#### 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

Shawn Dillon

David S. Hickernell

Sara Manzano-Díaz (phone)

Nedia Ralston

Frances J. Regan

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS/DESIGNEES IN ATTENDANCE:

Fred Strathmeyer, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Agriculture

Adria Zimmerman, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Revenue

Jennifer Langan, Ex-Officio Member,

Department of Treasurer

Reporter: Rachel Wilbur-Adams

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MEETING: Wednesday, January 29, 2025

10:01 a.m.

LOCATION: Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board

303 Walnut Street

Strawberry Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101

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# APPEARANCES

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- 3 PA GAMING CONTROL BOARD EXECUTIVE STAFF WHO APPEARED
- 4 BEFORE THE BOARD:
- 5 Kevin F. O'Toole, Executive Director
- 6 David Rhen, Director of Budget
- 7 Heidi Zula, Director of Human Resources
- 8 Steve Cook, Chief Counsel
- 9 Chad Zimmermann, Deputy Chief Counsel
- 10 Robert Wood, Senior Counsel
- 11 Cyrus Pitre, Chief Enforcement Counsel
- 12 | Sean M. Hannon, Director of Licensing

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- 14 Office of Enforcement Counsel Also presenting:
- 15 Juan Sanchez, John Crohe, Ashley Gabrielle, Andrea
- 16 Roberts, Dustin Miller

17

- 18 OTHER ATTENDEES FOR MEETING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- 19 STADIUM CASINO WESTMORELAND, RE, LLC d/b/a LIVE!
- 20 CASINO PITTSBURGH Consent Agreement
- 21 Thomas Diehl, Esquire, Vice President of Legal,
- 22 | Stadium Casino Westmoreland RE, LLC
- 23 | Sean Sullivan, Executive Vice President and General
- 24 Manager, Live! Casino Pittsburgh
- 25 | Kirk Dean, Risk and Safety Assessment Manager, Live!

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### PROCEEDINGS

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CHAIR: Good morning. I'm Denise

Smyler, Chair of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control

Board. At this time, I would like to ask everyone to please silence your cell phones and all electronic devices. With seven Board Members present this morning, I'd like to now call today's meeting to order. And I would note for the record that

Commissioner Manzano-Díaz is participating by phone.

Sarah, can you hear me?

MS. MANZANO-DÍAZ: Yes. Good morning, Madam Chair.

CHAIR: Good morning, Sara. Thank
you. 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 the 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 like to now ask everyone to please stand and join me in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

### (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED)

CHAIR: By way of announcements, the Board held an Executive Session yesterday, Tuesday, January 28, to discuss personnel matters and to conduct quasi-judicial deliberations relating to matters coming before the Board.

I would like to now ask for the approval of the Board Meeting Transcript and Minutes from the October 23, 2024 meeting. May I have a motion, please?

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board approve the Minutes and Transcript of the October 23rd, 2024 meeting.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

15 Hickernell seconds.

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

17 (AYES RESPOND)

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

19 (NO RESPONSE)

20 CHAIR: The motion passes.

I would like to now ask for approval of the Board Meeting Transcript and Minutes from the November 20th, 2024 meeting.

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve

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the Minutes and Transcript of the November 20th, 2024
meeting.
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3 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon 4 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

6 (AYES RESPOND)

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

8 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: The motion passes. Now we will hear from our Executive Director, Kevin O'Toole. Kevin?

MR. O'TOOLE: Good morning, Chair

Smyler. Good morning, Members of the Board. For my report this morning, I would like to share the key data regarding gaming revenue produced by the Pennsylvania casino industry in calendar year 2024.

Our Office of Communications recently issued two press releases. One summarized revenue for the month of December 2024, and the other provided information about the entire calendar year of 2024. Gaming revenue for the month of December reached \$533 million in taxable revenue. That figure helped to propel calendar year 2024 revenue from all sources of gaming activity to \$6.1 billion.

The \$6.1 billion is a 7.73 percent

increase over the combined gaming revenue of 5.7 billion in calendar year 2023. The resulting gaming tax revenue for 2024 was 2.66 billion dollars, an 8.53 percent increase over the \$2.45 billion in gaming tax revenue generated in 2023.

Breaking down the \$6.1 billion total revenue figure; land-based casinos generated \$3.38 billion in gaming revenue from the play of slot machines, table games and poker. That represents a 1.5 percent decrease when compared to 2023. Online casino games, online table games and online poker revenue for 2024, amounted to almost 2.2 billion dollars, a 25 percent increase over the \$1.7 billion produced in 2023. Sports wagering revenue for calendar year 2024 was \$510 million, an 11.36 percent increase over the previous calendar year.

These figures depict some pretty obvious tendencies, one being that online casino gaming in its first six years continues to grow at a significant clip. Also, sports wagering continues to gain more and more followers as evidenced by significantly greater handle totaling \$8.4 billion this past year, a 9.62 percent increase over the previous year.

Overall, Pennsylvanians continue to

show that licensed and regulated gambling is an activity that they enjoy participating in. As we move into the new year, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and its staff will continue to do its part to ensure that tested and approved games, whether offered in a retail casino facility or online, are intended to protect the public and ensure fairness in all aspects of gaming activity.

Before I close, I would like to note that gaming taxes are certainly very important, but equally important are the local share assessments that the casino industry funds. In the past several weeks, public notifications were made by a number of counties that local share assessment funds were being dispersed to local municipalities.

These disbursements are aimed at improving infrastructure, public safety and community health. Indeed, these projects are truly beneficial to the community and they make a difference. It is these assessments and disbursements that are made on a local and a county-wide basis that benefits so many communities in the Commonwealth and make the gaming industry so important to so many people. That's my report for today. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR: Thank you, Kevin. Next, we

will hear from the Director of Budget, David Rhen.

Dave?

MR. RHEN: Good morning Chair Smyler and Board Members. I'm here today to present a recap of expenditures through the first half of the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024.

Board expenses for the first half of the fiscal year were \$25,676,000, comprising \$22,527,000 in personnel expenses and \$3,149,000 in operating expenses. Compared to the prior year, personnel expenses increased by \$1,273,000, while operating expenses grew by \$1,197,000. Total payroll costs amounted to \$22,527,000, including salary costs of \$13,346,000 and benefit costs of \$9,181,000.

The increase in personnel expenses is primarily attributed to an increase in the employee count, union-negotiated raises and increased benefit costs. Operating expenses through December totaled \$3,149,000. The largest operating expenses included \$1,356,000 for services, which includes IT consulting expenses and interagency billings. \$747,000 for rentals and leases, \$746,000 for other operating expenses, which includes the categories of subscriptions, which is primarily database services for background investigations, and insurance, which

includes the directors and officers insurance.

Overall, the growth in operating expenses reflects increased investments in technology modernization to support organizational operations, and timing differences in payments for the directors insurance and IT billings from the Office of Administration. The expenditure trends for the first half of the fiscal year indicate alignment with projected growth in personnel and operating expenses. That concludes my remarks.

CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions or comments from the Board? No? Thank you very much, Dave.

MR. RHEN: Thank you.

CHAIR: Now, we will hear from our Human Resources Director, Heidi Zula. Heidi?

MS. ZULA: Good morning, Madam Chair and Members of the Board. The Office of Human Resources has one motion for your consideration today relative to the hiring of three individuals. The following three individuals have completed the background investigation and drug screening and are ready for presentation to the Board.

Jonathan Inman has been selected as a Casino Compliance Representative at the Rivers Casino

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   Pittsburgh and is recommended for hire by Greg
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   Hazzouri, Director of Casino Compliance.
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   Garland has been selected as a Casino Compliance
 4
   Representative at Hollywood Casino York and is
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   recommended for hire by Greg Hazzouri, Director of
 6
   Casino Compliance. Finally, Breanna Blane has been
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   selected as a Licensing Analyst for the Bureau of
   Licensing and is recommended for hire by Sean Hannon,
9
   Director of Licensing.
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                   Unless there are any questions, I ask
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   that the Board consider a motion to approve the
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   hiring actions as indicated.
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                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
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   May I have a motion, please?
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                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
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   Dillon moves that the Board approve the applicants
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   for hire as proposed by the Human Resources Director.
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                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
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   seconds.
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                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
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   (AYES RESPOND)
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                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
23
   (NO RESPONSE)
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                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
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MS. ZULA: Thank you.

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CHAIR: Thank you, Heidi. Next, is
our Office of Chief Counsel.

ATTORNEY COOK: Morning. The first agenda item for the OCC is a - relates to a temporary regulation which Senior Counsel Robert Wood will present.

ATTORNEY WOOD: Thank you. Good morning, Madam Chair. Members of the Board this morning, as Steve said, I have one item for the Board's consideration. Temporary Rulemaking Number 125-252, which relates to Table Games, Rules and Procedures.

This package contains new table games, variations on existing table games and some variations on side wager options. Additionally, this package will make a couple of corrections to published temporary regs that are out there for table games, rules and procedures. Prior to this morning's meeting, copies of these materials were provided to you. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them this morning, or if not, I would ask the Board to adopt a motion approving these regs (sic).

CHAIR: Thank you, Robert. Any questions or comments? May I have a motion, please.

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board adopt
Temporary Regulation Number 125-252 regarding Tables
Games, Rules and Procedures, as described by the OCC.

4 <u>MS. REGAN:</u> Commissioner Regan

5 seconds.

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

7 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY COOK: Next before the Board are six Petitions. Each of these Petitions are being brought before the Board on the documentary record, as the Office of Enforcement Counsel has no objection to the requested relief. In each of these matters the Board has, in advance of this meeting, been provided with the entire documentary record filed with record prior to today.

The first Petition before the Board today is Stakelogic USA Limited and Sega Sammy Creation, Inc.'s Joint Petition for approval of a change of control. Stakelogic USA Limited is licensed with the Board as an Interactive gaming Manufacturer and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Stakelogic BV, a private company incorporated in the

Netherlands. Sega Sammy Creation, Inc. is a Japanese company fully owned by Sega Sammy Holdings, Inc., a publicly-traded company.

