12 As a result of that issue, the OCC  
13 recommends that this reconsideration be granted,  
14 she'd be removed from the Excluded Persons List and  
15 the matter be remanded to the OHA for an evidentiary  
16 hearing.

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

19 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
20 moves that the Board grant Julien Lee's request for  
21 reconsideration as described by the OCC.

22 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
23 seconds.

24 CHAIR: All in favor?

25 AYES RESPOND

1                   CHAIR: All opposed?

2 NO RESPONSE

3                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

4                   ATTORNEY COOK: Next presenting  
5 Withdrawals, Surrenders, and Reports and  
6 Recommendations is Deputy Chief Counsel, Chad  
7 Zimmermann.

8                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Good morning,  
9 Commissioners. The next matter before the Board  
10 today pertains to several requests that are unopposed  
11 to withdraw applications or surrender the credentials  
12 of the following individuals and entities. Hamers  
13 Consulting, LLC, Daniel Alexander, Peter Ekmark,  
14 Michael Marchal, Nils Vadenbring, Lars Wikell, Emile  
15 de Cartier de Marchienne, James Del Rosario, Jock MKT  
16 PA LLC, Bid Ventures, Jock Holdings, LLC, Jock Market  
17 Gaming, Inc., John Carlin, Benn Gurton, Marco  
18 Costaguta, Prime Directors Limited and Virtual IP  
19 Assets Limited.

20                   The OEC has no objections to any of  
21 these withdrawals or surrenders. As a result, if the  
22 Board chooses to grant these requests in every case,  
23 it would be doing so without prejudice to the  
24 requester and these matters are all now ripe for the  
25 Board's consideration.

1                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

2                   May I have a motion, please?

3                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,

4 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board issue  
5 Orders to approve the withdrawals and surrenders as  
6 described by the OCC.

7                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
8 seconds.

9                   CHAIR: All in favor?

10 AYES RESPOND

11                   CHAIR: All opposed?

12 NO RESPONSE

13                   CHAIR: Motion's passes.

14                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the  
15 Board for consideration are five Reports and  
16 Recommendations received from the OHA. These Reports  
17 and Recommendations, along with the evidentiary  
18 record for each hearing have been previously provided  
19 to the Board in advance of today's meeting.

20                   Additionally, the persons involved in  
21 each matter have been notified that the Board would  
22 be considering their matter today and that each would  
23 have the ability to come forward and address the  
24 Board if they so choose.

25                   If any of the persons who are the

1 subject to one of these Reports and Recommendations  
2 are present today and would like to address the  
3 Board, I would ask them to come forward when their  
4 matter is called. The first Report and  
5 Recommendation before the Board today pertains to  
6 Isratu Kanu. Ms. Kanu holds a Non-Gaming Employee  
7 Registration and worked as an EVS Attendant for Team  
8 Clean, Inc., a company that provides cleaning  
9 services for Live! Hotel and Casino in Philadelphia.

10 On March 14, 2024, the OEC filed a  
11 complaint for revocation of Ms. Kanu's Registration  
12 after receiving notice that she had stolen a slot  
13 machine voucher dropped by a patron at Live!  
14 Philadelphia. A hearing in this matter was held on  
15 July 25, 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing providing  
16 testimony, documentary and surveillance evidence.  
17 Ms. Kanu, however, failed to attend the hearing and  
18 it was held in her absence.

19 Evidence presented showed that on July  
20 29, 2022, a patron dropped a slot machine voucher  
21 that Ms. Kanu picked up and placed in her cleaning  
22 cart and then later placed on her person. She was  
23 charged with theft-related misdemeanors, permanently  
24 evicted from the casino and terminated by Clean Team,  
25 Inc.



1                   Consequently, a Report and  
2 Recommendation was issued recommending that Ms.  
3 Kanu's Registration be revoked and this matter is now  
4 ready for the Board's consideration.

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

7                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
8 Regan moves that the Board adopt the Report and  
9 Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the  
10 OCC, and that Isratu Kanu's Non-Gaming Employee  
11 Registration be revoked.

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's adopted.

19                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the  
20 Board today is the Report and Recommendation for  
21 Tommy Tran. The OEC filed complaints to both place  
22 Mr. Tran on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List  
23 and revoke his Gaming Level 2 Employee Occupation  
24 Permit after it was found that on July 17, 2022, Mr.  
25 Tran left a minor unattended in a vehicle for more

1 than seven hours while he gamed at Live! Casino  
2 Philadelphia. A hearing on both matters was held  
3 July 11, 2024. The OEC appeared offering witness  
4 testimony as well as documentary and video evidence.  
5 Mr. Tran appeared and testified on his own behalf.

6 Evidence and testimony presented at  
7 the hearing showed that on July 17, 2022, Mr. Tran  
8 arrived at Live! Philadelphia and entered the casino  
9 around 1:50 a.m., leaving a 14-year old child  
10 unattended in the vehicle. Mr. Tran was later  
11 confronted by casino staff around 9:30 a.m. regarding  
12 the unattended minor, after the minor left the  
13 vehicle and entered the casino to charge his  
14 cellphone.

15 Mr. Tran initially denied that he had  
16 a child with him and continued to game. However,  
17 moments later as he was waiting to cash out, security  
18 again confronted him and he was escorted to the  
19 minor. He then admitted to security that the child's  
20 father had left the child with him earlier. No  
21 charges were filed against Mr. Tran, however, he was  
22 permanently evicted from the casino.

23 During Mr. Tran's testimony he  
24 apologized for his conduct; stating he was just  
25 looking out for a friend and that he should have

1 avoided the situation. It is noteworthy, however,  
2 that Mr. Tran is no longer employed in the gaming  
3 industry.

4 After hearing all of the evidence  
5 presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued  
6 recommending that Mr. Tran be placed on the Board's  
7 Involuntary Exclusion List and that his G-2 Permit be  
8 revoked and this matter is now ready for the Board's  
9 consideration.

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

12 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,  
13 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board adopt  
14 the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as  
15 described by the OCC, and that Tommy Tran's Gaming  
16 Level Two Employee Occupation Permit be revoked, and  
17 that he be placed on the Board's Involuntary  
18 Exclusion List.

19 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
20 seconds.

21 CHAIR: All in favor?

22 AYES RESPOND

23 CHAIR: All opposed?

24 NO RESPONSE

25 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

1                    ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN:    Next is the  
2 Report and Recommendation pertaining to Dasan  
3 Sanders.    In March 2024, Mr. Sanders submitted an  
4 application for a gaming employee occupation permit,  
5 seeking to work as a table games dealer at Wind Creek  
6 Bethlehem Casino.    On April 25, 2024, the OEC issued  
7 a notice recommending denial of Mr. Sander's  
8 application based on his criminal record.

9                    Mr. Sanders requested a hearing, which  
10 was held in July of 2024.    Mr. Sanders appeared and  
11 testified on his own behalf.    OEC also appeared and  
12 presented testimonial and documentary evidence.    The  
13 evidence at the hearing showed that Mr. Sanders  
14 disclosed on his application that on April 4, 2023,  
15 he participated in a "Ding Dong Ditch" Tik Tok video  
16 challenge where he and two other individuals entered  
17 a dorm by kicking it in and launching himself into  
18 the room, alarming the occupants of the room.    He was  
19 charged with misdemeanor and summary offenses and he  
20 was admitted into an Accelerated Rehabilitative  
21 Disposition Program for these charges.

22                    Mr. Sanders also amended his  
23 application later to include a summary retail theft.  
24 Specifically, in October 2023, Mr. Sanders was cited  
25 and pleaded guilty to a retail theft after he and his

1 friend changed the price tags on an item to purchase  
2 it at a lower cost. Mr. Sanders testified as to his  
3 conduct where he showed remorse and apologized for  
4 his actions.

5 He further testified that he is  
6 currently 20-years old. He is working and is  
7 enrolled in college to become an electrician and also  
8 successfully completed the six-week training program  
9 to become a dealer and was offered a full-time  
10 position at Wind Creek. Following the hearing, the  
11 Hearing Officer issued a Report and Recommendation  
12 stating that although Mr. Sanders should be applauded  
13 for planning his future and making changes in his  
14 life, his criminal behavior is too recent and at this  
15 time, his application for a Gaming Permit should be  
16 denied and this matter is now ripe for the Board's  
17 consideration.

