

Transcript of the Testimony of

**LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
MEETING 6-16-2025**

June 16, 2025



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<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD JUNE 16, 2025 MEETING</p> <p>This Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting was taken in by Belinda K. Amerson, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, at the LASALLE BUILDING, LABELLE HEARING ROOM, 617 NORTH 3RD STREET, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA on the 16th day of June, 2025.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES: 2 3 CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HEBERT 4 MS. LANDRY 5 MS. HERNANDEZ 6 MS. LEWIS 7 MS. TRAYLOR 8 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER 9 MR. POOLE 10 MR. SHOLES 11 MAJOR ALBRIGHT 12 BRYAN PETERS 13 MS. HIMEL 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 2 Okay. Good morning, everyone. I 3 would like to call to order the meeting of 4 the Louisiana Gaming Control Board for 5 Monday, June 16, 2025. 6 Ms. Hernandez, would you please call 7 roll? 8 MS. HERNANDEZ: 9 Chairman Hebert. 10 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 11 Here. 12 MS. HERNANDEZ: 13 Ms. Becnel. 14 (No response). 15 MS. HERNANDEZ: 16 Mr. Jackson. 17 (No response). 18 MS. HERNANDEZ: 19 Mr. Langley. 20 (No response). 21 MS. HERNANDEZ: 22 Ms. Lewis. 23 MS. LEWIS: 24 Here. 25 MS. HERNANDEZ:</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>1 Mr. Poole. 2 MR. POOLE: 3 Here. 4 MS. HERNANDEZ: 5 Ms. Hamilton-Acker. 6 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: 7 Here. 8 MS. HERNANDEZ: 9 Mr. Sholes. 10 MR. SHOLES: 11 Here. 12 MS. HERNANDEZ: 13 Ms. Traylor. 14 MS. TRAYLOR: 15 Here. 16 MS. HERNANDEZ: 17 Colonel Hodges. 18 MAJOR ALBRIGHT: 19 Major Albright for Colonel Hodges. 20 MS. HERNANDEZ: 21 Secretary Nelson. 22 MR. PETERS: 23 I'm here for Secretary Nelson. 24 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 25 Please state your name.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>1 MR. PETERS: 2 Bryan Peters. 3 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 4 All right. Thank you. 5 We have a quorum. Members, thank 6 you for being here this morning. At this 7 time, ladies and gentlemen, we'll have our 8 public comment period. If anyone would 9 like to comment on any agenda items before 10 the Board this morning, now is the time to 11 come forward. 12 Okay. Seeing none, we will now move 13 on to Item III, the approval of the 14 minutes. I would ask for a motion to 15 waive the reading and approve the minutes 16 of our May 19, 2025 Board meeting. 17 MR. POOLE: 18 So moved. 19 MR. SHOLES: 20 Second. 21 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 22 Okay. Mr. Poole has moved, and 23 Judge Sholes has seconded the motion. 24 Is there any discussion? 25 Any opposition?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>1 Hearing none, that motion carries. 2 Moving on to Item IV on our agenda, 3 our revenue reports. 4 Good morning, Ms. Jackson. 5 MS. JACKSON: 6 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and 7 Board Members. My name is Donna Jackson 8 with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit 9 Section. 10 In May, the 15 operating riverboats 11 generated Adjusted Gross Receipts of 12 \$175,857,661. The state collected fees 13 totaling \$37,809,397. Adjusted Gross 14 Receipts for fiscal year '24-'25 to date 15 are \$1.65 billion dollars, an increase of 16 \$72 million or 5% in the fiscal year 17 '23-'24. 18 As of May 31, 2025, the state has 19 collected approximately \$354.7 million in 20 fees for fiscal year '24-'25. 21 Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue 22 broken down by regional market. The 23 overall increase from April was \$24 24 million or 16%. Compared to last May, 25 this month's revenues represent an</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>1 increase of \$21 million or 13.7%. 2 Next, is the summary of the May 2025 3 gaming activity for Caesars New Orleans, 4 found on page 3. Caesars generated 5 \$21,293,026 in gross gaming revenue. 6 These revenues represent a decrease from 7 last month of \$1.2 million or 5.5%, but an 8 increase of \$1.3 million or 6.6% from the 9 same month last year. During May, the 10 state received \$5,520,548 in minimum daily 11 payments. 12 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal 13 year '24-'25 to date are approximately 14 \$250 million, an increase of \$24.4 million 15 or 11% from fiscal year '23-'24. As of 16 May 31, 2025, the state collected almost 17 \$60 million in fees for fiscal year 18 '24-'25. 19 Next, I'll present the revenues for 20 Slots at the Racetracks. During May, the 21 4 racetrack facilities combined generated 22 Adjusted Gross Receipts of \$30,789,242, an 23 increase of \$3.9 million or 14.5% from the 24 previous month, and an increase of \$1.7 25 million or 6% when compared to the same</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>1 month last year. During May, the state 2 collected \$4.7 million in state fees. 3 Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal 4 year '24-'25 to date are \$290.5 million, a 5 minimal increase of .2% from fiscal year 6 '23-'24. As of May 31, 2025, the state 7 has collected \$44 million in fees for 8 fiscal year '24-'25. 9 I will now move to the Video Gaming 10 information. 11 There are 12,191 video gaming 12 devices activated at 1,390 locations. Net 13 Device Revenue for May 2025 was 14 \$68,106,455, an increase of \$2.7 million 15 or 4.2% when compared to April, and an 16 increase of \$3.2 million or 5% when 17 compared to last May. Total Franchise 18 Fees for May were \$21 million. Fiscal 19 year to date Net Device Revenue is \$696 20 million, an increase of \$6 million or 1% 21 when compared to last fiscal year. 22 As of May 31, 2025, the state has 23 collected \$211 million in franchise fees 24 for fiscal year '24-'25. 25 Next, I'll present the May revenue</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>1 for sportsbook. During May, the retail 2 sportsbooks accepted approximately \$16.6 3 million in sports wagers, resulting in net 4 proceeds of \$2.4 million and \$235,000 in 5 state taxes. The mobile sportsbooks 6 accepted \$284 million in sports wagers, 7 resulting in net proceeds of \$43.2 million 8 and \$6.5 million in taxes paid to the 9 state. 10 Finally, for Daily Fantasy Sports, 11 gross revenues for May were approximately 12 \$670 -- \$672,000, with net revenue of 13 \$83,000 and taxes of \$6,600. 14 Any questions? 15 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 16 Board Members, do we have any 17 questions for Ms. Jackson? 18 Thank you, Ms. Jackson. 19 MS. JACKSON: 20 Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 22 Okay. We will now move on to Item 23 V, Casino Gaming Issues. And first off, 24 is the consideration of the renewal 25 application for the riverboat gaming</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>1 license of Catfish Queen, LLC doing 2 business as The Belle of Baton Rouge. 3 Good morning. Please identify 4 yourselves for the record. 5 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. PIRTLE: 6 Good morning. Assistant Attorney 7 General Amy Pirtle. 8 MS. HOTARD: 9 Lisa Hotard from State Police, 10 Gaming Audit. 11 MASTER TROOPER JEFFERSON: 12 Master Trooper Brian Jefferson, 13 Louisiana Gaming Enforcement Division. 14 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 15 Thank you. You all may proceed. 16 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. PIRTLE: 17 Thank you. I'm the Assistant 18 Attorney General, