

PHIL MURPHY Governor

TAHESHA WAY, ESQ. *Lt. Governor* 

CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION TENNESSEE AVENUE AND BOARDWALK Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401 JAMES T. PLOUSIS

Chairman

ALISA BETH COOPER JOYCE MOLLINEAUX Commissioners

MINUTES - PUBLIC MEETING NO. 25-05-14 May 14, 2025 - 10:30 a.m.

(609) 441-3422

New Jersey Casino Control Commission
Joseph P. Lordi Public Meeting Room - First Floor
Tennessee Avenue & Boardwalk
Atlantic City, New Jersey

PRESIDING:

Chairman James T. Plousis

PRESENT:

Vice Chair Alisa B. Cooper and Commissioner Joyce Mollineaux

In furtherance of Governor Philip D. Murphy's Executive Order 103 (2020), the Casino Control Commission's meeting was held via in-person and remote technology. The public listened telephonically by calling the telephone number and access number provided on the Commission's website, and public comments were accepted via email.

Subsequent to the reading of a statement of compliance with the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Commission considered and took formal action on the following matters:

Chairman Plousis, on behalf of the Commission, acknowledged the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Atlantic City's All Wars Memorial Building. This building was dedicated in 1925 as a permanent memorial commemorating African American Veterans of Atlantic City. On May 21, 2025, the All Wars Memorial Building is hosting the Annual South Jersey Regional Stand Down, in which the Casino Control Commission is honored to be one of the participating organizations, partnering to serve veterans of the Atlantic City region;

Commissioner Mollineaux, acknowledged the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Atlantic City's All Wars Memorial Building. Commissioner Mollineaux recognized Barbara Camper, and thanked the veteran members serving on the All Wars Memorial Building Anniversary Committee; and

Vice Chairman Cooper, also acknowledged this special occasion and how the Atlantic City's All Wars Memorial Building is such a vital and important part of Atlantic City's rich history. Vice Chairman Cooper was personally happy and very honored to welcome the representatives who were present.

- 1. By a vote of 3-0, ratified the minutes of April 9, 2025 (transcript pages 22-23).
- 2. By a vote of 3-0, granted the initial application of Kristian Wesley, for casino key employee licenses. (transcript pages 26-27); and

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division and Applicant; and permitted Anthony G. Faranca to withdraw his initial application for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the Stipulation. (DKT 25-0067-SI) (Ruling number 25-05-14-02-A; transcript pages 23-26).

3. By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmitted applications of Mark Avendano (a/k/a Mark Carlos), George J. Bannon, Jr., Gerald M. Core, Robert Deluce, Nicole A. Lacava, Paul D. MacCagnano, Prashant A. Parikh, Melvin S. Parks, David P. Petruzzi, Simone D. Ranere-Morrow (a/k/a Simone D. Ranere), Patrick N. Rodio and Thomas M. Santoro, for casino key employee licenses (Exhibit EL-2\*; transcript pages 27-29);

Adjourned the resubmission application of Stacy A. Parker (a/k/a Stacy A. DiCesare), for a casino key employee license (transcript page 28);

By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmission application of Frank Cannistra, Jr., for casino key employee license, with a multi-casino endorsement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 5:12-91.1 (Exhibit EL-1\*; transcript pages 29-30);

By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmission application of Tremaine Johnson (a/k/a Tremaine Curtis), for casino key employee license, with a multi-casino endorsement, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:12-91.1 (Exhibit EL-1\*; transcript pages 29-30);

By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmission application of Lawrence H. Kelder, for casino key employee license, with a multi-casino endorsement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 5:12-91.1 (Exhibit EL-1\*; transcript pages 29-30);

By a vote of 3-0, remanded the resubmission application of Mohammed R. Hassan, for a casino key employee license to a hearing (Exhibit EL-2\*; transcript pages 31-32);

By a vote of 3-0, remanded the resubmission application of Marc A. Morales, for a casino key employee license to a hearing (Exhibit EL-2\*; transcript pages 31-32);

By a vote of 3-0, remanded the resubmission application of Ramona Velazquez (a/k/a Romona Velazquez-DeJesus), for a casino key employee license to a hearing (Exhibit EL-2\*; transcript pages 31-32); and

By a vote of 3-0, remanded the resubmission application of Kristine F. White (a/k/a) Kristine F. Miller), for a casino key employee license to a hearing (Exhibit EL-2\*; transcript pages 31-32).

By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmitted casino key employee license application of Alisa L. Elkis and for qualification as Vice President of Casino Marketing for HR Atlantic City, LLC (Exhibit EL-3\*; transcript pages 32-33); and

By a vote of 3-0, granted the resubmitted casino key employee license application of Rebecca L. Schultz (a/k/a Rebecca L. Hoyda) and for qualification as Vice President of Food and Beverage for AC Ocean Walk, LLC (d/b/a Ocean Casino Resorts) (Exhibit EL-3\*; transcript pages 33-34).