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

20 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
21 Dillon moves that the Board adopt the Report and  
22 Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the  
23 OCC, and that Dasan Sander's Gaming Employee  
24 Occupation Permit Application be denied.

25 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

1 Hickernell seconds.

2 CHAIR: All in favor?

3 AYES RESPOND

4 CHAIR: All opposed?

5 NO RESPONSE

6 CHAIR: Motion passes.

7 ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Julia Bertoline  
8 is the next matter before the Board today. On April  
9 10, 2024, the OEC filed a Petition to place Ms.  
10 Bertoline on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.  
11 A hearing in this matter was held in August of 2024.  
12 OEC appeared at the hearing presenting testimony,  
13 documentary and surveillance evidence. Ms. Bertoline  
14 appeared and testified on her own behalf.

15 Evidence and testimony showed that on  
16 August 5, 2022, Ms. Bertoline entered Live!  
17 Pittsburgh, a Category 4 Casino that is attached to  
18 the Greensburg Mall with two 12-year old girls. As  
19 required and directed by Board staff, Ms. Bertoline  
20 chaperoned the girls through the Sports and Social  
21 Restaurant area to the mall entrance. While the  
22 girls were in the mall, Ms. Bertoline gamed.

23 Approximately an hour and-a-half  
24 later, the girls met Ms. Bertoline at the mall  
25 entrance. Ms. Bertoline then escorted the minors back

1 through the Sports and Social Restaurant area and  
2 back to the main entrance lobby of the casino. She  
3 then left the girls at the main - in the lobby next  
4 to the security podium while she attempted to cash  
5 out a voucher. During this time, security then  
6 approached the girls, spoke with Ms. Bertoline and  
7 she was issued a two-month eviction for leaving the  
8 girls alone in the lobby.

9 Ms. Bertoline testified that since the  
10 girls wanted to go to the mall, she decided to stay  
11 at the casino and pick them up from the mall entrance  
12 once they were done. She was informed by security  
13 that the minors had to be chaperoned while on the  
14 carpeted floor, which she did, and she believed that  
15 it was okay to then leave the girls in the lobby  
16 entrance while she went in the casino just to cash  
17 out her voucher. She apologized and stated she  
18 understands now why she should not have left the  
19 girls in the lobby unattended.

20 Following a hearing, a Report and  
21 Recommendation was issued recommending that Ms.  
22 Bertoline be placed on the Exclusion List, however,  
23 recommending that she possibly be permitted to  
24 request removal after - less than five years. This  
25 matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

1                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

2                   May I have a motion, please?

3                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

4 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board reject  
5 the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as  
6 described by the OCC, and that OEC's request to place  
7 Julia Bertoline on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion  
8 List be denied.

9                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
10 Manzano-Díaz second.

11                   CHAIR: All in favor?

12 AYES RESPOND

13                   CHAIR: All opposed?

14 NO RESPONSE

15                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

16                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Sean Wiggins is  
17 the subject of the final Report and Recommendation  
18 before the Board today. On March 8, 2024, the OEC  
19 filed a Petition to place Sean Wiggins on the  
20 Involuntary Exclusion List. A hearing in this matter  
21 was held July of 2024. OEC appeared presenting  
22 testimony and documentary evidence. Mr. Wiggins  
23 appeared and testified on his own behalf.

24                   The evidence and testimony presented  
25 at the hearing showed that on September 22nd, 2022,



1 while playing Craps at Hollywood Casino York, Mr.  
2 Wiggins past posted a wager. Mr. Wiggins was  
3 confronted by the Pennsylvania State Police and staff  
4 at Hollywood for his actions and was informed that he  
5 would be evicted from the casino for seven days. Mr.  
6 Wiggins became argumentative and combative toward  
7 police and casino staff, and prior to Mr. Wiggins  
8 being removed from the property by the local police,  
9 he called an ambulance claiming that the State Police  
10 had hurt his shoulder due to abuse and was taken off  
11 the property by ambulance.

12                   The day following the incident, Mr.  
13 Wiggins was on the phone with the security manager at  
14 Hollywood; he admitted to making threatening gestures  
15 to staff and calling them derogatory names and he  
16 also threatened the security manager, stating he  
17 hoped he and his kids died.

18                   Further review of Mr. Wiggins'  
19 incident, the casino permanently evicted him. Mr.  
20 Wiggins has also been involved in other incidents at  
21 Hollywood Casino for failure to produce  
22 identification and a physical altercation with  
23 another patron.

24                   Mr. Wiggins testified at the hearing  
25 that the dealers at Hollywood had previously allowed

1 him to past post bets when he made them verbally, and  
2 then he stated that the altercation with the other  
3 patrons because he had been drinking and was angry  
4 that the patron's hand was bleeding and the patron  
5 refused to cover up his wound and instead of evicting  
6 that patron, casino personnel threatened to shut down  
7 the table. He further testified that he believes the  
8 Casino was discriminating against him.

9 After hearing all of the evidence  
10 presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued  
11 recommending that Sean Wiggins be placed on the  
12 Board's Involuntary Exclusion List and this matter is  
13 now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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 adopt  
18 the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as  
19 described by the OCC, and that Sean Wiggins be placed  
20 on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

21 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
22 seconds.

23 CHAIR: All in favor?  
24 AYES RESPOND

25 CHAIR: All opposed?

1 NO RESPONSE

2 CHAIR: Motion carries.

3 ATTORNEY COOK: That concludes the  
4 matters of the OCC. Thank you.

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

9 MR. HANNON: Good morning, Madam  
10 Chair, Members of the Board. Today's first licensing  
11 matter for your consideration is the renewal of the  
12 Fantasy Contest Operator license for Crown PA DFS  
13 Incorporated, doing business as, DraftKings  
14 Incorporated.

15 The company was incorporated on April  
16 10, 2018 in Delaware and its principal place of  
17 business is in Boston, Massachusetts. Crown PA DFS  
18 Incorporated is a provider of a fantasy sports  
19 platform that allows Pennsylvania customers to  
20 compete in online fantasy sports contests. The BIE  
21 has completed its investigation of the company and  
22 the Bureau of Licensing has provided you with a  
23 background investigation and suitability  
24 report.

25 I have provided you with a draft Order and

1 ask that the Board consider the Order to renew the  
2 Fantasy Contest Operator License for Crown PA DFS  
3 Incorporated.

4 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
5 objection.

6 CHAIR: Any questions or comments from  
7 the Board?

8 Hearing none, may I have a motion,  
9 please?

10 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
11 moves that the Board grant the Fantasy Contest  
12 Operator License Renewal as described by the Bureau  
13 of Licensing.

14 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
15 seconds.

16 CHAIR: All in favor?

17 AYES RESPOND

18 CHAIR: All opposed?

19 NO RESPONSE

20 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

21 MR. HANNON: The next licensing matter  
22 for your consideration is the approval of a Table  
23 Game Manufacturer License for Game on Chip Company,  
24 LLC, doing business as CHIPCO. Originally formed in  
25 Maine on January 30th, 2013, Game on Chip Company,

1 LLC's principal place of business is now in St.  
2 Petersburg, Florida. The company manufactures casino  
3 gaming and poker chips for distribution to licensed  
4 facilities in the Commonwealth.

5 Game on Chip Company was granted  
6 interim authorization on March 28th, 2024, the BIE  
7 has completed its investigation of the company and  
8 the Bureau of Licensing has provided you with a  
9 background investigation and suitability report. I  
10 have provided you with a draft Order and ask that you  
11 consider the Order to approve Game on Chip Company  
12 for a Table Game Manufacturer License.

13 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
14 objection.

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

17 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves  
18 that the Board grant the Table Game Manufacturer  
19 License as described the Bureau of Licensing.

20 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
21 seconds.

22 CHAIR: All in favor?

23 AYES RESPOND

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 NO RESPONSE

1                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

2                   MR. HANNON: Next for consideration,  
3 is the approval of Hacksaw Gaming PA, LLC for an  
4 Interactive Gaming Manufacturer License. Hacksaw  
5 Gaming is a Limited Liability Company that was formed  
6 in Delaware in November 2021 with its principal place  
7 of business in West Palm Beach, Florida. The company  
8 manufactures and develops slot-style interactive  
9 games and intends to offer its products to  
10 interactive gaming operators within the Commonwealth.

11                   The BIE has completed its  
12 investigation of the company and the Bureau of  
13 Licensing has provided you with a background  
14 investigation and suitability report. I have  
15 provided you with a draft Order and ask the Board  
16 consider the Order to approve the Interactive Gaming  
17 Manufacturer License for Hacksaw Gaming PA, LLC.

18                   ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
19 objection.

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

22                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
23 moves that the Board grant the Interactive Gaming  
24 Manufacturing License as described by the Bureau of  
25 Licensing.

1                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
2 seconds.

3                   CHAIR: All in favor?

4 AYES RESPOND

5                   CHAIR: All opposed?

6 NO RESPONSE

7                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

8                   MR. HANNON: Next, we have  
9 consideration of a Video Gaming Terminal  
10 Establishment License renewal for 6406 Truck Plaza,  
11 LLC, doing business as, Emlenton Truck Plaza. The  
12 BIE has now completed its investigation and the  
13 Bureau of Licensing has provided you with a  
14 background investigation and suitability report. I  
15 have provided you with a draft Order and I ask that  
16 you consider the Order to renew the license for  
17 Emlenton Truck Plaza located in Emlenton,  
18 Pennsylvania.

19                   ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
20 objection.

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

23                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
24 Dillon moves that the Board grant the Video Gaming  
25 Terminal Establishment License Renewal as described

1 by the Bureau of Licensing.

2 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

3 Hickernell seconds.

4 CHAIR: All in favor?

5 AYES RESPOND

6 CHAIR: All opposed?

7 NO RESPONSE

8 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

9 MR. HANNON: Next, there are Principal  
10 and Key Employee Licenses. The Bureau of Licensing  
11 provided you with a proposed Order for 11 principals  
12 and 18 key employees. I ask the Board consider the  
13 Order approving these licenses.

14 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
15 objection.

16 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

17 May I have a motion, please?

18 MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
19 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant  
20 the Principal and Key Employee licenses as described  
21 by the Bureau of Licensing.

22 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner

23 Manzano-Díaz second.

24 CHAIR: All in favor?

25 AYES RESPOND



1                   CHAIR: All opposed?

2 NO RESPONSE

3                   CHAIR: Motion carries.

4                   MR. HANNON: There are also principal  
5 and key employee temporary credentials. The Bureau  
6 of Licensing provided you with an Order regarding the  
7 issuance of temporary credentials for 13 principals  
8 and 20 key employees. I ask that the Board consider  
9 the Order approving these credentials.

10                  ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
11 objection.

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

14                  MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,  
15 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board grant  
16 the Temporary Principal and Key Employee Credentials  
17 as described by the Bureau of Licensing.

18                  MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
19 seconds.

20                  CHAIR: All in favor?

21 AYES RESPOND

22                  CHAIR: All opposed?

23 NO RESPONSE

24                  CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

25                  MR. HANNON: Additionally for your

1 consideration are Gaming Employee Permits and Non-  
2 Gaming Employee Registrations. The Bureau of  
3 Licensing has provided you with a list of 824  
4 individuals to whom the Bureau has granted temporary  
5 or full occupation permits, and 311 individuals to  
6 whom the Bureau has granted registrations under  
7 authority delegated to the Bureau of Licensing.

8 I ask that the Board consider a motion  
9 approving the Order.

10 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
11 objection.

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

14 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
15 moves that the Board approve the applications for  
16 Gaming Employee Occupation Permits and Non-Gaming  
17 Employee Registrations as described by the Bureau of  
18 Licensing.

19 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
20 seconds.

21 CHAIR: All in favor?

22 AYES RESPOND

23 CHAIR: All opposed?

24 NO RESPONSE

25 CHAIR: Motion passes.

1                   MR. HANNON: Next there is a  
2 recommendation of denial for four gaming and one non-  
3 gaming applicants. The Bureau of Licensing has  
4 provided you with the Order addressing the applicants  
5 who the OEC has recommended for denial. I ask that  
6 the Board consider the Order approving these denials.

7                   ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC continues to  
8 request denial in each matter.

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

11                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
12 Regan moves that the Board deny the Gaming and Non-  
13 Gaming Employee applications as described by the  
14 Bureau of Licensing.

15                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
16 Manzano-Díaz, second.

17                   CHAIR: All in favor?

18 AYES RESPOND

19                   CHAIR: All opposed?

20 NO RESPONSE

21                   CHAIR: Motion passes.

22                   MR. HANNON: The next matter for your  
23 consideration is withdrawal requests. In each case,  
24 the license, permit or registration is no longer  
25 required. For today's meeting, I've provided the

1 Board with 33 gaming and 16 non-gaming applicants. I  
2 ask that the Board consider the Orders approving  
3 these withdrawals.

4 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
5 objection.

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

8 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
9 Regan moves that the Board grant the withdrawal of  
10 Gaming and Non-Gaming Employee applications as  
11 described by the Bureau of Licensing.

12 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
13 seconds.

14 CHAIR: All in favor?

15 AYES RESPOND

16 CHAIR: All opposed?

17 NO RESPONSE

18 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

19 MR. HANNON: Next, we have an Order to  
20 certify Hot Links, LLC who has applied as a gaming-  
21 related Gaming Service Provider. A gaming-related  
22 gaming service provider is a company that is the  
23 owner of a patent or has a patent pending for a new  
24 game, wager, game variation, side bet or similar  
25 innovation relating to a table game and is seeking to

1 offer it to bring it to a brick and mortar casino in  
2 the Commonwealth.

3 The BIE has now completed its  
4 investigation and the Bureau of Licensing has  
5 provided you with a background investigation and  
6 suitability report. I have provided you with a draft  
7 Order and ask the Board consider the Order certifying  
8 Hot Links, LLC.

9 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
10 objection.

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

13 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
14 Dillon moves that the Board approve the Gaming-  
15 Related Gaming Service Provider certification as  
16 described by the Bureau of Licensing.

17 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
18 Hickernell seconds.

19 CHAIR: All in favor?

20 AYES RESPOND

21 CHAIR: All opposed?

22 NO RESPONSE

23 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

24 MR. HANNON: In addition, is an Order  
25 to renew the Certification for Fantasy Advantage,

1 Ltd., doing business as, Sidelines Group, who is a  
2 Gaming Service Provider. I have provided you with a  
3 draft Order as the Board consider the Order to renew  
4 the Certification for Fantasy Advantage, Ltd.

5 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
6 objection.

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

9 MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
10 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve  
11 the Gaming Service Provider certification as  
12 described by the Bureau of Licensing.

13 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
14 Manzano-Díaz, second.

15 CHAIR: All in favor?

16 AYES RESPOND

17 CHAIR: All opposed?

18 NO RESPONSE

19 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

20 MR. HANNON: Finally for your  
21 consideration are Gaming Service Provider  
22 registrations. The Bureau of Licensing provided you  
23 with an Order and an attached list of right  
24 registered Gaming Service Provider applicants. I ask  
25 that the Board consider the Order registering these

1 Gaming Service Providers.

2 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no  
3 objection.

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  
8 approve the Gaming Service Provider registrations as  
9 described by the Bureau of Licensing.

10 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston,  
11 seconds.

12 CHAIR: All in favor?

13 AYES RESPOND

14 CHAIR: All opposed?

15 NO RESPONSE

16 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

17 MR. HANNON: Thank you, Madam Chair.

18 CHAIR: Thank you, Sean. Next, is the  
19 OEC, Cyrus Pitre. Cyrus?

20 ATTORNEY PITRE: Morning, Chair,  
21 Members of the Board. Today the OEC will present 22  
22 matters for the Board's consideration in which we  
23 will request the approval of two consent agreements,  
24 one suspension, five revocations and 14 involuntary  
25 exclusions.

