

State of New Jersey State Ethics Commission PO Box 082 Trenton, NJ 08625-0082 www.nl.gov/ethics

PHILIP D. MURPHY GOVERNOR STEPHANIE A. BROWN, ESQ. Chair

MARK T. HOLMES, ESQ. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SHEILA Y. OLIVER Lt. Governor

April 21, 2021

Amanda Truppa Ethics Liaison Officer Department of the Treasury Trenton, New Jersey 08625 *Via Email Only: <u>Amanda Truppa@treas.nj.gov</u>* 

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

Dear Ms. Truppa:

At its April 20, 2021 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Amy Muskett, Occupational Health Consultant Trainee, Department of the Treasury, whose sister, Jamie Reichelt, is employed by Caesars Casino as a server. 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 Ms. Muskett's position at the Department and her sister's employment with Caesars Casino. Ms. Muskett's position and her sister's employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between her position and her sister's casino employment. Page 2 April 21, 2021

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 Amy Muskett and her sister, Jamie Reichelt.

Very truly yours,

## STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

mark S. Holnes

For the Commission Mark T. Holmes Executive Director

MTH/sc Exit Muskett Treasury CW 4-2021