



State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

PO Box 082
Trenton, NJ 08625-0082
www.nj.gov/ethics

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

ANDREW S. BERNS, Esq.
Chair

SUSANA E. GUERRERO, Esq.
Executive Director

*Tel: (609) 292-1892
(888) 223-1355 in NJ
Fax: (609) 633-9252
Email: ethics@ethics.nj.gov*

September 21, 2016

William Spearman
Ethics Liaison Officer
South Jersey Transportation Authority
Farley Service Plaza
PO Box 351
Hammonton, New Jersey 08037

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

Dear Mr. Spearman:

At its September 20, 2016 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Nicholas LaRotonda, Fire Fighter, South Jersey Transportation Authority ("SJTA"), who is also currently employed by the Golden Nugget Casino as the Director of Marina Operations. 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 (1) a State officer or employee other than a State officer or employee included in the definition of person, and (2) a member of the immediate family of a State officer or employee, or of a person, may hold employment with the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license if, in the judgement 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. LaRotonda's position at SJTA and his employment with the Golden Nugget Casino. Mr. LaRotonda's position and his casino employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or a reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his position at SJTA and his secondary casino employment.

Based on the facts and circumstances set forth above, the Commission granted a waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b) in the case of Nicholas LaRotonda.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



For the Commission
Susana E. Guerrero, Executive Director

SEG/sc

Exit_LaRotonda_CW_9-2016