1           The next matter on the agenda for the  
2 Board's consideration is a Consent Agreement between  
3 the OEC and Video Gaming Establishment Licensee,  
4 Love's Travel Stops and Country Stores, Inc., doing  
5 business as, Loves' Travel Stop Number 407.

6           The matter will be presented by Senior  
7 Enforcement Counsel David Tepper. Representatives  
8 for Loves are present and at this time I request that  
9 those individuals please introduce themselves for the  
10 record and that any non-attorney witnesses please  
11 stand and be sworn.

12           ATTORNEY MCALLISTER: Good morning,  
13 Chair Smyler, Members of the Board. My name is  
14 Bradley McAllister M-C-A-L-L-I-S-T-E-R of Greenburg  
15 Traurig, External Regulatory Counsel for Love's.  
16 With me is Richard Ketchum, Senior Manager of Other  
17 Income for Love's.

18           CHAIR: Is Mr. Ketchum an attorney?

19           MR. KETCHUM: No, ma'am.

20           CHAIR: Okay.

21           Could you stand and be sworn, please?

22           ---

23           RICHARD KETCHUM,  
24 CALLED AS WITNESS IN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING, AND  
25 HAVING FIRST BEEN DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AND SAID AS



— — —

ATTORNEY TEPPER: Thank you. Good

VGT establishments are required to credential a credentialed employee on duty when videos are available for play at a licensed gaming establishment during a routine inspection on February 1, 2017. BIE determined that video gaming was available for play on Love's Travel while no Board-credentialed employee was on duty.

During an investigation of Love's Travel Stop Number 407, which looked at their operations from January 27, 2024 through February 27, 2024, it was determined that on 13 of these days, wagers were placed on VGTs for more than one hour while there was no Board-credential employee on duty.

Specifically, during this time, VGTs were available for play for approximately 80 hours and 10 minutes with no Board-credentialed employee on duty. Further, during that time, wagers were placed for a total of approximately 43 hours and 41 minutes

1 while no Board-credentialed employee was on duty.

2 At this time, the OEC requests that  
3 the Board approve this Consent Agreement between the  
4 parties. The terms of the settlement include that  
5 within five days of the Board's Order approving the  
6 Consent Agreement, Love's Travel Stop Number 407  
7 shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$32,500  
8 for these violations. Also within five days of the  
9 Board's Order approving this Consent Agreement,  
10 Love's Travel Stop Number 407 shall pay the Board  
11 \$2,500 for the costs incurred by the OEC, the BIE of  
12 and other related Board staff in connection with this  
13 matter. If you have any questions, we'd be happy to  
14 address them at this time.

15 CHAIR: Love's would you like to  
16 address the Board?

17 ATTORNEY MCALLISTER: Yes. Thank you  
18 for the opportunity to address the Board in relation  
19 to the Consent Agreement before you. Love's is in  
20 agreement with the terms of the proposed Consent  
21 Agreement and the Company wishes to acknowledge the  
22 work of OEC Attorney Tepper, the BIE agents involved  
23 and Board staff for their work on this matter up to  
24 this point.

25 Love's is committed to its duty to

1 adhere to the Act and the Board's rules in the  
2 operation of establishment locations in Pennsylvania  
3 and to ensure that a similar violation does not occur  
4 again. The violations at store 407 initiated a  
5 number of compliance improvements and I will provide  
6 a brief overview of the actions taken by Love's since  
7 that violation.

8                   In June of 2024, Mr. Ketchum  
9 initiated an onsite visit at each of the five  
10 establishment locations which involved senior members  
11 of Love's management team for the company's East  
12 Regional operations. At these meetings, Love's  
13 emphasized its VGT gaming employee standards and the  
14 protocol for making video gaming devices unavailable  
15 for play when no Board-credentialed employee is on  
16 duty. Such protocol involves closing and locking the  
17 door to the video gaming area.

18                   Following these onsite visits, Love's  
19 instituted a biweekly compliance meeting at each of  
20 its establishment locations. These meetings are led  
21 by the location general manager and attendance is  
22 mandatory for the site operations manager, the shift  
23 manager and all Board-credentialed employees.

24                   Such biweekly meetings reinforce  
25 training and provide a forum to raise any video

1 gaming-related compliance questions. Additionally,  
2 in these meetings, Love's has increased oversight of  
3 staffing procedures in relation to its Board-  
4 credentialed employees.

5 Finally, in response to this  
6 violation, Love's took internal disciplinary action  
7 including termination of an employee who was involved  
8 in making false statements to the Board's agents. At  
9 this time, Love's is available to respond to any  
10 questions the Board may have with regard to the  
11 proposed Consent Agreement.

12 CHAIR: Any questions or comments from  
13 the Board?

14 I actually do have a comment. We  
15 appreciate all the steps you've taken to rectify the  
16 situation, especially termination of that employee  
17 because we were all amazed at how much he told untruths  
18 to people on multiple occasions. So, I'm glad some  
19 action was taken against him.

20 Any other questions or comments?

21 Hearing none, may I have a motion  
22 please?

23 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
24 moves at the Board approve the Consent Agreement  
25 between the OEC and Love's Travel Stops and Country

1 Stores, Inc., doing business as, Love's Travel Stop  
2 Number 407, as described by the OEC.

3 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
4 seconds.

5 CHAIR: All in favor?

6 AYES RESPOND

7 CHAIR: All opposed?

8 NO RESPONSE

9 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

10 Thank you very much, gentlemen.

11 ATTORNEY PITRE: The next matter on  
12 the agenda for the Board's consideration is a Consent  
13 Agreement between the OEC and Video Gaming  
14 Establishment Licensee TA Operating, LLC, doing  
15 business as TravelCenters of America Number 12. The  
16 matter will once again be presented by Senior  
17 Enforcement Counsel David Tepper. Representatives  
18 for TravelCenters are present, and at this time I  
19 request that those individuals please introduce  
20 themselves for the record and that all non-attorney  
21 witnesses please stand and be sworn.

22 ATTORNEY CORDIER: Good morning. My  
23 name is Erin Cordier. I am outside Counsel to  
24 TravelCenters of America. It's C-O-R-D, as in David,  
25 I-E-R.

1                   MR. COLESON: Good morning. My name  
2 is Greg Coleson, I'm the Director of Gaming for  
3 TravelCenters of America.

4   ---

5                                   GREG COLESON,  
6 CALLED AS A WITNESS IN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING, AND  
7 HAVING FIRST BEEN DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AND SAID AS  
8 FOLLOWS:

9   ---

10                   CHAIR: OEC, you may proceed.

11                   ATTORNEY TEPPER: Thank you, Chair  
12 Smyler. VGT establishments are required to have a  
13 Board-credentialed employee on duty at all times that  
14 video gaming terminals are available for play at a  
15 licensed truck stop. Additionally, VGT  
16 establishments are required to notify the Board and  
17 the Bureau of Investigations and Enforcement when  
18 they identify violations of the Video Gaming Act and  
19 the Board's regulations.

20                                   During a routine inspection on  
21 February 28, 2024, the BIE determined that video  
22 gaming terminals were available for play at  
23 TravelCenters of America, Site Number 12, while no  
24 Board-credentialed employee was on duty. During an  
25 investigation of TravelCenters of America Site Number

1 12, which looked at their operations from February 4,  
2 2024 through March 4, 2024. It was determined on 13  
3 of these days, wagers were placed on VGTs for more  
4 than one hour when there was no Board-credentialed  
5 employee on duty.

6 Specifically, during this time, VGTs  
7 were available for play for approximately 182 hours  
8 and 45 minutes with no Board-credentialed employee on  
9 duty. Further, during that time, wagers were placed  
10 for a total of approximately 81 hours and 38 minutes  
11 while no Board-credentialed employee was on duty.

12 Additionally, on February 28, 2024, an  
13 unidentified TravelCenters of America Site Number 12  
14 employee who does not hold a Board-issued credential,  
15 entered the video gaming area and had contact with a  
16 patron and appeared to remove the patron from the  
17 video gaming area before locking it. This incident  
18 was not reported to the Board or to BIE.