- 4. Temporary casino key employee licenses were issued between April 1, 2025 and April 30, 2025, pursuant to Delegation of Authority Resolution Number 22-01-12-11-B to the following applicants: Zion A. Bond-Gondzalez, Destiny G. DelRio, Tariq N. Jackson, Jelitza M. Smith (a/k/a Jelitza M. Miranda), Wojciech M. Trojanowski and Matthew Walczak (Exhibit EL-3\*; transcript pages 34-36).
- 5. By a vote of 3-0, granted the requested relief and inactivated the casino key employee licenses held by John T. Andreaci, Kevin A. McShane, Lori R. Yeager (a/k/a Lori R. Spahr; Lori R. McCloskey) and Leonard Zaccone (Ruling numbers 25-05-14-05-A, 25-05-14-05-B, 25-05-14-05-C, 25-05-14-05-D; transcript pages 36-38).
- 6. By a vote of 3-0, found that Ryan M. Metcalf and Paul L. Wilson, casino key employee licenses lapsed, pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 19:41A-6.1 (f) of the regulation. (Ruling numbers 25-05-14-06-A, 25-05-14-06-B; transcript pages 38-39).
- 7. Considered the initial application of Aaron Tolbert-Dennis, for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division of Gaming Enforcement and Applicant; and granted the initial application of Aaron Tolbert-Dennis, for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the stipulation (DKT 25-0041-SI) (Ruling number 25-05-14-07; transcript pages 39-42).

8. Considered the initial application of Marrisa Vargas, for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division of Gaming Enforcement and Applicant; and granted the initial application of Marrisa Vargas, for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the stipulation (DKT 25-0032-SI) (Ruling number 25-05-14-08; transcript pages 42-44).

9. Considered the resubmission application of Debra A. Holden, for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division of Gaming Enforcement and Applicant; and granted the resubmission application of Debra A. Holden, for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the stipulation (DKT 25-0040-SR) (Ruling number 25-05-14-09; transcript pages 44-49).

10. Considered the resubmission application of Margarita Rivera for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, found Margarita Rivera ("Applicant"), disqualified, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:12-80(b), <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:12-80(d), <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:12-86(b) and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:12-89(b); denied Applicant's resubmitted application for a casino key employee license; and revoked Applicant's casino key employee license (DKT 25-0013-CR) (Ruling number 25-05-14-10; transcript pages 49-52).

11. Considered the initial application of Yulitza Alicea-Mendez, for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division of Gaming Enforcement and Applicant; and granted the initial application of Yulitza Alicea-Mendez, for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the stipulation (DKT 25-0036-SI) (Ruling number 25-05-14-11; transcript pages 52-54).

12. Considered the initial application of Cassandra R. Paul, for a casino key employee license and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the stipulation of settlement between the Division of Gaming Enforcement and Applicant; and granted the initial application of Cassandra R. Paul, for a casino key employee license, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions as provided for in the stipulation (DKT 25-0035-SI) (Ruling number 25-05-14-12; transcript pages 54-57).

13. Considered the Initial Decision in the matter of the Appeal of B.H. for Removal from the Self Exclusion List and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the Initial Decision of Hearing Examiner, Joyce Mollineaux, Commissioner, and found that Appellant failed to demonstrate that he did not intentionally place himself on the self-exclusion list, as required by *N.J.A.C.* 13:69G-2.2 (c); and denied his request to be removed from the self-exclusion list, prior to his September 21, 2029 expiration date (24-0097-AP) (Initial Decision) (Ruling number 25-05-14-13; transcript pages 57-60).

14. Considered the Initial Decision in the matter of the Appeal of N.C. for Removal from the Self Exclusion List and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the Initial Decision of Hearing Examiner, Alisa Cooper, Vice Chairman, and found that Appellant failed to demonstrate that she did not intentionally place herself on the self-exclusion list, as required by *N.J.A.C.* 13:69G-2.2 (c); and denied her request to be removed from the self-exclusion list, prior to her June 12, 2029 expiration date (25-0005-AP) (Initial Decision) (Ruling number 25-05-14-14; transcript pages 60-62).

15. Considered the Initial Decision in the matter of the Appeal of C.P. for Removal from the Self Exclusion List.

By a vote of 3-0, issued the following ruling:

- a) modified the Initial Decision to correct the first sentence of the second paragraph to "In its September 19, 2024 letter" instead of "In its November 20, 2024 letter";
- b) found that Appellant failed to demonstrate that he did not intentionally place himself on the self-exclusion list, as required by *N.J.A.C.* 13:69G-2.2 (c); and
- c) denied his request to be removed from the self-exclusion list, prior to his November 3, 2028 expiration date; and

adopted the Initial Decision of Hearing Examiner, Alisa Cooper, Vice Chairman as modified, pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 1:1-18.6 (DKT-24-0039-AP) (Initial Decision) (Ruling number 25-05-14-15; transcript pages 62-65).