Sega Sammy USA, Inc. is also a whollyowned subsidiary of Sega Sammy Holdings, and filed an
application for a Slot Machine Manufacturer License.
Both Sega Sammy Creation and Sega Sammy Holdings, I
wish I would have read that before - have submitted
an Application as affiliates of Sega Sammy USA.

on July 26, 2024, Sega Sammy Creation and Stakelogic entered into a shared purchase agreement. Per the agreement, Sega Sammy Creation will purchase Stakelogic and all subsidiaries and a result in Sega Sammy Creation becoming 100 percent direct owner of Stakelogic BV. If approved by the Board, the closing date is expected to occur on January 30th, 2025.

The Petitioners also request that certain information in the Pleadings be maintained as confidential. The OEC has no objection to the relief requested, subject to conditions in its Answer and with great relief, I now put this matter before the Board for consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
Did you say that Sega Sammy -. May I have a motion,

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MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Regan moves that the Board grant the Petition for Approval of a Change in Control as described by the OCC. I further move that Petitioner's request for confidentiality be granted.

7 MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston 8 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

10 (AYES RESPOND)

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

12 (NO RESPONSE)

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

ATTORNEY COOK: Next before the Board is a Joint Petition seeking approval of a Dutch Foundation's acquisition of an indirect ownership interest in an iGaming manufacturer.

Manufacturer and is a company that provides interactive gaming to iGaming operators and certificate holders in Pennsylvania. Wazdan PA's current ownership flows through two intermediary companies to an individual by the name of Radoslaw Chyra.

For estate planning purposes, Mr.

Chyra has decided to establish a Dutch foundation, similar to a trust, called Wazdan Stichting, which will hold the vast majority of the ownership in Wazdan, PA. Mr. Chyra's role in Wazdan Stichting will be like that of a beneficiary of a trust and he will effectively remain Wazdan PA's 100 percent indirect beneficial owner. Additionally, two directors of the foundation have applied for licensure with the Board.

The OEC has no objection to the requested relief, subject to conditions outlined in its Answer and OEC has also requested that certain information in the Answer be maintained as confidential and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board grant the Petition for Approval of the Change as Control as described by the OCC. I further move that OEC's Request for Confidentiality is granted in part, as will be explained in the Board Order.

CHAIR: Second?

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody

seconds.

2 CHAIR: All in favor?

3 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

and equipment.

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

7 <u>ATTORNEY COOK:</u> Next is Hillyard,

Inc.'s Petition for Removal from the Prohibited

Gaming Service Provider List. Hillyard, Inc.

provides sales and services of janitorial supplies

On December 18, 2008, Hillyard was placed on the prohibited gaming service provider list after they failed to cure deficiencies in their application for licensure as a registered vendor. On September 12th, 2012, the Board issued an order granting request from Hillyard to be removed from the list subject to payment of past due investigative fees and a civil penalty to be due within 15 days of the Board's Order.

Hillyard failed to comply with the Board's Order and remained on the Prohibited Gaming Service Provider List. Hillyard is now again requesting removal from the list and is in full compliance with the Board's earlier Order. The OEC

has no objection to this request and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board grant

Hillyard Incorporation's Petition for Removal from
the Prohibited Gaming Service Provider List, as

described by the OCC.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

11 Hickernell seconds.

12 CHAIR: All in favor?

13 (AYES RESPOND)

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

15 (NO RESPONSE)

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

ATTORNEY COOK: Next is a request for removal from the Involuntary Exclusion List. On January 16, 2016, while at the Mohegan Sun, Pocono Downs, Christopher Gillispie and a friend were speaking with a female patron when another friend stole the patron's phone. Mr. Gillispie was charged and pled guilty to disorderly conduct. Consequently, the OEC filed a Petition to place Mr. Gillespie on the Exclusion List, and thereafter on August 16,

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2016, the Board placed him on the List. In the request before the Board, he requests removal from the List. He avers that he has no longer had any contact with the individuals who he was with that night and that he has now chosen a sober lifestyle and has been sober for three years.
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As it has been over eight years since Mr. Gillispie was placed on the Exclusion List. OEC has no objection to his request to be removed and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant

Christopher Gillispie's Petition for Removal from the

Involuntary Exclusion List as described by the OCC.

MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon seconds.

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

21 (AYES RESPOND)

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

23 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

25 <u>ATTORNEY COOK:</u> Next before the Board

is a Request for Removal from the Self-Exclusion
List. On September 9th, 2014, an individual with the initials M.T. placed himself on the List, choosing the lifetime self-exclusion option. On October 6, 2024, M.T. filed a Request for Removal from the List stating that he has not gamed in the Commonwealth since placing himself on the List, and further stating that he is committed to abstaining from gaming and only wishes to utilize other entertainment services offered at casinos.

M.T. included with his Petition, a Problem Gambling Assessment Verification Form, signed by a Certified Assessment Provider, confirming that an assessment of M.T. was performed and that problem gambling treatment was not recommended. The OEC filed an Answer stating that they had no objection to M.T.'s request.

Despite the fact that M.T. did violate his exclusion on four occasions between 2015 and 2017, OEC did not allow those exclusions - or those violations to stand in the way of their recommendation that he be removed. However, since over seven years has passed since the last violation, and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
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   May I have a motion, please?
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                   MR. DILLON: Madam Chair?
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   Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board grant M.T.'s
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   Petition for Removal from the Casino Self-Exclusion
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   List, as described by the OCC.
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                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
8
   seconds.
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                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
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   (AYES RESPOND)
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                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
12
   (NO RESPONSE)
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                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
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                   ATTORNEY COOK: The final Petition
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   before the Board today is a second Petition
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   Requesting Removal from the Self-Exclusion List.
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   November 15th, 2013, an individual with the initials
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   P.R. placed himself on the List, choosing the
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   lifetime self-exclusion option. On May 7, 2024, P.R.
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   filed a request to be removed from the List.
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                   P.R. included with his Petition, a
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   Problem Gambling Assessment Verification Form, signed
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   by a Certified Assessment Provider, confirming that
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   an assessment of P.R. was performed and problem
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   gambling treatment was not recommended. P.R. did not
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violate - or did violate on his exclusion on two occasions; once in 2015 and once in 2019, however, on both of those occasions, he did not game.
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The OEC filed an Answer stating it had no objection to P.R.'s request to be removed from the Self-Exclusion List, as now more than ten years has placed since his placement on the list and he's supplied all the required documentation, pursuant to the Board's regulations and this matter is now ripe for the Board's Consideration.

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

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board grant

P.R.'s Petition for Removal from the Casino Self
Exclusion List, as described by the OCC.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

19 (AYES RESPOND)

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20 CHAIR: All opposed?

21 (NO RESPONSE)

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

ATTORNEY COOK: Our next presenter with Withdrawals and Reports and Recommendations is Deputy Chief Counsel Chad Zimmermann.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Good morning,

Commissioners. The next matter before the Board
today pertains to several unopposed Petitions to

Withdraw Applications or Surrender the Credentials of
the following individuals and entities;

Olga Bajela, Jonathan Dalli, Ember

Sub, LLC, Escrow Newco Corp, Colin Henson, Apple Rose

Sub, LLC, Escrow Newco Corp, Colin Henson, Apple Rose Marasigan, Jeff Yass, Dylan Slaney, Christie Hill, Istvan Lagaert, Andrew Lenard, Liv Biesemans, Mark McLaughlin, Brian Carroll, Benjamin Parr, Joseph Heffernan, CEP V Co-Investment Limited Partnership, Clairvest Equity Partners V Limited Partnership, Clairvest Equity Partners V-A Limited Partnership.

The OEC has no objections to any of these Withdrawals or Surrenders. As a result, if the Board chooses to grant the request in every case, it would be doing so without prejudice to the requestor. These matters are all now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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

 $\underline{\text{MS. RALSTON:}} \quad \text{Commissioner Ralston}$  moves that the Board issue orders to approve the Withdrawals and Surrenders as described by the OCC.

MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon

seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

3 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion carries.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the Board for consideration are 11 Reports and Recommendations received from the Office of Hearings and Appeals. These Reports and Recommendations, along with their evidentiary record for each hearing, have been provided to the Board in advance of this meeting.

each have been notified that the Board is considering their matter today and that each would have the ability to come forward and briefly address the Board. If any of the persons who are the subject of one of these Reports and Recommendations would like to address the Board, I would ask them to come forward when their matter's called.

The first Report and Recommendation before the Board today pertains to Ta'Janea Bradley-Johnson. Ms. Bradley-Johnson holds a Non-Gaming Employee Registration and worked as a Games Presenter

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at Evolution US, LLC. On September 4, 2024, the OEC filed a complaint for emergency suspension of Ms.

Bradley-Johnson's registration after receiving notice that she was criminally charged with felony and misdemeanor offenses. As a result of these charges, the Board's Executive Director issued an emergency order suspending Ms. Bradley-Johnson's registration.
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A hearing in this matter was held in October 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing and provided testimony and documentary evidence. Ms. Bradley-Johnson appeared but chose not to testify. Evidence presented show that on August 18, 2024, while gaming at Live! Philadelphia Casino and Hotel, Ms. Bradley-Johnson took chips from a roulette table on ten separate occasions, totaling \$1,790. She then wagered with the chips and won approximately \$500.

Consequently, a Report and
Recommendation was issued recommending that the
emergency suspension of Ms. Bradley-Johnson's
Registration remain in effect and this matter is now
ripe for the Board's consideration.

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

 $\underline{\text{MS. RALSTON:}} \quad \text{Commissioner Ralston}$  moves that the Board adopt the Report and

Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and that the suspension of Ta'Janea Bradley-Johnson's Non-Gaming Employee Registration remain in effect.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner Hickernell seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

8 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

10 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next is the Report and Recommendation regarding Zane Rekun. Mr. Rekun holds a Gaming Employee Occupation Permit and works as a Table Games Dealer at Mount Airy Casino Resort. On August 27, 2024, the OEC filed a complaint for emergency suspension of Mr. Rekun's permit after receiving notice that he was charged with two felony offenses. As a result of these charges, the Board's Executive Director issued an emergency order suspending Mr. Rekun's permit.