19 At this time the OEC requests that the  
20 Board approve this Consent Agreement between the  
21 parties. The terms of the settlement include that  
22 within five days of the Board's Order approving this  
23 Consent Agreement, TravelCenters of America Site  
24 Number 12 shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of  
25 \$37,500 for these violations.

1                   Also within five days of the Board's  
2 Order approving this Consent Agreement, TravelCenters  
3 of America Site Number 12, shall pay the Board \$2,500  
4 for the costs incurred by the OEC, the Bureau of  
5 Investigations and Enforcement, and other related  
6 Board staff in connection with this matter. If you  
7 have any questions, we'd be happy to address them at  
8 this time.

9                   CHAIR: Thank you. TravelCenters of  
10 America, would you like to address the Board?

11                   ATTORNEY CORDIER: We would. Thank  
12 you for the opportunity to address this matter. We  
13 agree with the facts set forth by OEC and acknowledge  
14 that there were repeated violations of the Video  
15 Gaming Law that required licensee to have a Board-  
16 credentialed employee on site supervising the video  
17 gaming area during all times that VGTs are available  
18 to play, as well as to report any violations of such  
19 rules to the Board.

20                   TravelCenters of America understands  
21 it's a privilege to participate in the video gaming  
22 industry here in the Commonwealth and the importance  
23 of adhering to the Board's rules and regulations.  
24 The violations here were the results of poor  
25 management and a lack of internal controls, each of



1 which were promptly addressed following notification  
2 of by the PGCB of these violations.

3           After a prompt investigation, the  
4 district manager responsible for the site was  
5 terminated. As outlined in the Consent Agreement,  
6 additional remedial measures were also taken.  
7 Specifically, TA now requests, but does not mandate,  
8 that all new hires across all locations become Board-  
9 credentialed employees.

10           At this particular site, the number of  
11 Board credential employees has increased to five,  
12 with two additional pending. TA also developed a new  
13 training module for all employees across all  
14 locations to better address video gaming operations.  
15 This training - all existing employees were required  
16 to complete this training and employees will be  
17 required to participate in annual training on an  
18 ongoing basis.

19           As part of its changes to the internal  
20 controls, general managers of each site are now  
21 required to submit their weekly schedule of employees  
22 to the Director of Gaming. In the event that there  
23 is a shift that does not have a Board-credentialed  
24 employee scheduled, the general manager is first  
25 instructed to try to adjust the schedule and if that

1 is not possible or in the event an unforeseen  
2 circumstance comes up where a Board-credential  
3 employee is unable to be present, then the video  
4 gaming room is closed, the doors are locked, and a  
5 sign is placed to alert the customers of the  
6 temporary closure, and all these matters are reported  
7 to the district manager and Director of Gaming.

8 TA remains committed to compliance and  
9 participating in the industry. Thank you.

10 CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions or  
11 comments from the Board?

12 Thank you for the steps that you've  
13 taken to rectify the situation. With that, may I  
14 have a motion, please?

15 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
16 Regan moves that the Board approve the Consent  
17 Agreement between the OEC and TA Operating, LLC doing  
18 business as TravelCenters of America Number 12 as  
19 described by the OEC.

20 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
21 Hickernell seconds.

22 CHAIR: All in favor?

23 AYES RESPOND

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 NO RESPONSE

1                    CHAIR: Motion's adopted. Thank you  
2 very much.

3                    ATTORNEY CORDIER: Thank you.

4                    ATTORNEY PITRE: The next six matters  
5 on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which  
6 the OEC filed Complaints seeking the suspension or  
7 revocation of permits or registrations previously  
8 issued by the Board. The Complaint in each matter  
9 has been filed with the Board's OHA, and properly  
10 served upon the individual named in each Complaint.

11                    The individual named in each Complaint  
12 failed to respond within 30 days as required by Board  
13 regulation. As a result, the OEC filed a request for  
14 Default Judgment in each instance and properly served  
15 the same upon each Respondent. Therefore, the facts  
16 in each Complaint are deemed admitted. All filed  
17 documents have been provided to the Board and the  
18 matters are presently ripe for the Board's  
19 consideration.

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

23                    ATTORNEY TEPPER: Good morning again,  
24 Chair Smyler, Members of the Board. The next matter  
25 on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the

1 suspension of the Video Gaming Terminal Gaming  
2 Employee Occupation Permit issued to Wendy Hunt. Ms.  
3 Hunt was previously employed as a cashier for VGT  
4 Establishment Licensee Raceway Management Company,  
5 doing business as Onvo Mount Cobb.

6 Ms. Hunt was charged by the  
7 Pennsylvania State Police with theft-related offenses  
8 and including theft by unlawful taking, rated as a  
9 third degree felony, due to her theft of  
10 approximately \$900 worth of instant lottery tickets  
11 while employed at an Onvo location that does not hold  
12 an establishment license. Ms. Hunt's criminal  
13 charges remain pending at this time and she is not  
14 currently employed in the Pennsylvania gaming  
15 industry.

16 At this time, the OEC requests that  
17 the Board suspend the Video Gaming Terminal Gaming  
18 Employee Occupation Permit issued to Wendy Hunt.

19 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

20 May I have a motion, please?

21 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
22 Dillon moves that the Board approve the suspension of  
23 Wendy Hunt's Video Gaming Terminal Employee  
24 Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the  
25 OEC.

1                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

2 Hickernell seconds.

3                   CHAIR: All in favor?

4 AYES RESPOND

5                   CHAIR: All opposed?

6 NO RESPONSE

7                   CHAIR: Motion passes.

8                   ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Good morning, Madam  
9 Chair and Commissioners. Juan Sanchez,  
10 S-A-N-C-H-E-Z, with the OEC. The next matter on the  
11 agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
12 Revocation of the Employee Occupation Permit issued  
13 to Dana Morgan. Ms. Morgan was previously employed  
14 as a Tables Games Dealer at Rivers Casino  
15 Philadelphia. Rivers terminated Ms. Morgan because  
16 she colluded with or otherwise allowed ten patrons to  
17 cheat 154 times over five work shifts by giving the  
18 players advantages that resulted in a total of  
19 \$83,455.00 in ill-gotten gains.

20                   The Pennsylvania State Police arrested  
21 and criminally charged Ms. Morgan for these acts.  
22 Ms. Morgan subsequently pleaded guilty to theft  
23 offenses and was sentenced to probation and ordered  
24 to pay restitution. She is not currently employed in  
25 Pennsylvania's gaming industry.

1                   At this time, the OEC requests that  
2 the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation  
3 Permit issued to Dana Morgan.

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

6                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
7 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve  
8 the revocation of Dana Morgan's Gaming Employee  
9 Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the  
10 OEC.

11                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
12 Manzano-Díaz, second.

13                   CHAIR: All in favor?

14 AYES RESPOND

15                   CHAIR: All opposed?

16 NO RESPONSE

17                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

18                   ATTORNEY ROBERTS: Good morning,  
19 Chairwoman and Commissioners. Andrea Roberts,  
20 R-O-B-E-R-T-S, Assistant Enforcement Counsel. The  
21 next matter on the agenda for the Board's  
22 consideration is the Revocation of the Gaming  
23 Employee Occupation Permit issued to Edward Careless.  
24 Mr. Careless was previously employed as a Security  
25 Officer at Parx Casino.

1                   Mr. Careless stole a \$764.00 winning  
2 sportsbook ticket that a patron had dropped on the  
3 gaming floor. Mr. Careless gave the voucher to  
4 another patron, who redeemed it at the main cage and  
5 gave Mr. Careless the currency. Mr. Careless was  
6 terminated as a result of this incident.  
7 Pennsylvania State Police were notified but no  
8 criminal charges were filed.

9                   At this time, the OEC requests that  
10 the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation  
11 Permit issued to Edward Careless

12                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

13                   May I have a motion, please?

14                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
15 Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board approve the  
16 revocation of Edward Careless's Gaming Employee  
17 Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the  
18 OEC.

19                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
20 seconds.

21                   CHAIR: All in favor?

22 AYES RESPOND

23                   CHAIR: All opposed?

24 NO RESPONSE

25                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

1                   ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on  
2 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
3 Revocation of the Non-Gaming Employee Registration  
4 issued to LeRoy Johnson.

