



State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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June 16, 2022

Robyn Veasey
Ethics Liaison Officer
Office of the Public Defender
Trenton, NJ 08625
Via email ONLY: robyn.veasey@opd.nj.gov

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

Dear Ms. Veasey:

At its June 14, 2022 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered the Office's request on behalf of John Ignatius Francisco, Legal Intern, Office of the Public Defender, who is also employed by the Borgata Hotel and Casino as a Buffet Server and whose father, John Francisco, is employed by Borgata Hotel and Casino as a Floor Supervisor. 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. Francisco's position at the OPD and his employment with the Borgata Hotel and Casino or his father's employment with the Borgata

Hotel and Casino. Mr. Francisco's position and his casino employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his position and his casino employment. Mr. Francisco's position and his father's casino employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his position and his father'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 John Ignatius Francisco and his father, John Francisco.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



For the Commission
Mark T. Holmes
Executive Director

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