A hearing in this matter was held in September 2024. OEC appeared for the hearing presenting testimony and documentary evidence. Mr. Rekun appeared and testified on his own behalf.

Evidence and testimony showed that Mr. Rekun, while heavily intoxicated, got into a physical argument and altercation with his girlfriend, now his wife, resulting in him being charged with felony strangulation, simple assault, harassment and felony aggravated assault.

Mr. Rekun testified that prior to this incident, he had never been charged or accused of any violence, that he was heavily intoxicated at the time of the incident and that he has sought treatment since. He further provided letters from the Table Games Instructor at Mount Airy who spoke to Mr. Rekun's personality and demeanor at work, as well as an unsigned letter from his wife stating that the incident occurred due to his intoxication and he was seeking help for his drinking.

Following the hearing, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that suspension of Mr. Rekun's Permit remain in effect, and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board adopt

the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and that the suspension of Zane Rekun's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit remain in effect.

 $\underline{\text{MR. DILLON:}} \quad \text{Commissioner Dillon}$  seconds.

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

8 (AYES RESPOND)

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CHAIR: All opposed?

10 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next is another Report and Recommendation stemming from an emergency suspension. Carmen Vincente holds a Gaming Employee Occupation Permit and worked as a Table Games Dealer at Mount Airy Casino Resort.

On August 27, 2024, the OEC filed a complaint seeking emergency suspension of Ms.

Vincente's permit after receiving notice that she was criminally charged with felony and misdemeanor drug offenses. As a result of these charges, the Board's Executive Director issued an emergency order suspending Ms. Vincente's Gaming Permit.

A hearing in this matter was held on

25 September 12, 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing

providing testimony and documentary evidence. Ms.

Vincente appeared and also testified on her own

behalf. Evidence presented at the hearing showed

that the charges stemmed from allegations that after

a search warrant was obtained and executed for Ms.

Vincente's home, the search found controlled

substances and drug paraphernalia, along with a large

substances and drug paraphernalia, along with a large sum of cash and firearms in her home.

Additionally, there were two children in the home and the controlled substances were accessible to them. Testimony further showed that Ms. Vincente was part of a group chat discussing the sale and usage of controlled substances. Ms. Vincente testified that there were two individuals who were in custody for these allegations and that she had nothing to do with the situation.

Consequently, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that the emergency suspension of Ms. Vincente's permit remain in effect, and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

Can I have a motion, please?

 $\underline{\text{MR. DILLON:}}$  Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board adopt the Report and

Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and that the suspension of Carmen Vincente's

Gaming Employee Occupation Permit remain in effect.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody

5 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

7 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: The next Report and Recommendation before the Board today pertains to Tyler Norwood. In March of 2022, Mr. Norwood was issued a Gaming Employee Occupation Permit to work as a Sportsbook Ticket Writer for American Wagering, Inc. at Harrah's Philadelphia Casino and Racetrack.

On April 22, 2024, the OEC filed a Complaint for revocation of Mr. Norwood's permit after receiving notice that while working at Harrah's, he had placed tips he received in his pocket instead of in the designated tip box to be shared with his fellow coworkers.

A hearing in this matter was held in August of 2024. OEC appeared at the hearing providing testimony, documentary and surveillance

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evidence. Mr. Norwood appeared, but declined to provide any testimony or evidence. Evidence presented showed that Mr. Norwood on two occasions received tip money, pretended to place the money in the tip box, and then later placed the money in his pocket. Mr. Norwood was terminated from American Wagering because of this incident.
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After hearing all the evidence presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Mr. Norwood's permit be revoked, and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

13 <u>CHAIR:</u> Any questions or comments? 14 May I have a motion, please?

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board adopt the

Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as

described by the OCC, and that Tyler Norwood's Gaming

Employee Occupation Permit be revoked.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan seconds.

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

23 (AYES RESPOND)

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24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Jasen Watson is the next Report and Recommendation before the Board today. In August 2017, Mr. Watson was issued a Gaming Employee Occupation Permit and worked as a Field Technician for Aristocrat Technologies. On October 24, 2023, the OEC filed a complaint to suspend Mr. Watson's permit after his failure to comply with his statement of conditions.

Specifically, at the time of the renewal of his permit, it was discovered that he had outstanding taxes owed to the IRS for the years 2016 through 2018. Mr. Watson was to provide documentation based upon a special condition in his statement of conditions within one year of his renewal showing that it satisfied all taxes owed, enter a payment plan for the outstanding payments or that he was having his wages garnished to satisfy the payment plan.

He was also required to produce a 2019 tax transcript showing whether he owed taxes for that year. Mr. Watson failed to comply with a special condition. A hearing in this matter was held February 2024. OEC appeared offering testimony and documentary evidence. Mr. Watson appeared and

testified on his own behalf. Following that hearing, based upon his testimony, the record was left open to allow Mr. Watson to provide additional information.

That second hearing was held in September 2024. However, he failed to appear and the record was then closed. A Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Mr. Watson's permit be suspended and this matter is now ready for the Board's consideration.

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

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and that Jasen Watson's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit be suspended.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

20 (AYES RESPOND)

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

22 (NO RESPONSE)

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

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Lok Khanal is the next Report and Recommendation before the Board

today. Mr. Khanal was issued a Gaming Employee
Occupation Permit in 2018 and was employed as a Table
Games Dealer at Rivers Casino Pittsburgh.

On May 12, 2023, Lok Khanal submitted his renewal application for his permit. On May 13, 2024, the OEC sent Mr. Khanal a notice recommending denial of his renewal application based upon his criminal record since initially being granted a permit.

A hearing in this matter was held August of 2024. OEC appeared and presented testimony and documentary evidence. Mr. Khanal appeared and testified on his own behalf. Evidence presented at the hearing show that in November 2018, during Mr. Khanal's initial application process, he amended his application to include a DUI offense which was a second offense. He again amended his application in January 2019 to include another DUI, which is a third offense which was a felony.

Mr. Khanal testified that he had not had any employment-related issues during his time as a Table Games Dealer. Consequently, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Mr. Khanal's renewal application be denied as his felony conviction renders him ineligible to hold a permit

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1 and this matter is now ready for the Board's
2 consideration.
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CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
May I have a motion, please?

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and Lok Khanal's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit Renewal Application be denied.

MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner

Hickernell seconds.

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

13 (AYES RESPOND)

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

15 (NO RESPONSE)

16 <u>CHAIR:</u> Motion carries.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Gregory Brown's matter is next before the Board. On April 10, 2024, the OEC filed a Petition to place Gregory Brown on the exclusion list. A hearing in this matter was held September of 2024, OEC appeared, presenting testimony, documentary and surveillance evidence. Although receiving proper notice, Mr. Brown failed to appear.

The evidence and testimony presented

at the hearing show that on April 16, 2022, Mr. Brown left a child, approximately 10 to 12 years old, unattended in a vehicle at Live! Philadelphia. Prior to him placing a bet, Mr. Brown was confronted by security, escorted to the parking lot and then permanently evicted. The child was left alone for approximately 10 minutes before Mr. Brown returned to the car.

Mr. Brown violated his eviction on several occasions by entering Live! Philadelphia.

Additionally, Mr. Brown had other incidents of bad conduct in the casinos and the Commonwealth, consisting of past posting bets at Rivers

Philadelphia, failing to pay for services at a restaurant at Live! Philadelphia and violating, on several occasions, his permanent evictions from Rivers Philadelphia.

After hearing all the evidence presented a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Gregory Brown be placed on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

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Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board adopt the
1
2
   Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as
3
   described by the OCC, and that Gregory Brown - you're
 4
   requesting that he remain on the Involuntary
 5
   Exclusion List?
 6
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Be placed on the
7
   Involuntary -.
8
                   MR. DERMODY:
                                 Be placed on the
9
   Involuntary Exclusion List. It's not quite what it
10
   says on this Order. All right. Is that clear?
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Yeah.
11
12
                   MR. DERMODY: Okay.
13
                   CHAIR: May I have a second, please?
14
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
15
   Hickernell seconds.
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
16
17
   (AYES RESPOND)
18
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
19
   (NO RESPONSE)
20
                   CHAIR:
                           The motion passes.
21
                   ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: The Report and
22
   Recommendation pertaining to Jack Mars in next before
23
   the Board today. On May 1st, 2024, the OEC filed a
24
   Petition to place Jack Mars on the Involuntary
25
   Exclusion List. OEC appeared presenting testimony
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and documentary evidence. Although receiving proper notice, Mr. Mars failed to appear.

at the hearing showed that on December 20th, 2023 and February 15, 2024, Mr. Mars engaged in collusion with both a table games dealer and table game supervisor at Rivers Casino Pittsburgh during play at Interblock's Roulette Gaming System. The table games dealer would deliberately spin the ball in the wrong direction, which resulted invalid spin. And then without surveillance review and in a manner that's inconsistent with Interblock roulette, the table game supervisor would approve the invalid spins, resulting in Mr. Mars and another patron winning money to which they were not entitled to receive.

Mr. Mars was charged with theftrelated felonies and misdemeanors. He was accepted
into the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition
Program and is required to complete community
service, pay restitution and also may not enter
Rivers Casino.

After hearing all the evidence presented, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending that Mr. Mars be placed on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List. This matter is now ready

for the Board's consideration.

2 <u>CHAIR:</u> Any questions or comments? 3 May I have a motion, please.

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair.

Commissioner Hickernell moves the Board adopt the

Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as
described by the OCC, and that Jack Mars be placed on
the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

9 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon 10 seconds.

11 CHAIR: All in favor?

12 (AYES RESPOND)

1

CHAIR: All opposed?

14 (NO RESPONSE)

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15 CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Anna Truskin is the next Report and Recommendation before the Board today. In August of 2022, the OEC filed a Petition to place Ms. Truskin on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List, alleging that on June 29, 2021, she left a 14-month old child unattended in a vehicle while she made a deposit at the Sportsbook at Valley Forge Casino Resort.