5                   Mr. Johnson was previously employed as  
6 an EVS Attendant at Team Clean, Inc. While working  
7 at Live! Casino Philadelphia, Mr. Johnson stole a  
8 wallet dropped on the floor by a patron. Mr. Johnson  
9 turned the wallet into Live! Security after removing  
10 \$250 to \$350 in currency from it. Mr. Johnson was  
11 criminally charged and subsequently pled nolo  
12 contendere. Team Clean terminated Mr. Johnson's  
13 employment as a result of this incident.

14                  At this time, the Office of  
15 Enforcement Counsel requests that the Board revoke  
16 the Non-Gaming Employee Registration issued to LeRoy  
17 Johnson.

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

20                  MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
21 moves that the Board approve the revocation of LeRoy  
22 Johnson's Non-Gaming Employee Registration for the  
23 conduct described by the OEC.

24                  MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
25 seconds.



1                    CHAIR:    All in favor?

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  
8    Revocation of the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit  
9    issued to Jessica Pasqualone.    Ms. Pasqualone  
10   was previously employed as a Slot Technician at Parx  
11   Casino.

12                   Ms. Pasqualone redeemed \$234.46 in  
13   vouchers over the course of five work shifts at Parx  
14   Casino.    A review determined that Ms. Pasqualone was  
15   collecting abandoned vouchers and printing vouchers  
16   for abandoned credits on slot machines.    Ms.  
17   Pasqualone would then insert multiple vouchers into  
18   slot machines and print new vouchers for increasingly  
19   higher value.    Ms. Pasqualone would then redeem those  
20   vouchers for currency and retain the currency.

21                   At this time, the Office of  
22   Enforcement Counsel requests that the Board revoke  
23   the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit issued to  
24   Jessica Pasqualone.

25                   CHAIR:    Any questions or comments from

1 the Board?

2 May I have a motion, please?

3 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
4 Regan moves that the Board approve the revocation of  
5 Jessica Pasqualone's Gaming Employee Occupation  
6 Permit for the conduct described by the OEC.

7 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
8 Hickernell seconds.

9 CHAIR: All in favor?

10 AYES RESPOND

11 CHAIR: All opposed?

12 NO RESPONSE

13 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

14 ATTORNEY MILLER: Good morning, Chair  
15 Smyler, Members of the Board. Dustin Miller on  
16 behalf of the OEC. The next matter on the agenda for  
17 the Board's consideration is the Revocation of the  
18 Gaming Level 2 Employee Occupation Permit issued to  
19 Darlena Nguyen.

20 Ms. Nguyen was previously employed as  
21 an International Casino Host at Rivers Casino  
22 Philadelphia. While employed at Rivers, she was  
23 caught helping her brother, James Nguyen, gain access  
24 to various player accounts. Mr. Nguyen would  
25 download free slot play belonging to other players'

1 accounts and game using the account. This was  
2 discovered after one of the owners of the accounts  
3 complained to casino staff.

4 Ms. Nguyen was terminated from Rivers  
5 Philadelphia and she is not currently employed in  
6 Pennsylvania's gaming industry. At this time, the  
7 OEC requests that the Board revoke the Gaming Level 2  
8 Employee Occupation Permit issued to Darlena Nguyen.

9 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

10 May I have a motion, please?

11 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,  
12 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board  
13 approve the revocation of Darlena Nguyen's Gaming  
14 Level 2 Employee Occupation Permit for the conduct  
15 described by the OEC.

16 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
17 seconds.

18 CHAIR: All in favor?

19 AYES RESPOND

20 CHAIR: All opposed?

21 NO RESPONSE

22 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

23 ATTORNEY PITRE: The remaining matters  
24 on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which  
25 the OEC filed petitions seeking the involuntary

1 exclusion of individuals who are inimical to the  
2 interest of the Commonwealth and/or licensed gaming  
3 therein.

4                   In each instance, the Petition for  
5 exclusion has been filed with the Board's OHA and  
6 properly served upon the individual named in the  
7 petition. The individual named in each petition  
8 failed to respond within 30 days as required by Board  
9 regulation. As a result, the OEC filed a request for  
10 Default Judgment in each instance and properly served  
11 the same upon each individual. Therefore, all facts  
12 in each petition are deemed admitted, all filed  
13 documents have been provided to the Board and the  
14 matters are presently ripe for the Board's  
15 consideration.

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

23                   ATTORNEY MILLER: Dustin Miller, once  
24 again on behalf of the OEC. The next matter on the  
25 agenda for the Board's consideration is the petition

1 to place James Nguyen on the Involuntary Exclusion  
2 List.

3 As stated in the previous matter through  
4 Darlena Nguyen, his sister, James Nguyen fraudulently  
5 gained access to various player accounts and  
6 downloaded free slot play from other players accounts  
7 and gamed using the account. This was discovered  
8 after one of the owners of the accounts complained to  
9 casino staff.

10 At this time the OEC requests that the  
11 Board place James Nguyen on the Involuntary Exclusion  
12 List.

13 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

14 May I have a motion, please?

15 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
16 Dillon moves that the Board approve the addition of  
17 James Nguyen to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List  
18 for the conduct described by the OEC.

19 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
20 Hickernell seconds.

21 CHAIR: All in favor?

22 AYES RESPOND

23 CHAIR: All opposed?

24 NO RESPONSE

25 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

1                   ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on  
2 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
3 Petition to place Paul Leinhauser on the Involuntary  
4 Exclusion List. Mr. Leinhauser left his six-year-old  
5 child in his vehicle unattended for approximately 30  
6 minutes in the parking lot at Hollywood Casino  
7 Morgantown while he played slot machines. The child  
8 was discovered after Security received a call from a  
9 patron reporting the incident.

10                   Mr. Leinhauser was issued a one-year  
11 eviction from Hollywood Casino Morgantown, was  
12 criminally charged and subsequently pled guilty to  
13 Endangering the Welfare of Children. At this time,  
14 the OEC requests that the Board place Paul Leinhauser  
15 on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

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

18                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
19 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve  
20 the addition of Paul Leinhauser to the Pennsylvania  
21 Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for  
22 the conduct described by the OEC.

23                   MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
24 Manzano-Díaz second.

25                   CHAIR: All in favor?

1 AYES RESPOND

2 CHAIR: All opposed?

3 NO RESPONSE

4 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

5 ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on  
6 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
7 Petition to place Lanya Marsett on the Involuntary  
8 Exclusion List. Ms. Marsett was present at Rivers  
9 Philadelphia when she was observed cheating while  
10 playing a table game. Additionally, she stole a  
11 stack of the dealer's chips, which totaled  
12 approximately \$1,300.00. After she reached over and  
13 stole the stack of chips, she quickly exited Rivers  
14 Philadelphia. She was issued a permanent eviction  
15 from Rivers Philadelphia. She was not criminally  
16 charged. In a prior incident at Rivers Philadelphia,  
17 she was issued a 24-hour eviction for getting into a  
18 dispute with another patron.

19 At this time, the OEC requests that  
20 the Board place Lanya Marsett on the Involuntary  
21 Exclusion List.

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

1 approve the addition of Lanya Marsett to the PGCB  
2 Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described  
3 by the OEC.

4 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
5 seconds.

6 CHAIR: All in favor?

7 AYES RESPOND

8 CHAIR: All opposed?

9 NO RESPONSE

10 CHAIR: Motion carries.

11 ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on  
12 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
13 Petition to place James Nix on the Involuntary  
14 Exclusion List. Mr. Nix arrived at Rivers  
15 Philadelphia with an infant. After he parked his  
16 vehicle, he entered Rivers Philadelphia to place  
17 sports bets, leaving the infant unattended.

18 Security for Rivers Philadelphia  
19 discovered the unattended infant shortly after Mr.  
20 Nix left his vehicle. Mr. Nix was away from the  
21 infant for approximately five minutes before  
22 returning. He was issued a permanent eviction by  
23 Rivers Philadelphia and a citation for leaving the  
24 infant unattended in his vehicle.

25 At this time, the OEC requests that



1 the Board place James Nix on the Involuntary  
2 Exclusion List.

