



State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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CHAIR

MARK T. HOLMES, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

February 2, 2022

Valerie Hayes
Ethics Liaison Officer
Stockton University
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, New Jersey 08205
Via email ONLY: valerie.hayes@stockton.edu

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

Dear Ms. Hayes:

At its February 1, 2022 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered the University's request on behalf of David Ortiz-Nunez, Program Assistant, Stockton University, whose mother, Yolanda Nunez, is employed by Caesar's Casino as a Lounge 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 Mr. Ortiz-Nunez's position at Stockton University and his mother's employment with Caesar's Casino. Mr. Ortiz-Nunez's position and his mother's 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 mother'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 David Ortiz-Nunez and his mother, Yolanda Nunez.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark T. Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

For the Commission
Mark T. Holmes
Executive Director

MTH/sc
Exit_Ortiz-Nunez_Stockton_CW_2022