On March 22nd, 2023, the Board issued an Order placing Ms. Truskin on the list. In April

of 2024, Ms. Truskin filed her request to be removed from the list, saying that she understands that she made a terrible error in judgment. She's embarrassed by her actions and is concerned that her placement on the list will label her as a bad parent and could affect her professionally if she decides to return to teaching.

OEC filed Answer objecting to Ms.

Truskin's request. A hearing in this matter was held in August 2024, OEC appeared with documentary evidence pertaining to her original placement on the list. Ms. Truskin appeared and testified on her own behalf reiterating the reasons that she stated in her Petition requesting early removal, additionally stating that she has complied with the Board Order excluding her from casinos and even if removed from the list, she would not game at Valley Forge as they've permanently evicted her.

Following a hearing, a Report and Recommendation was issued recommending denial of Ms. Truskin's request for early removal from the list as she did not present evidence of extraordinary circumstances that would justify her removal from the list before at least the five years had run. This matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?
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MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board adopt the Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the OCC, and that Anna Truskin's Petition for Removal from the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List be denied and that she remain on the list.

9 MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
10 seconds.

11 CHAIR: All in favor?

12 (AYES RESPOND)

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CHAIR: All opposed?

14 (NO RESPONSE)

15 CHAIR: Motion carries.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: Next before the Board is a Report and Recommendation stemming from a request for early removal from the Involuntary Exclusion List. The underlying facts in this matter are that on October 22nd, 2022, Mr. Ojhakeem Miller left five children unattended in a vehicle at Presque Isle Downs and Casino while he gamed.

In January 2023, the OEC filed a Petition requesting that Mr. Miller be placed on the Board's list for his actions. Consequently, on May

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24, 2023, the Board issued an order placing Mr.
1
2
   Miller on the list. On June 13, 2024, Mr. Miller
3
   filed a Petition requesting removal from the list.
 4
   The OEC filed an Answer objecting to this request.
 5
                   The hearing of this matter was held in
 6
   September 2024. Mr. Miller failed to appear for the
7
   hearing. OEC appeared and moved to dismiss a
   Petition based on Mr. Miller's absence. A Report and
   Recommendation was issued recommending that Mr.
10
   Miller's Petition be dismissed or denied, and this
11
   matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.
12
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments? May
13
   I have a motion, please?
14
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
15
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board adopt the
16
   Report and Recommendation issued by the OHA as
17
   described by the OCC, and that Ojhakeem Miller's
   Petition for Removal from the Board's Involuntary
18
   Exclusion List be denied and that he remain on the
19
20
   list.
21
                   MS. REGAN:
                               Commissioner Regan
22
   seconds.
23
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
24
   (AYES RESPOND)
25
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
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(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY ZIMMERMANN: The Final Report and Recommendation before the Board today stems from a request for early removal from the Voluntary Self-Exclusion List by an individual with the initials B.N. By way of background, B.N. placed himself on the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion List on October 25th, 2023, choosing the lifetime exclusion period. In B.N.'s request for removal from the list, he claims that he, himself, did not sign up for the Exclusion List, but rather that a significant other at the time signed him up for the exclusion.

The OEC filed an Answer objecting to the request and thereafter, the Director of the OHA issued a Decision and Order denying the request.

B.N. appealed the decision and a hearing was held on October 8, 2024. B.N. failed to appear for the hearing. OEC appeared at the hearing and made an oral motion to dismiss B.N.'s Petition. Following the hearing, the Report and Recommendation was issued, recommending that B.N.'s Petition for Early Removal from the List be dismissed and or denied, and this matter is now ripe for the Board's consideration.

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CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
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2
   May I have a motion, please?
 3
                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commission
4
   Regan moves that the Board adopt the Report or
5
   Recommendation issued by the OHA, as described by the
   OCC, and that B.N.'s Petition for Removal from the
 6
7
   Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion List be denied and
   he remain on the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion
9
   List.
10
                   CHAIR: May I have a second?
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
11
12
   seconds.
13
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
14
   (AYES RESPOND)
15
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
16
   (NO RESPONSE)
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
17
18
                   ATTORNEY COOK: That concludes the
   matters of the OCC. Go birds.
19
20
                   CHAIR:
                           Thank you, Chad, Steve and
21
   Robert. We will now have the Bureau of Licensing
22
   matters presented by the Director of the Bureau of
23
   Licensing, Sean Hannon.
                             Sean?
24
                   MR. HANNON: Good morning, Madam
25
   Chair, Members of the Board. First licensing matter
```

for your consideration is the Renewal of a Sports 1 2 Wagering Certificate for Stadium Casino RE, LLC doing 3 business as Live! Hotel and Casino Philadelphia. The 4 Bureau of Licensing, BIE and Office of Sports 5 Wagering Operations has completed its review of the documents and the Bureau of Licensing has provided 6 7 you with a background investigation and suitability 8 report.

I have provided you with a draft order and ask that you consider the renewal of Category 2 licensee Stadium Casino RE, LLC's Sports Wagering Certificate.

13 ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC has no objection.

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

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board grant the Sports Wagering Certificate Renewal as described by the Bureau of Licensing.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan seconds.

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

24 (AYES RESPOND)

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CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE)

2 CHAIR: Motion passes.

MR. HANNON: The next licensing matter for consideration is the approval of an Interactive Gaming and Sports Wagering Operator Licenses for Hillside Pennsylvania, LLC, doing business as Bet365. Formed in Delaware on November 28, 2022, Hillside's principal place of business is in Marlton, New Jersey. The company operates an interactive gaming and sports betting platform for use in the Commonwealth.

Hillside received interim

authorization on May 15, 2024. The BIE has completed

its investigation and the Bureau of Licensing has

provided you with a background investigation and

suitability report and the approval is ready for your

consideration.

I have provided you with draft orders and ask that you first consider the order to approve Hillside Pennsylvania for an Interactive Gaming Operator License.

ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel has no objection.

24 <u>CHAIR:</u> Any questions or comments? 25 May I have a motion, please?

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1
                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner
2
   Regan moves that the Board grant the Interactive
3
   Gaming Operator License as described by the Bureau of
 4
   Licensing.
 5
                   MS. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
   Hickernell seconds.
 6
7
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
8
   (AYES RESPOND)
9
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
10
   (NO RESPONSE)
11
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
12
                   MR. HANNON: Next is consideration of
13
   Hillside Pennsylvania for a Sports Wagering Operator
14
   License.
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
15
16
   has no objections.
17
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
18
   May I have a motion, please?
19
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
20
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant
21
   the Sports Wagering Operator License, as described by
   the Bureau of Licensing.
22
23
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
24
   seconds.
25
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
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1 (AYES RESPOND)

2 CHAIR: All opposed?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

MR. HANNON: In addition, we have consideration of five Video Gaming Terminal Establishment License Renewals for CHR Corp, doing business as, Rutters. The Rutter's locations being presented for renewal are Stores 36, 37, 56, 60 and 77.

The BIE has completed its investigation and the Bureau of Licensing as provided you with a background investigation and suitability report for each. I have provided you with draft orders and ask the Board first consider the order to renew the Video Gaming Terminal Establishment License for Rutter's Store Number 36, located at 3050 Heidelberg Road in York Springs.

ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel has no objection.

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

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner

Dillon moves that the Board grant the Video Gaming

Terminal Establishment License Renewal as described

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1 by the Bureau of Licensing.
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2 MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody

3 seconds.

4 CHAIR: All in favor?

5 (AYES RESPOND)

6 CHAIR: All opposed?

7 (NO RESPONSE)

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

9 MR. HANNON: Next is the order to

10 renew the license for Rutter's Store Number 37,

11 located at 27335 Route 75 Northern Mifflintown.

12 ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel

13 has no objection.

14 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

15 May I have a motion, please?

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

17 Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board grant the

18 | Video Gaming Terminal Establishment License Renewal

19 as described by the Bureau of Licensing.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan

21 seconds.

22 CHAIR: All in favor?

23 (AYES RESPOND)

24 CHAIR: All opposed?

25 (NO RESPONSE)

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CHAIR: Motion carries.
1
2
                   MR. HANNON: Next is the order to
3
   renew the license for Rutter's Store Number 56,
 4
   located at 368 Lewisberry Road, New Cumberland.
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
 5
6
   has no objection.
7
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
   May I have a motion, please?
9
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
10
   that the Board grant the Video Gaming Terminal
   Establishment License Renewal as described by the
11
12
   Bureau of Licensing.
13
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
   seconds.
14
15
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
16
   (AYES RESPOND)
17
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
18
   (NO RESPONSE)
19
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
20
                   MR. HANNON: Also the order to renew
21
   the license for Rutter's Store Number 60, located at
   4425 West Market Street in York.
22
23
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
24
   has no objection.
```

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

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53
   May I have a motion, please?
1
2
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
3
   moves that the Board grant the Video Gaming Terminal
 4
   Establishment License Renewal as described by the
5
   Bureau of Licensing.
 6
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
7
   Hickernell seconds.
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
9
   (AYES RESPOND)
10
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
11
   (NO RESPONSE)
12
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
13
                   MR. HANNON: And finally, the order to
   renew the license for Rutter's Store Number 77,
14
15
   located at 77 Benvenue Road in Duncannon.
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
16
   has no objection.
17
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 grant the Video Gaming
   Terminal Establishment License Renewal as described
22
23
   by the Bureau of Licensing.
24
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
25
   Hickernell seconds.
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54
1
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
2
   (AYES RESPOND)
 3
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
 4
   (NO RESPONSE)
 5
                           The motion passes.
                   CHAIR:
                   MR. HANNON: Next, there are
 6
7
   Principal, Key Employee and Qualifier Licenses.
   Bureau of Licensing provided you with a proposed
   order for six Principals, four Key Employees and one
10
   Oualifier. I ask that the Board consider the order
11
   approving these licenses.
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
12
13
   has no objection.
14
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
15
   May I have a motion, please?
16
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
17
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board grant
18
   the Principal, Key Employee and Qualifier Licenses as
19
   described by the Bureau of Licensing.
20
                   MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon
21
   seconds.
22
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
23
   (AYES RESPOND)
24
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
```

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted. 1 2 MR. HANNON: There are also Principal 3 and Key Employee Temporary Credentials. The Bureau 4 of Licensing provided you with an order regarding the 5 issuance of Temporary Credentials for five Principals and 17 Key Employees. I ask that the Board consider 6 7 the order approving these credentials. 8 ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel 9 has no objection. 10 CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have motion, please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner

Dillon moves that the Board grant the Temporary

Principal and Key Employee Credentials, as described

by the Bureau of Licensing.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody seconds.

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

19 (AYES RESPOND)

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

21 (NO RESPONSE)

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

MR. HANNON: Additionally for your consideration are Gaming Employee Permits and NonGaming Employee Registrations. The Bureau of