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

5 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
6 moves that the Board approve the addition of James  
7 Nix to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the  
8 conduct described by the OEC.

9 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
10 seconds.

11 CHAIR: All in favor?

12 AYES RESPOND

13 CHAIR: All opposed?

14 NO RESPONSE

15 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

16 ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on  
17 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
18 Petition to place Igor Petrovski on the Involuntary  
19 Exclusion List. Mr. Petrovski was present at Presque  
20 Isle Downs and Casino when he committed a theft.  
21 Specifically, he stole another patron's stack of  
22 chips which totaled approximately \$1,325.00. Mr.  
23 Petrovski was criminally charged and was issued an  
24 eviction by Presque Isle. On two prior occasions,  
25 Mr. Petrovski was asked to leave Presque Isle for

1 being intoxicated.

2 At this time, the OEC requests that  
3 the Board place Igor Petrovski on the Involuntary  
4 Exclusion List.

5 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

6 May I have a motion, please?

7 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves  
8 that the Board approve the addition of Igor Petrovski  
9 to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the  
10 conduct described by the OEC.

11 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
12 Hickernell seconds.

13 CHAIR: All in favor?

14 AYES RESPOND

15 CHAIR: All opposed?

16 NO RESPONSE

17 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

18 ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on  
19 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
20 Petition to place Igor Shoga on the Involuntary  
21 Exclusion List. Mr. Shoga arrived at Mount Airy and  
22 left an 11-year-old child unattended in his vehicle.

23 The minor was discovered after another  
24 patron reported seeing the child in Mr. Shoga's  
25 vehicle. The minor was left unattended for

1 approximately an hour and 40 minutes. While the  
2 minor was left alone in the vehicle, Mr. Shoga was  
3 inside of Mount Airy playing slot machines. He was  
4 not criminally charged. He was issued an eviction  
5 from Mount Airy.

6 At this time, the OEC requests that  
7 the Board place Igor Shoga on the Involuntary  
8 Exclusion List.

9 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

10 May I have a motion, please?

11 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
12 moves that the Board approve the addition of Igor  
13 Shoga to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the  
14 conduct described by the OEC.

15 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon  
16 seconds.

17 CHAIR: All in favor?

18 AYES RESPOND

19 CHAIR: All opposed?

20 NO RESPONSE

21 CHAIR: Motion carries.

22 ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: Good morning,  
23 Thomas Monaghan, M-O-N-A-G-H-A-N, with the OEC.

24 The next matter on the agenda for the  
25 Board's consideration is a request to place Sibeas

1   Blackshear on the Board's Interactive Gaming  
2   Involuntary Exclusion List.  Ms. Blackshear opened an  
3   interactive gaming account on the BetParx interactive  
4   gaming website.  She made multiple deposits totaling  
5   \$20,846.

6                   Ms. Blackshear's wagering activity  
7   resulted in her losing the entirety of the money she  
8   deposited.  Subsequently, she failed or refused to  
9   pay \$3,250 that she owed to BetParx as a result of  
10   her gaming activity.  BetParx closed Ms. Blackshear's  
11   interactive gaming account.

12                   The OEC now requests that the Board  
13   place Sibeal Blackshear on the Interactive Gaming  
14   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 approve the addition of  
19   Sibeal Blackshear to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive  
20   Gaming Exclusion List for the conduct described by  
21   the OEC.

22                   MR. HICKERNELL:  Commissioner  
23   Hickernell seconds.

24                   CHAIR:  All in favor?

25   AYES RESPOND

1                   CHAIR: All opposed?

2 NO RESPONSE

3                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

4                   ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The next matter on  
5 the agenda for the Board's consideration is a request  
6 to place Arthur Dangel on the Board's Interactive  
7 Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.

8                   Mr. Dangel opened an interactive  
9 gaming account on the BetParx interactive gaming  
10 website. He made multiple deposits totaling \$6,300.  
11 Mr. Dangel's wagering activity resulted in him losing  
12 the entirety of the money he deposited.  
13 Subsequently, Mr. Dangel failed or refused to pay  
14 \$5,800 that he owed to BetParx as a result of his  
15 gaming activity. BetParx closed Mr. Dangel's  
16 interactive gaming account.

17                   The OEC now requests that the Board  
18 place Arthur Dangel on the Interactive Gaming  
19 Involuntary Exclusion List.

20                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

21                   May I have a motion, please?

22                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
23 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve  
24 the addition of Arthur Dangel to the Pennsylvania  
25 Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Interactive Gaming

1 Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.

2 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner

3 Manzano-Díaz seconds.

4 CHAIR: All in favor?

5 AYES RESPOND

6 CHAIR: All opposed?

7 NO RESPONSE

8 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

9 ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The next two  
10 matters on the agenda for the Board's consideration  
11 stem from the same or similar set of facts;  
12 therefore, with the Board's permission, I will recite  
13 one set of facts then ask for each individual to be  
14 placed on the Board's Interactive Gaming Involuntary  
15 Exclusion List.

16 Jonathan Holley and Mohamed Holley  
17 each created multiple accounts on the Barstool  
18 Sportsbook Interactive Gaming platform using the  
19 personal identifying information of other  
20 individuals. All of the accounts were closed, and  
21 the devices used were blocked from being used.

22 The OEC now requests that the Board  
23 place Jonathan Holley on the Interactive Gaming  
24 Involuntary Exclusion List.

25 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

1 May I have a motion, please?

2 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair,  
3 Commissioner Manzano-Díaz moves that the Board  
4 approve the addition of Jonathan Holley to the PGCB  
5 Involuntary Interactive Gaming Exclusion List for the  
6 conduct described by the OEC.

7 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
8 seconds.

9 CHAIR: All in favor?

10 AYES RESPOND

11 CHAIR: All opposed?

12 NO RESPONSE

13 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

14 ATTORNEY MONAGHAN: The OEC now  
15 requests that the Board place Mohamed Holley on the  
16 Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.

17 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

18 May I have a motion, please?

19 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
20 moves that the Board approve the addition of Mohamed  
21 Holley to the PGCB Involuntary Interactive Exclusion  
22 List for the conduct described by the OEC.

23 MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan  
24 seconds.

25 CHAIR: All in favor?

1 AYES RESPOND

2 CHAIR: All opposed?

3 NO RESPONSE

4 CHAIR: Motion carries.

5 ATTORNEY ROBERTS: Once again, Andrea  
6 Roberts, Assistant Enforcement Counsel. The next  
7 matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is  
8 the request to place Javar Hatton on the Involuntary  
9 Exclusion List. Mr. Hatton left two minors, 6 and  
10 13-years old, unattended in a vehicle outside Live!  
11 Casino and Hotel Philadelphia for approximately 13  
12 minutes.

13 Mr. Hatton entered the casino where he  
14 patronized a sportsbook kiosk. Pennsylvania State  
15 Police were notified and responded, but no criminal  
16 charges were filed. Live! permanently evicted Mr.  
17 Hatton from their property as a result of this  
18 incident.

19 At this time, the OEC requests that  
20 the Board place Javar Hatton on the Board's  
21 Involuntary Exclusion List.

22 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

23 May I have a motion, please?

24 MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
25 Regan moves that the Board approve the addition of



1 Javar Hatton to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List  
2 for the conduct described by the OEC.

3 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
4 Hickernell seconds.

5 CHAIR: All in favor?

6 AYES RESPOND

7 CHAIR: All opposed?

8 NO RESPONSE

9 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

10 ATTORNEY ROBERTS: The next matter on  
11 the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
12 request to place Tia Saunders on the Involuntary  
13 Exclusion List. Ms. Saunders was present at  
14 Hollywood Casino York when she stole a wallet  
15 belonging to another patron and then departed the  
16 casino. Pennsylvania State Police were notified but  
17 no charges were filed. Hollywood banned Ms. Saunders  
18 from their property as a result of this incident.