16. Petition of AC Ocean Walk, LLC (*d/b/a* Ocean Casino Resorts), for the issuance of a temporary casino key employee license to Albert C. Parker, Jr., pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89(e); and to permit him to assume the duties and exercise the powers of Vice President Facilities and Engineering, pending plenary qualification has been withdrawn at the request of the Petitioner (PRN 0992503) (transcript page 65).

17. Considered the petition of Premier Entertainment AC, LLC (*d/b/a* Bally's Atlantic City), and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, approved the petition and issued a temporary casino key employee license to Christopher Gehricke, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89(b) 4, *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89(e) and *N.J.A.C.* 19:41A-5.3; and permitted him to assume the duties and exercise the powers of Financial Controller of Premier Entertainment AC, LLC, pending plenary qualification; subject to the conditions contained in *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-85.1 and *N.J.A.C.* 13:69C-2.6 (PRN 0992503) (Ruling number 25-05-14-17; transcript pages 65-69).

18. Considered the joint petition of Premier Entertainment AC, LLC (*d/b/a* Bally's Atlantic City) and Bally's Corporation, and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the draft resolution and authorized Vladimira D. Mircheva, on a temporary basis and prior to plenary qualification, to assume the duties and exercise the powers of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Bally's Corporation, pending plenary qualification, subject to the conditions contained in *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-85.1, *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89b(1), *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89b(2), and *N.J.A.C.* 13:69C-2.7 of the Act (PRN 0942503) (Ruling number 25-05-14-18; transcript pages 69-72).

19. Considered the joint petition of Caesars Entertainment, Inc., Harrah's Atlantic City Operating Company, LLC, Boardwalk Regency, LLC, Tropicana Atlantic City Corp., and Caesars Interactive Entertainment New Jersey, LLC, and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the draft resolution and authorized Theodosios Papapostolou, on a temporary basis and prior to plenary qualification, to assume the duties and exercise the powers of a Member of the Board of Directors for Caesars Entertainment, Inc., pending plenary qualification, subject to the conditions contained in *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-85.1 and *N.J.A.C.* 13:69C-2.7 of the Act (PRN 1112504) (Ruling number 25-05-14-19; transcript pages 72-75).

20. Considered the joint petition of Caesars Entertainment, Inc., Harrah's Atlantic City Operating Company, LLC, Boardwalk Regency, LLC, Tropicana Atlantic City Corp., and Caesars Interactive Entertainment New Jersey, LLC, and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the draft resolution and authorized Jesse Lynn, on a temporary basis and prior to plenary qualification, to assume the duties and exercise the powers of a Member of the Board of Directors for Caesars Entertainment, Inc., pending plenary qualification, subject to the conditions contained in *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-85.1 and *N.J.A.C.* 13:69C-2.7 of the Act (PRN 1112507) (Ruling number 25-05-14-20; transcript pages 76-79).

21 Considered the joint petition of Golden Nugget Atlantic City, LLC (*d/b/a* Golder Nugget Atlantic City) and Fertitta Entertainment, Inc., and issued the following ruling:

By a vote of 3-0, adopted the draft resolution and authorized Paige Fertitta, on a temporary basis and prior to plenary qualification, to assume the duties and exercise the powers of Director and President of Fertitta Entertainment, Inc., pending plenary qualification, subject to the conditions contained in *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-85.1 and *N.J.A.C.* 13:69C-2.7 of the Act (PRN 1132504) (Ruling number 25-05-14-21; transcript pages 79-83).

- 22. Adjourned the Joint Petition of Golden Nugget Atlantic City, LLC (*d/b/a* Golden Nugget Atlantic City) and GNAC Holdings, LLC, for the issuance of a temporary casino key employee license to Whit Armstrong, pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-89(e); and to permit him to assume the duties and exercise the powers of Chief Information Security Officer of GNAC Holdings, LLC, pending plenary qualification (PRN 1212502) (transcript page 83).
- 23. Chairman Plousis read into the record a Resolution of the Casino Control Commission Commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the All Wars Memorial Building in Atlantic City, New Jersey, which was unanimously adopted; and

The Commission recognized Kaleem Shabazz, Council Vice President and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilman; and Patricia Tatum, Commander of Kenneth B. Hawkins Post 61 of the American Legion, for their dedication, hard work, and determination (Ruling Number 25-05-14-23; transcript pages 10-22).

In accordance with Resolution No. 24-12-11-03, the next closed session of the Commission shall be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in the Commission Offices (transcript page 83).

There being no members of the public to address the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

\*Lists of individuals acted upon at this meeting have been documented by exhibit number. Commission rulings are documented in orders or resolutions. These lists, rulings and official transcripts are available for public review at the Commission offices located at the corner of Tennessee Avenue and the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Minutes of the Open Public Meeting May 14, 2025 Page 8

These minutes remain subject to amendment until such time as they are formally ratified by the New Jersey Casino Control Commission.

## <u>CERTIFICATION</u>

I, Dianna W. Fauntleroy, Executive Secretary of the New Jersey Casino Control Commission, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes of the Open Session conducted on May 14, 2025, are true and correct.

Dianna W. Fauntleroy, Esq. Executive Secretary