```
Licensing has provided you with a list of 489
1
2
   individuals, to whom the Bureau's granted Temporary
3
   or Full Occupation Permits, and 191 individuals to
 4
   whom the Bureau's granted registrations under the
5
   authority delegated to the Bureau of Licensing.
 6
                   I ask that the Board consider a motion
7
   approving the order.
8
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
9
   has no objection.
10
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
11
   May I have motion, please?
12
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
13
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
14
   Applications for Gaming Employee Occupation Permits
15
   and Non-Gaming Employee Registrations, as described
16
   by the Bureau of Licensing.
17
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan
18
   seconds.
```

CHAIR: All in favor?

20 (AYES RESPOND)

21 CHAIR: All opposed?

22 (NO RESPONSE)

24

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

MR. HANNON: Next, there's a

25 recommendation of denial for one Gaming, three Non-

Ι

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Gaming Applicants and one Principal Applicant.
1
2
   Bureau of Licensing has provided you with the order
3
   addressing the applicants, who the OEC has
 4
   recommended for denial. I ask that the Board
5
   consider the order approving these denials.
 6
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: The OEC continues to
7
   request denial in each matter.
8
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
9
   May I have motion, please?
10
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
11
   that the Board deny the Gaming and Non-Gaming and
12
   Principal Employee Applications, as described by the
13
   Bureau of Licensing.
14
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
15
   seconds.
16
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
17
   (AYES RESPOND)
18
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
19
   (NO RESPONSE)
20
                   CHAIR: Motions' adopted.
21
                                The next matter for
                   MR. HANNON:
22
   consideration is Withdrawal Requests.
                                           In each case,
23
   the license, permit or registration is no longer
24
   required. For today's meeting, I have provided the
```

Board with 26 Gaming and 18 Non-Gaming Applicants.

1 ask that the Board consider the order approving these 2 withdrawals.

ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel has no objection.

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

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board grant the Withdrawal of the Gaming and Non-Gaming Employee Applications as described by the Bureau of Licensing.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody seconds.

13 CHAIR: All in favor?

14 (AYES RESPOND)

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

16 (NO RESPONSE)

17 CHAIR: The motion carries.

MR. HANNON: In addition, we have an order to renew the Gaming Service Provider

Certification for GeoComply Solutions Incorporated, doing business as, GeoComply, as well as initially certify Synergy Glass and Door Services, LLC. I have

provided you with a draft order and ask the Board

24 consider the Order certifying these companies.

ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel

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has no objection.
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                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
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   May I have motion, please?
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                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
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   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
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   Gaming Service Provider Certifications as described
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   by the Bureau of Licensing.
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                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
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   Hickernell seconds.
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
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   (AYES RESPOND)
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                   CHAIR: All opposed?
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   (NO RESPONSE)
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                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
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                   MR. HANNON: Finally for your
   consideration are Gaming Service Provider
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   Registrations. The Bureau of Licensing provided you
   with an order and an attached list of eight
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   Registered Gaming Service Provider Applicants. I ask
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   that the Board consider the order registering these
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   Gaming Service Providers.
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                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Enforcement Counsel
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   has no objection.
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                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
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May I have motion, please?

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MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
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   that the Board approve the Gaming Service Provider
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   Registrations as described by the Bureau of
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   Licensing.
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                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
   seconds.
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                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
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   (AYES RESPOND)
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                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
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   (NO RESPONSE)
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                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
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                   MR. HANNON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
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                           Thank you, Sean. Next is the
                   CHAIR:
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   OEC, Cyrus Pitre. Cyrus?
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                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Good morning, Madam
   Chair. Members of the Board, the OEC will present 15
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   matters today for the Board's consideration in which
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   we will request the approval of three Consent
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   Agreements, four Revocations, one Suspension and
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   seven Involuntary Exclusions.
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                   The next matter on the agenda for the
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   Board's consideration is a Consent Agreement between
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   the OEC and Category 4 Licensee Stadium Casino
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   Westmoreland RE, LLC, doing business as, Live! Casino
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   Pittsburgh. The matter will be presented by
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- 1 Assistant Enforcement Counsel Juan Sanchez.
- 2 Representatives for Live! Pittsburgh are present.
- 3 And at this time I request that those individuals
- 4 please introduce themselves for the record and that
- 5 all non-attorney witnesses please stand and be sworn.
- ATTORNEY DIEHL: Yes, I'm Tom Diehl,
- 7 Vice President of Legal for Stadium Casino
- 8 Westmoreland RE, LLC. And I'll let the gentleman
- 9 next to me go ahead and introduce himself.
- MR. SULLIVAN: Sean Sullivan,
- 11 Executive Vice President and General Manager of Live!
- 12 Casino Pittsburgh.
- MR. DEAN: Kirk Dean, the Risk and
- 14 | Safety Manager at Live! Casino Pittsburgh.
- MR. COLSTON: Brent Colston, Vice
- 16 President of Gaming Operations, Live! Casino
- 17 | Pittsburgh.
- 18 ATTORNEY DIEHL: And although they're
- 19 not necessarily going to make a separate
- 20 presentation, they're going to be available for
- 21 answering questions and therefore, as indicated, it
- 22 would be appropriate to go ahead and swear them in at
- 23 this point.
- 24 CHAIR: I would also ask them to spell
- 25 their names for the Court Reporter.

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ATTORNEY DIEHL: I will start with, D-
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   I-E-H-L, for last name, Diehl.
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                   MR. SULLIVAN: Sean, S-E-A-N,
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   Sullivan, S-U-L-L-I-V-A-N.
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                   MR. DEAN: Kirk Dean, K-I-R-K,
 6
   D-E-A-N.
7
                   MR. COLSTON: B-R-E-N-T,
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   C-O-L-S-T-O-N.
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                   CHAIR: Now, gentlemen, would you
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   stand and be sworn in by the Court Reporter, please?
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                   COURT REPORTER: Can you raise your
12
   right hands? Thank you.
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   (WHEREUPON, WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE)
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                   ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Chair Smyler,
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   Members of the Board, Juan Sanchez,
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18
   S-A-N-C-H-E-Z, Assistant Enforcement Counsel with the
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   OEC. This Consent Agreement involves Live! Casino
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   Pittsburgh's use of revoked slot machine software on
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   the casino gaming floor.
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                   On May 9, 2022, the Board's Bureau of
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   Gaming Laboratory Operations issued a Memorandum to
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   each slot machine licensee, which revoked and
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   replaced gaming system software as well as provided
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for a period of 180 days to complete this transition. After the tolling of the 180-day compliance period, the Bureau of Casino Compliance confirmed with Live! Casino Pittsburgh staff that the revoked software was still active in 11 slot machines, in service on Live! Casinos Pittsburgh's gaming floor for 36 hours and 18 minutes in violation of the Board's regulations.

The OEC and Live! Casino Pittsburgh respectfully requests that the Board approve the Consent Agreement and Stipulations of Settlement, which requires Live! Casino Pittsburgh to pay a civil penalty of \$7,500, as well as a \$2,500 administrative fee for costs incurred by the Board staff in connection with this matter.

If you have any questions, we would be happy to address them at this time.

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

Attorney Sanchez's overview of the facts and also reviewed the Consent Agreement prior to coming in here. And it accurately, both accurately reflect the facts as we understand them.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments from
the Board?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Oh, I apologize. I was also going to introduce - I just want to introduce the facts.

ATTORNEY DIEHL: Yeah, 100 percent, and hopefully I can anticipate several of those. As you know, whenever we review, whenever we receive a Consent Agreement, we, number one, want to review what happened, of course. And we also want to put together, you know, what remediation has already taken place before we start our review and, if necessary, if we can improve that.

And we did that in this case. And it reminded me of a podcast I was listening to recently on Ancient Rome from a professor at the University of Wisconsin and he was presented with the question of why it was that ancient Greece within its peak of Alexander the Great, fragmented within 40 to 50 years. Whereas, in contrast, the Roman Empire from its peak, maybe the second century, continued for multiple centuries thereafter, depending whether you conclude Byzantium and 4 to 12 centuries afterwards.

But at any rate, his answer is what I

thought applied here. He said Rome was much better at putting in place policies and procedures to ensure their success, no matter who the person was at the helm. So, when we reviewed here, we looked at our policies and procedures that were in place for reviewing revocation notices. And that's what we're discussing here at issue and ours, we found out, was much more event driven.

And by that I mean, whenever the Bureau of Gaming Lab Operations would send out a notice, it would trigger a response where our team would look at the floor, which would trigger ordering software, which would trigger receiving the software, which would trigger making the change, but if anything along that chain broke, there wasn't a parallel process or procedure to make sure that it was revisited.

So in this case, what immediately took place, and this was something that took place in 2022, our operator recognized, hey, this had fallen through the cracks within the 180 days to review it. At some point that chain had broken and put in place a policy and procedure where he would review the notices. Like, literally, it was a physical type of application where it was on his desk and he would

review of this.

CHAIR: Who's the he?

ATTORNEY DIEHL: In this case it would be Josh Willett. He was the actual Gaming Service Manager. He's not here with us today, but he's something that we reviewed and was part of this process of reviewing and helped us understand what his process was and what led to the events that we're discussing here today.

