

NEW JERSEY CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION

Tennessee Avenue and Boardwalk
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Levinson and Cooper approved by Senate for seats on Casino Control Commission

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ATLANTIC CITY -- The New Jersey State Senate Thursday approved the nomination of Matthew B. Levinson to become the seventh chairman of the state Casino Control Commission. It also voted to appoint Alisa Cooper to the three-member panel.

"I want to thank the governor and the members of the Senate for their vote of confidence in me," Levinson said after the vote. "I look forward to leading the commission and being an integral part of the revitalization of Atlantic City."

Cooper echoed his comments and added "as someone who was born and raised in Atlantic City, this is a great honor to be asked by the governor to serve as a member of the commission."

Levinson, a resident of Linwood, succeeds Linda M. Kassekert of Pennsauken who chaired the commission for the last 10 years and was recently confirmed to be an Administrative Law Judge. Prior to joining the commission, Levinson served for the last six years as Chief Financial Officer of SOSH Architects where he was responsible for all accounting and finance operations for the firm's offices in Atlantic City and in New York City. His duties there also included handling Human Resources, Information Technology, Business Development and Marketing.

The new chairman has been a member of Linwood City Council for the last two and a half years, a position he will leave upon taking his commission post. He served as chairman of the council's Finance Committee and he was a member of the Board of School Estimate.

Previously, Levinson worked for a year as Casino Accounting Manager at Resorts International Hotel Casino, managing the Casino Accounting Department and developing and preparing a variety of financial reports that the casino had to file with the commission. He also worked as a staff accountant for the Philadelphia accounting firm of Matson, Driscoll & Damico, LLP.

Levinson is a 2002 graduate of Villanova University where he majored in accounting and minored in finance. While in college, he interned at the Tropicana Casino and Hotel in the accounting and finance department and also at the Philadelphia Investment Banking Co. where he served as a claims administrator for class action suits.

He has been active in a variety of civic, professional and charitable organizations. He is a member of the Shore Memorial Leaders Alliance, the Stockton College Event Committee Board, Gilda's Club, Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce, the Metropolitan Business and Citizens Association and he is a board member of the Atlantic City Hotel and Lodging Association.

Cooper, also of Linwood, is well-known as a musician and entertainer. A native of Atlantic City, she attended local schools there and graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education. Cooper is the owner of "Alisa Cooper Orchestras", a music and entertainment agency and has appeared and performed in all of the Atlantic City casinos. She served two terms as an at-large member of the Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders and was a candidate for New Jersey State Assembly in 2011. In 2008, she was appointed as a council member to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

Cooper has taught music education in several Atlantic County schools and is a longtime member of the New Jersey Education Association. She serves on the Board of Director's of Robin's Nest, Inc. and holds membership in numerous charitable, professional, civic and religious organizations. She will fill the commission seat currently held by Commissioner Edward Fanelle.