19 At this time, the OEC requests that  
20 the Board place Tia Saunders on the Board's  
21 Involuntary Exclusion List.

22 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

23 May I have a motion, please?

24 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
25 moves that the Board approve the addition of Tia

1     Saunders to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for  
2     the conduct described by the OEC.

3                     MR. DILLON:   Commissioner Dillon  
4     seconds.

5                     CHAIR:    All in favor?

6     AYES RESPOND

7                     CHAIR:    All opposed?

8     NO RESPONSE

9                     CHAIR:    Motion's adopted.

10                    ATTORNEY ROBERTS:   The next matter on  
11     the agenda for the Board's consideration is the  
12     request to place Corbin Schindler on the Involuntary  
13     Exclusion List.

14                    Mr. Schindler retrieved a wallet  
15     dropped by another patron outside the valet entrance  
16     of Valley Forge Casino Resort. Mr. Schindler removed  
17     currency from the wallet before turning it in to  
18     Valley Forge staff. Mr. Schindler did not pay  
19     restitution. Valley Forge permanently banned Mr.  
20     Schindler from their property as a result of this  
21     incident.

22                    At this time, the OEC requests that  
23     the Board place Corbin Schindler on the Board's  
24     Involuntary Exclusion List.

25                    CHAIR:    Any questions or comments?

1 May I have a motion, please?

2 MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner  
3 Dillon moves that the Board approve the addition of  
4 Corbin Schindler to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion  
5 List for the conduct described by the OEC.

6 MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner  
7 Hickernell seconds.

8 CHAIR: All in favor?

9 AYES RESPOND

10 CHAIR: All opposed?

11 NO RESPONSE

12 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

13 ATTORNEY SCIRROTTO: Good morning,  
14 Madam Chair, Members of the Board. Kelci Scirrotto,  
15 S-C-I-R-R-O-T-T-O, Assistant Enforcement Counsel with  
16 the OEC. The final matter on the agenda for the  
17 Board's consideration is the Petition to place Macy  
18 Wilson on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

19 Mr. Wilson was present at Live! Casino  
20 and Hotel Philadelphia when he reached across a table  
21 and stole \$16,900.00 in chips and fled from the  
22 casino. Mr. Wilson was criminally charged and pled  
23 guilty. In addition, Mr. Wilson stole \$34,700 in  
24 chips at Rivers Casino Philadelphia and \$3,200 in  
25 chips from Parx Casino using similar methods. Police

1 have been notified of these incidents, and Mr. Wilson  
2 was criminally charged. For the last incident, Mr.  
3 Wilson pled guilty to felony theft by unlawful  
4 taking.

5 At this time, the OEC requests that  
6 the Board place Macy Wilson on the Board's  
7 Involuntary Exclusion List.

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

10 MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,  
11 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve  
12 the addition of Macy Wilson to the Pennsylvania  
13 Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for  
14 the conduct described by the OEC.

15 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Commissioner  
16 Manzano-Díaz, second.

17 CHAIR: All in favor?

18 AYES RESPOND

19 CHAIR: All opposed?

20 NO RESPONSE

21 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

22 ATTORNEY PITRE: Thank you. That  
23 concludes our business.

24 CHAIR: Thank you, Cyrus. The last  
25 item on the agenda for today is Public Comment. Is

1 there anyone in the room that would like to address  
2 the Board? Please come forward. Good morning, could  
3 you just state and spell your name for the Court  
4 Reporter?

5 MR. ERCOLE: Good morning, Madam Chair  
6 and Members of the Board. My name is Josh Ercole,  
7 J-O-S-H, E-R-C-O-L-E, and I am here today  
8 representing the Council on Compulsive Gambling of  
9 Pennsylvania. We are the Pennsylvania State  
10 Affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling  
11 and we serve as a statewide non-profit advocacy  
12 group.

13 CHAIR: Mr. Ercole, I'm sorry, I meant  
14 to tell you, you have three minutes.

15 MR. ERCOLE: Okay.

16 Thank you very much. Our primary  
17 focus is on assisting individuals who are struggling  
18 with any type of gambling-related issue. The primary  
19 way that we assist individuals and family members is  
20 by the 24-hour statewide helpline service which can  
21 be accessed again 24 hours by contacting  
22 1-800-GAMBLER or by using the chat or text features  
23 that we have available on our website.

24 And today, I'm here to express our  
25 concerns regarding the proposed changes to

1 Pennsylvania Self-Exclusion program under Regulation  
2 125-250, in which land-based casino Self-Exclusion  
3 terms of one year and five years would change to  
4 automatic removals at the completion of each term  
5 rather than remaining an active process as it is now.

6           Along with several of our colleagues  
7 in Pennsylvania and around the country, we believe  
8 that this change would reduce the overall  
9 effectiveness of the casino self-exclusion program  
10 and we encourage the Board to review the National  
11 Council on Problem Gambling's Internet Responsible  
12 Gambling Standards in which active removal from self-  
13 exclusion programs is recommended as an effort to  
14 best protect players.

15           At the Council, we participate  
16 regularly in a statewide Problem Gambling Consortium  
17 with departments and organizations from across the  
18 Commonwealth and we need to share information and  
19 insights and data, and a lot of what we discuss has  
20 to do with things like Helpline activity, which we've  
21 seen increase dramatically over the course of the  
22 past several years.

23           During these meetings we also receive  
24 updates from the Office of Compulsive and Problem  
25 Gambling Director Liz Lanza who often shares

1 information about self-exclusion and how that  
2 continues to be an effective and widely utilized tool  
3 in the Commonwealth with continually increasing  
4 number of enrollments. Collectively, we believe that  
5 it's more important than ever to work together to  
6 keep protections as strong and as effective as  
7 possible rather than making changes to potentially  
8 weaken them.

9                   In the proposal it was stated that  
10 requiring individuals to take action after the  
11 selected period has elapsed results individuals  
12 experiencing negative effects. Since many  
13 individuals erroneously believe that once the time  
14 period selected for casino self-exclusion has passed,  
15 they are once allowed again to engage in gaming  
16 activities. We do believe that there are more  
17 effective ways to communicate this effectively and we  
18 would be happy to assist with that. The goal,  
19 obviously, is minimizing negative outcomes but also  
20 maintaining the effectiveness of the program.

21                   Further, if individuals who are  
22 already enrolled in the casino self-exclusion program  
23 prior to this change being implemented will not  
24 automatically be removed, which the proposal  
25 outlines, we feel that this will only likely create

1 additional confusion rather than provide clarity.

2           Ultimately, we believe that adopting  
3 an automatic removal process for self-exclusion  
4 increases risk for Gambling Disorder and potential  
5 relapse. It also decreases customer choice and it  
6 ultimately goes against best practices in responsible  
7 gambling, which is a vital element in protecting  
8 public health, public safety and wellbeing.

9           We do urge the Board to reconsider  
10 this proposal and instead focus on unifying the  
11 programs by changing the existing iGaming fantasy  
12 contests and VGT self-exclusion programs to match the  
13 existing current self-exclusion programs, where  
14 again, individuals will remain enrolled until they  
15 actively request removal. This would help to reduce  
16 confusion and at the same time better protect  
17 individuals in Pennsylvania.

18           I'd like to thank you again for your  
19 time this morning. I'd be happy to answer any  
20 questions that you may have. Thank you all very  
21 much.

22           CHAIR: Thank you very much. And your  
23 three minutes are just about up, so, thank you.

24           So, that concludes today's meeting.  
25 The next Public Board Meeting will be held on



1 Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at this  
2 location. I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and  
3 healthy Thanksgiving. And I would now like to  
4 entertain a motion to adjourn.

5 MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Madam Chair, I  
6 would like to so move that we adjourn.

7 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston  
8 seconds.

9 CHAIR: All in favor?

10 AYES RESPOND

11 CHAIR: All opposed?

12 NO RESPONSE

13 CHAIR: We are adjourned. Thank you,  
14 everyone.

15 \* \* \* \* \*

16 MEETING CONCLUDED AT 11:20 A.M.

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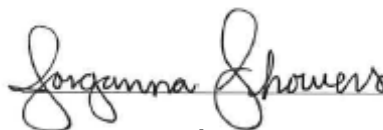
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## CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, held before Chair Smyler, was reported by me on November 20, 2024, and that I, Jorganna Showers, read this transcript and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

Dated the 2nd day of December, 2024.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jorganna Showers". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jorganna Showers,

Court Reporter