And then now that we have additional eyes on that as well, we said, hey, we like that, but we also can think we can make it even better still, because it still would have a situation where you had the process and had somebody that was reviewing it.

We want multiple eyes on it. We want redundancy that's built into the process.

So, then we then take it and then say in addition that why don't you put those, the notices on a spreadsheet? And once you put those spreadsheets on something that's going to be reviewed on a weekly basis and you have the gentleman at the end of the table here, he's our VP of Gaming Operations, he has a weekly slots review where that's being added to it as well, so that you would have the list. And again, these take place - there's usually

several of these notices per month where you have a cascading effect, where new ones come on and other ones fall off, depending upon whenever the software is upgraded.

It's been described to me by analogy as like whenever you would update Windows 11, when something has to be renewed and has to be refreshed. By definition, once it's been renewed and updated, the other one falls off, which is what took place in this situation.

So, again, what we found out, kind of like a lesson from ancient Rome, you want to make sure your policies and procedures are in place so that even if one person falls off and doesn't see it, we have a system that runs in parallel that tracks that and that's essentially what we took place here.

In this instance, the gentleman that we referred to earlier was coached and brought - and said, hey, you know, thanks for making sure to let us know, letting us know what you've done in this instance, but he was advised that this is not protocol and we might want to bring these things to our attention earlier. We think he responded well.

We also think it's also an institute.

- it's an organizational responsibility to make sure

our people succeed, and we have policies in place to assist them. And since 2022, I guess, when this took place, November was the deadline, we have not had a reoccurrence. So, that's something that shows that we're at least going in the right direction. And with that, and before your questions, I think we also have a few words from our General Manager.

MR. SULLIVAN: I would just simply add that we take these very serious. We're embarrassed that we're here. We don't want you to recognize us. So, hopefully we're infrequent enough. But I think Tom touched on a couple of points. We did counsel the person, Josh, who's our slot tech manager, on the failure of this, in a sense, disciplined him.

We have set up additional procedures as Tom mentioned. We haven't seen a reoccurrence in close to two and-a-half, three years. So, something might be working. Could also say we're lucky, but these things happen a lot. They happen four or five times a month. So, our track record looks pretty good. Brent has stepped up his effort in weekly meetings, one-on-ones with Josh to make sure there's nothing outstanding.

So, I think we're bolstered up and ready. Never say never, but I think we've done a

good job, and I just wanted to express that we do take these serious. We do not like being here as much as we love to see faces and friends, but I would just simply conclude in that. And Kirk is our Compliance Manager, and of course he takes these even more serious and understands the complications if we're here frequently. So, love the Rome analogy and what he said.

ATTORNEY DIEHL: If you have any other questions, we're certainly available.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments from the Board?

MR. DILLON: Yes. I like to add. How often do you guys get these updates? How often do they come through? You said four or five times a month?

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, I mean, it's and Cyrus and others can attest to that. It's
frequent. And we do get them and this one was an
interesting curveball. They're usually 90 days
notification. This one was 180. So, I think Josh
got kind of lazy and it drifted off his plate
somehow, is at least that's what he says, but the
truth of the matter is he dropped the ball and he's
held accountable for that. But this one was a longer

lead time, and I think it got him out of his cycle and dropped it. And no excuses, I mean, we messed it up.

 $\underline{\text{MR. DILLON:}}$  How many slot machines do you have on the floor?

MR. SULLIVAN: So we're a category four, 750 machines, and this particular item is related to 11 machines. So, it's not a massive issue. And it's an upgrade, I believe so. Upgrades; you know, I get upgrades for my vehicles all the time. It doesn't mean the brakes are going to fall off and I'm going to get in a wreck. It's an upgrade and it happens. So, I don't think the Commonwealth, the constituents, the customers were affected in any negative way, but clearly, when we get these notices, we want to be responsive.

MR. DILLON: So, out of 750, you missed 11 machines?

MR. SULLIVAN: Yes. If it was one machine, it's still the point of the matter, and we take it seriously. And, you know, but 11 machines in this particular one, sometimes it might be more, sometimes it might be less. And the way Tom described it, the manufacturer sends a notification. Gaming looks it over, they approve, and correct me if

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I'm wrong, they approve the upgrade, and then they give it to us.
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We order the parts for the upgrade.

So, there is a process. There's a couple of failure points if you're not on your game. So we're stepping up our game and we're going to make sure there is redundancy and that we don't come back here with this.

CHAIR: Anything else, Commissioner

10 Dillon?

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MR. DILLON: No. I'm good. Thanks.

12 CHAIR: Any other questions or

13 comments?

14 Okay.

May I have a motion, please?

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

17 Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve

18 the Consent Agreement between the OEC and Stadium

19 Casino Westmoreland, RE, LLC, doing business as,

20 Live! Casino Pittsburgh, as described by the OEC.

21 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon

22 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

24 (AYES RESPOND)

25 CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE)

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The motion's adopted. CHAIR:

> MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you.

CHAIR: Thank you, gentlemen. Thank you for the steps you've taken to address the situation.

MR. SULLIVAN: Hope not to see you soon.

ATTORNEY PITRE: Next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is a Consent Agreement between the OEC and Interactive Gaming Operator BetMGM. The matter will be presented by Senior Enforcement Counsel John Crohe.

15 time I would request that those individuals please introduce themselves for the record and that all non-16 attorney witnesses please stand and be sworn.

Representatives for BetMGM are present and at this

MS. BRENNAN: Hello, my name is Sarah Brennan, Senior Director of Compliance.

MS. SACERDOTE: Hi, my name is Alana Sacerdote, Responsible Gambling Manager.

ATTORNEY CAPUTI: Hello, my name is Joseph Caputi. I'm Senior Legal Counsel for the Regulatory team.

CHAIR: And would you also spell your

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names for the court reporter? And then all non-
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   attorney witnesses please stand and be sworn.
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                   MS. BRENNAN: Yes. Sarah, S-A-R-A-H,
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   Brennan, B-R-E-N-N-A-N.
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                   MS. SACERDOTE: Alana, A-L-A-N-A,
6
   Sacerdote, S-A-C-E-R-D-O-T-E.
                   CHAIR: Thank you for spelling that.
8
                   ATTORNEY CAPUTI: Joseph Caputi,
9
   J-O-S-E-P-H, C-A-P-U-T-I.
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                   CHAIR: And non-attorney witnesses,
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   please stand and be sworn.
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13
        (WHEREUPON, WITNESSES SWORN EN MASSE.)
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                   CHAIR: OEC, you may proceed.
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                   ATTORNEY CROHE: Thank you. Good
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   morning, Chair, Members of the Board, John Crohe,
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   C-R-O-H-E, Senior Enforcement Counsel for the OEC.
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   This matter involves Interactive Gaming Self-
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   Exclusion Violations.
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                   In March 2021, BetMGM completed an
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   audit which revealed that 148 accounts had wagering
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   activity by individuals on the Interactive Self-
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   Exclusion List. Of these accounts, a total of
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   $252,035.55 was deposited by self-excluded
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individuals, and a total of \$82,460.30 was withdrawn by self-excluded individuals for a total difference of \$169,575.25 retained by BetMGM.

Then on April 9th, 2021, BetMGM self-reported that a self-excluded individual was able to access their account and deposit a total of \$580.

Next, on July 22nd, 2022, BetMGM self-reported that a self-excluded individual who was able to gain access to their account, deposit a total of \$700 and withdrew \$100, a total difference of \$600 retained by BetMGM.

Finally, on July 10th, 2023, two additional self-excluded accounts had wagering activity while individuals were on the Interactive Gaming Self-Exclusion List. Of these accounts, a total of \$183,065.45 was deposited by self-excluded individuals and \$92,916.59 was withdrawn by self-excluded individuals, a difference of \$90,148.86 retained by BetMGM.

In total, these reviews revealed that \$436,381 was deposited by self-excluded individuals and \$175,476.89 was withdrawn by individuals on the Interactive Self-Exclusion List, a difference of \$260,904.11 which was retained by BetMGM.

The OEC and BetMGM, LLC respectfully

request that the Board approve the Consent Agreement and Stipulations of Settlement and that BetMGM, LLC pay a civil penalty of \$260,905, as well as a \$2,500 administrative fee for costs incurred by Board staff in connection with investigations into this matter. And finally, that BETMGM make a donation to the Pennsylvania Council on Problem Gambling in the amount of \$20,000.

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

MS. BRENNAN: Yes, thank you. We appreciate the Commission, the Board and the OEC working with us to reach an agreement and a settlement agreement and we agree with the terms. We've worked closely through these issues with the Board, first by self-reporting when they were identified and then carefully through the remediation measures that were implemented as a result.

BetMGM is committed to the protection of patrons in the Commonwealth and regrets and apologizes that these four issues have occurred. As indicated by the OEC, each was self-reported by BetMGM upon self-audit. Once these individuals were identified as having had access to our platform, we immediately closed their accounts and then did

internal investigations to understand how each instance occurred.

The first instance and obviously the most significant with the largest number of individuals having had access to the platform was addressed immediately as it was understood that this issue occurred because the PII of the individuals was not being effectively consumed by our platform.

We address this issue by instating a process of manual review for individuals as soon as we get the data from the Board, we do a line-by-line manual review of each data set to ensure that there are no false positives, that there are accurate identifying details per individual. Then we run the information through our back office system and we run the final number of individuals who's been uploaded against the final report readout of the individuals who have actually been updated to ensure that the numbers match. This is a manual review that is conducted by our RG team, led by Alana.

I would also like to indicate that obviously the first issue occurred in 2021. Our staff at the time during startup, nature of our business and the industry, was very small. At this time we have nine individuals committed to this

process within the Compliance Department at BetMGM.

At the time of this instance, the Compliance Department at BetMGM was roughly nine people in total. Now there's nine committed just to RG, and the department on the whole is numbers nearly 100.

