

PHILIP D. MURPHY GOVERNOR

SHEILA Y. OLIVER

PO BOX 082 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0082 <u>www.nj.gov/ethics</u> JOSEPH P. LASALA, ESQ.

MARK T. HOLMES, ESQ. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

July 29, 2020

Noreen Kemether, Esq. Ethics Liaison Officer Motor Vehicle Commission PO Box 684 Trenton, New Jersey 08666

Re: Waiver to the Provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:13D-17.2(b)

Dear Ms. Kemether:

At its July 28, 2020 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Chuck Bucci, IT Help and Service Desk, Motor Vehicle Commission, whose brother, Dave Bucci, is currently employed by the Ocean Casino Resort as a carpenter. Based on the facts and circumstances set forth below, the Commission granted a waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b).

Generally, Section 17.2(b) of the Conflicts Law prohibits all State officers and employees and members of their immediate families from holding an interest in, holding employment with, representing, appearing for, or negotiating on behalf of the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license or any holding or intermediary company with respect thereto. However, the statute also contains the following exception language:

except that ... a member of the immediate family of a State officer or employee, or person, may hold employment with the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license if, in the judgment of the State Ethics Commission ... such employment will not interfere with the responsibilities of the State officer or employee, or person, and will not create a conflict of interest, or reasonable risk of the public perception of a conflict of interest, on the part of the State officer or employee, or person ....

The Commission agrees that there is no conflict between Mr. Bucci's position at the Motor Vehicle Commission and his brother's employment with the Ocean Casino Resort. Mr. Bucci's position and his brother's employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk

Page 2 July 29, 2020

of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his position and his brother's casino employment.

Based on the facts and circumstances set forth above, the Commission granted the waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b) in the case of Chuck Bucci and his brother, Dave Bucci.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

mark S. Holnes

For the Commission

Mark T. Holmes

**Executive Director** 

MTH/sc

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