Our commitment to compliance and responsible gambling expands past just manual processes, but also has been committed to increasing training of all of our staff, enhancements in our technology and the way in which our back office upload system for self-excluded patrons has been configured, manual reviews, audit by our internal audit team and oversight and additional training by our Director of Responsible Gambling, our Manager of Responsible Gambling and in partnership with EPIC, who trains our entire business team on the importance of RG across all streams.

The second, third and fourth instances of violation were smaller in nature. Three individuals were able to gain access through manual errors by an individual who mis-entered the PII of the patrons. One was inadvertently not removed after having been removed from the Board's list and then reinstated to the Board's list. And the fourth was a

technological misconfiguration that despite strenuous testing could not be replicated by our technical teams.

We have not had any further instances of the same issues since these have occurred and the remediation measures we've put into place have been effective. We're happy to answer any additional questions you have. But again, I would like to thank you all, thank the Board, OEC and affirm our commitment to RG by BetMGM.

CHAIR: Thank you. Any questions or comments from the Board? Actually, Commissioner Manzano-Díaz, do you have any questions?

 $\underline{\text{MS. MANZANO-D\'IAZ:}} \quad \text{No, not at this}$  time. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR: Okay.

Thank you. Any other Commissioners have any questions or comments?

MR. DILLON: Just one.

CHAIR: Commissioner Dillon?

MR. DILLON: Just one. The one it

looks like the last persons you had two people at the end there that were your last two that were

discovered, they deposited \$183,000. Is that what I

25 was told?

ATTORNEY CAPUTI: That was the combined deposit between the two individuals, yes.

MR. DILLON: I mean who's got that kind of money to deposit, 183,000? Does that raise a red flag? Like if somebody puts that big deposit into an account, doesn't that, like don't somebody gotta' (sic) look at that?

MS. BRENNAN: We do evaluate players for any inconsistency in play behavior. We have anti-money laundering team, but we have players of all value who wager on our platform. And so you know, you have recreational players, you have players who deposit more than others.

So based only on deposit amount, it wouldn't necessarily raise a flag if there weren't other issues that would have been flagged by fraud risk or AML. We are happy to offer a more private conversation about the types of risk and fraud flags that may be raised by a patron, but it isn't information that we would share in a public meeting.

MR. DILLON: Thank you.

CHAIR: And I only have one question. You said, I think it was the second time, it was a human error?

MS. BRENNAN: Yes, ma'am.

CHAIR: So, what do you do about that? How do you address that?

MS. BRENAN: That's a challenging one because as you know, humans make mistakes. So when the issue was identified and the individual who had made the mistake was forthcoming in the fact that they had identified how it happened and that it was a miss on their part, we went over the process with them again, exactly how it works. And that individual has not made the same mistake twice.

It's challenging, you know, BetMGM is an operator that operates in 29 states and there's 29 different ways that we consume self-exclusion lists. And so, unfortunately, at this point in time in the industry, much of it is still manual. And anytime you have manual intervention, you will have mistakes.

CHAIR: Okay.

Thank you. Any other questions or comments? May I have a motion, please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board approve the Consent Agreement between the OEC and BetMGM, as described by the OEC.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody seconds.

81 CHAIR: All in favor? 1 2 (AYES RESPOND) 3 CHAIR: All opposed? 4 (NO RESPONSE) 5 CHAIR: Motion's adopted. 6 MS. BRENNAN: Thank you. CHAIR: Thank you very much. 8 ATTORNEY PITRE: The next matter on 9 the agenda for the Board's consideration is a Consent 10 Agreement between the OEC and Principal Entity 11 Licensee, Rush Street Gaming, LLC and Principal 12 Licensee, Marc Arndt. 13 The matter will be presented by Senior 14 Enforcement Counsel Ashley Gabrielle, representatives 15 for Rush Street Gaming, LLC and Mr. Arndt - Mr. Arndt 16 is present, okay. And at this time, I request that 17 those individuals please introduce themselves for the 18 record, and that all non-attorney witnesses please stand and be sworn. 19 20 MR. ARNDT: Marc Arndt, Rush Street 21 Gaming CFO, M-A-R-C, A-R-N-D-T. 22 ATTORNEY DONNELLY: Good morning, John 23 Donnelly, Counsel on behalf of Rush Street, and my 24 name is D-O-N-N-E-L-L-Y.

CHAIR: Mr. Arndt, would you stand to

be sworn, please?

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MARC ARNDT,

CALLED AS A WITNESS IN THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING, AND HAVING FIRST BEEN DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AND SAID AS FOLLOWS:

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CHAIR: OEC, you may proceed.

ATTORNEY GABRIELLE: Thank you. Good morning, Chair and Commissioners, Ashley Gabrielle, G-A-B-R-I-E-L-L-E, Senior Enforcement Counsel for the OEC.

This proposed Consent Agreement involves Principal Entity Licensee Rush Street

Gaming, LLC, which I will refer to as RSG. RSG performs management consulting services for Rivers

Casino Pittsburgh and Rivers Casino Philadelphia and for Sports Wagering Operator and Interactive Gaming

Operator Licensee Rush Street Interactive PA, LLC.

The Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act and the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's regulations require an application for the renewal of a principal license to be submitted at least 180 days prior to the expiration of a license.

RSG failed to timely submit the principal license

renewal application for Mark Arndt to the Board's Bureau of Licensing.

Mr. Arndt has been continuously
licensed by the Board as a Principal since 2018 and
employed by RSG as Chief Financial Officer since May
2022. The due date for the submission of Mr. Arndt's
Principal license renewal application was April 30,
2023, which is 180 days before his license expiration
date of October 30th, 2023. Mr. Arndt's renewal
Principal License Application was ultimately
submitted to the Bureau of Licensing on October 31,
2023, which is 184 days late.

According to RSG, the application was filed late due to staffing changes. As a result, a new Licensing Coordinator has been appointed, who has created a new process to track renewal license applications. The OEC requests that the Board approve this Consent Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement. The terms of the Consent Agreement include a provision that RSG shall reinforce its existing policies and provide training and guidance to its employees, which will minimize the opportunity for a similar incident to occur in the future.

That RSG shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$13,800, and \$2,500 for the costs

incurred by the OEC, the BIE and other related staff in connection with this matter within five days of the Board's approval. If there are any questions, we are happy to address them at this time.

CHAIR: Rush Street, would you like to address the Board?

ATTORNEY DONNELLY: Yes. Thank you. Just to point out this is it's happened one time and almost close, getting close to almost 20 years coming up pretty soon. So it was just a human error. The person who was responsible for tracking this is no longer with us. New person's in who's very talented and we recognize that principals have responsibility too. So, we're not trying to dodge that, but sometimes oversights occur and that's what happened here.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments from the Board?

Okay.

I do have a question. You said oversights occur if somebody new is in. So, were there any processes or procedures or anything that were modified to make sure it didn't happen again?

ATTORNEY DONNELLY: Yes, there's the three, actually four things. There's now a master

calendar that's being kept by the young lady who does it now. And she's a veteran employee, had been Rush Street earlier on, very talented. Left and then came back. So, I've got a lot of faith in her and so does the company. She also instituted a tracking system. She deals now directly with property compliance who does get notices from the staff. And she deals with me too, who gets notices.

So, we've got four fail-safes in place. Hopefully this will not happen again.

11 CHAIR: Had you received notice of this?

ATTORNEY DONNELLY: Did I?

CHAIR: Yes.

ATTORNEY DONNELLY: Yeah, I receive a notice. Sean sends me a big notice all the time with all the dates and I send it up to Chicago. What I didn't do prior to that time was I didn't then calendar it, and I do now calendar it. So, my fault too.

CHAIR: Okay.

Thank you. Any other questions or comments? May I have a motion, please?

MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,

25 Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the

Consent Agreement between the OEC and the Rush Street
Gaming, LLC and Marc Arndt, as described by the OEC.

MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan

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CHAIR: All in favor?

6 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

(NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

MR. ARNDT: Thank you.

CHAIR: Thank you.

ATTORNEY PITRE: The next five matters on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which the OEC filed complaints seeking the suspension or revocation of permits or registrations previously issued by the Board. The Complaint in each matter has been filed with the Board's OHA and properly served upon the individual named in each complaint. The individual named in each complaint failed to respond within 30 days as required by Board regulation.

As a result, the OEC filed a request for Default Judgement in each instance and properly served the same upon each respondent. Therefore, all facts in each complaint are deemed admitted. All

filed documents have been provided to the Board and the matters are presently right for the Board's consideration.

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

ATTORNEY ROBERTS: Good morning,

Chair, Members of the Board. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration - I apologize.

Andrea Roberts, R-O-B-E-R-T-S, Assistant Enforcement Counsel. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the revocation of the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit issued to Naim Littles.

Mr. Littles was previously employed as a security officer at Live! Casino and Hotel Philadelphia. While working at Live!'s 10th Street checkpoint, Mr. Littles permitted two underage individuals to enter the gaming floor upon payment of \$40, Live! terminated Mr. Little's employment as a result of this incident, Mr. Littles was criminally charged for his actions.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation

Permit issued to Naim Littles.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please.

MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner Regan moves that the Board approve the revocation of Naim Little's Gaming Employee Occupation permit for the conduct described by the OEC.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

9 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

11 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY MILLER: Good morning, Chair Smyler, Members of the Board. Dustin Miller on behalf of the OEC. M-I-L-E-R. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the suspension of the Gaming Level Two Employee Occupation Permit issued to Jawan Hunter. Mr. Hunter was previously employed as a sportsbook supervisor at Live! Philadelphia.

Mr. Hunter was criminally charged with theft by unlawful taking, theft by deception, theft receiving stolen property and access device fraud.

All of these charges are third degree felonies. This criminal case is active and scheduled for a pretrial

conference. Following these charges, Mr. Hunter was terminated from Live! Philadelphia.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board suspend the Gaming Level Two Employee Occupation Permit issued to Jawan Hunter.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please.

MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston moves that the Board approve the suspension of Jawan Hunter's Gaming Level Two Employee Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the OEC.

MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon seconds.

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

15 (AYES RESPOND)

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16 CHAIR: All opposed?

17 (NO RESPONSE)

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

ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the revocation of the Non-Gaming Employee Registration issued to Demetrius Smith.

Mr. Smith was previously employed as a cashier and food host at Valley Forge Casino. While he was working the cash register at Valley Forge, a

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patron handed in a wallet left behind by another
1
           The wallet contained $600 in cash. Mr. Smith
2
 3
   was observed walking to a storage area with the
 4
   wallet and fidgeting with the wallet and his pocket.
5
   When he handed in the wallet, a hundred dollars was
 6
   missing and ultimately he admitted to taking the
7
   money. He was terminated from Valley Forge Casino.
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
9
   the Board revoke the Non-Gaming Employee Registration
10
   issued to Demetrius Smith.
11
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
12
   May I have a motion, please?
13
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
14
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
15
   revocation of Demetrius Smith's Non-Gaming Employee
16
   Registration for the conduct described by the OEC.
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
                   ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on
25
   the agenda for the Board's consideration is the
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revocation of the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit issued to Shannon Spriggs.
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Ms. Spriggs was previously employed as a guest services representative at Live!

Philadelphia. While working at Live! Philadelphia,

Ms. Spriggs pocketed patron's tips, as opposed to putting them into a shared tip box, in compliance with the policy. She was terminated from Live!

Philadelphia and criminally-charged for her conduct.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation

Permit issued to Shannon Spriggs.

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

MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,

Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve
the revocation of Shannon Spriggs' Gaming Employee

Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the

OEC.

MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon seconds.

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

23 (AYES RESPOND)

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

25 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

ATTORNEY MILLER: The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is the revocation of the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit issued to Khai Loun Ho.

Mr. Ho was previously employed as a table games dealer at Live! Philadelphia Hotel and Casino. Mr. Ho was involved in a cheating scheme that took place over several weeks at Live! Philadelphia with four patrons. In some instances, he would change the outcome of the games to favor the patrons, and at other times he would change the patron's bets after the outcome had been determined. He was terminated from Live! Philadelphia and criminally charged for his conduct.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board revoke the Gaming Employee Occupation Permit issued to Khai Loun Ho.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have a motion, please?

MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner Dillon moves that the Board approve the revocation of Khai Loun Ho's Gaming Employee Occupation Permit for the conduct described by the OEC.

MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody

1 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

3 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

5 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: The motion passes.

attorner Pitre: The remaining matters on the agenda consist of enforcement actions in which the OEC filed Petitions Seeking the Involuntary Exclusion of individuals who are inimical to the interest of the Commonwealth and/or licensed gaming therein.

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

In each instance, if the Board orders

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

again, on behalf of the OEC. The next two matters on the agenda are related and are requests to place Khai Loun Ho and Hang Lin on the Involuntary Exclusion List. With the Board's permission, I will read one set of facts and then request that each individual be placed on the Exclusion List.

As stated in the previous matter, Mr. Ho was previously employed as a table games dealer at Live! Philadelphia when he was caught facilitating a cheating scheme. Hang Lin was one of the patrons involved in that cheating scheme and benefited approximately \$45,974.25 to which he was not entitled. Mr. Lin was permanently evicted from Live! Philadelphia and criminally charged for his actions.

At this time, the OEC requests that the Board place Khai Loun Ho on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

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May I have a motion, please?
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                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
3
   Commissioner Dermody moves the Board approve the
4
   addition of Khai Loun Ho to the Pennsylvania Gaming
5
   Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for the
 6
   conduct described by the OEC.
7
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan
8
   seconds.
9
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
10
   (AYES RESPOND)
11
                   CHAIR: All opposed?
12
   (NO RESPONSE)
13
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
14
                   ATTORNEY MILLER: And now at this
15
   time, the OEC requests that the Board place Hang Lin
16
   on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.
17
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
18
   May I have a motion, please?
19
                   MS. REGAN: Madam Chair, Commissioner
20
   Regan moves that the Board approve the addition of
   Hang Lin to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for
21
   the conduct described by the OEC.
22
23
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
24
   seconds.
25
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
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1 (AYES RESPOND)

CHAIR: All opposed?

3 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion passes.

with the OEC. The next two matters on the agenda are related and are a request to place Joshua Hazzard and Davante Sconiers Miller on the Involuntary Exclusion List. With the Board's permission, I will read one set of facts and then request that each individual be placed on the Exclusion List.

Mr. Hazzard and Mr. Sconiers Miller arrived at Wind Creek Bethlehem Casino and Mount Airy Casino Resort on multiple dates, bought into table games with numerous counterfeit bills and then some instances, received cash payments which totaled \$39,900. After little or low wager gameplay.

The Pennsylvania State Police arrested and criminally charged them with two criminal complaints for actions at each casino. Both men pleaded guilty to felony offenses and are court ordered to pay full restitution. Both casinos permanently evicted Mr. Hazzard and Mr. Sconiers Miller from their property as a result of their actions.

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At this time, the OEC requests that
1
2
   the Board place Joshua Hazzard on the Board's
3
   Involuntary Exclusion List.
 4
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
5
   May I have a motion, please?
                   MS. RALSTON: Commissioner Ralston
 6
7
   moves that the Board approve the addition of Joshua
   Hazzard to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for
   the conduct described by the OEC.
10
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
   Hickernell seconds.
11
12
                   CHAIR: All in favor?
   (AYES RESPOND)
13
14
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
15
   (NO RESPONSE)
16
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
17
                   ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: At this time, the
18
   OEC requests that the Board place Davante Sconiers
19
   Miller on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.
20
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
21
   May I have a motion, please?
22
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
23
   the Board approve the addition of Davante Miller to
24
   the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct
25
   described by the OEC.
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MR. HICKERNELL: Commissioner
1
2
   Hickernell seconds.
 3
                   CHAIR:
                           All in favor?
 4
   (AYES RESPOND)
 5
                           All opposed?
                   CHAIR:
   (NO RESPONSE)
 6
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
8
                   ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Again, Juan Sanchez
9
   with the OEC.
                  The next matter on the agenda for the
10
   Board's consideration is a request to place Amarilys
11
   Ortiz on the Involuntary Exclusion List. Amarilys
12
   Ortiz left their 12-year old child unattended for
   approximately 26 minutes inside the bus lobby of
13
14
   Mount Airy Casino Resort and went inside to play slot
15
   machines. Law enforcement did not file criminal
16
   charges arising out of this incident, but the casino
17
   permanently evicted her from their property.
18
                   At this time, the OEC requests that
19
   the Board place Amarilys Ortiz on the Board's
20
   Involuntary Exclusion List.
21
                   CHAIR: Any questions or comments?
22
   May I have a motion, please?
23
                   MR. HICKERNELL: Madam Chair,
24
   Commissioner Hickernell moves that the Board approve
25
   the addition of Amarilys Ortiz to the Pennsylvania
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Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.
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3 MR. DILLON: Commissioner Dillon 4 seconds.

CHAIR: All in favor?

6 (AYES RESPOND)

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

8 (NO RESPONSE)

CHAIR: Motion's adopted.

ATTORNEY SANCHEZ: Again, Juan Sanchez with the OEC. The next matter on the agenda for the Board's consideration is a request to place Jin-Xuan Yu on the Involuntary Exclusion List.

Mr. Yu used a clicker device to keep a running count of the cards while playing at a blackjack table game at Wind Creek Bethlehem on three dates and won a total \$430 with the cheating device. Pennsylvania State Police criminally charged him with misdemeanor cheating offenses. Wind Creek Bethlehem banned Mr. Yu for a day from their property and he has not paid restitution. At this time, the OEC requests that the Board place Jin-Xuan Yu on the Board's Involuntary Exclusion List.

CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

May I have A motion, please.

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MR. DILLON: Madam Chair, Commissioner
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2
   Dillon moves that the Board approve the addition of
3
   Jin-Xuan Yu to the PGCB Involuntary Exclusion List
   for the conduct described by the OEC.
 4
 5
                   MR. DERMODY: Commissioner Dermody
 6
   seconds.
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
8
   (AYES RESPOND)
9
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
10
   (NO RESPONSE)
11
                   CHAIR: Motion passes.
12
                   ATTORNEY CROHE: John Crohe once again
13
   for the OEC. The next matter on the agenda for the
14
   Board's consideration is a request to place Kristie
15
   Kessler on the Interactive Gaming Involuntary
16
   Exclusion List.
17
                   Ms. Kessler opened an interactive
18
   gaming account on Unibet's interactive gaming
19
   platform and created nine accounts on Unibet using
20
   the personal identifying information of other
21
   individuals. Unibet closed all affected accounts.
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The OEC now requests that the Board place Kristie Kessler on the Interactive Gaming Involuntary Exclusion List.

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24

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CHAIR: Any questions or comments?

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May I have a motion, please?
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2
                   MR. DERMODY: Madam Chair,
3
   Commissioner Dermody moves that the Board approve the
 4
   addition of Kristie Kessler to the Pennsylvania
5
   Gaming Control Board's Involuntary Interactive Gaming
 6
   Exclusion List for the conduct described by the OEC.
7
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan
8
   seconds.
9
                           All in favor?
                   CHAIR:
10
   (AYES RESPOND)
11
                   CHAIR:
                           All opposed?
12
   (NO RESPONSE)
13
                   CHAIR: Motion's adopted.
14
                   ATTORNEY PITRE: Thank you.
                                                 That
15
   concludes our business.
16
                   CHAIR:
                           Thank you. The last item on
   the agenda today is public comment. Is there anyone
17
   in the room that would like to address the Board?
18
19
                   Seeing no one, that concludes today's
20
   meeting. The next public meeting of the Board will
21
   be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 10:00
22
   a.m. at this location. And now, may I please have a
23
   motion to adjourn?
24
                   MS. REGAN: Commissioner Regan moves
25
   to adjourn.
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings, held before Chair Smyler, was reported by me on January 29, 2025, and that I, Rachel Wilbur-Adams, read this transcript, and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.

11 Dated the 19th day of February, 2025.

Daghal Wilhum Adama

Court Reporter

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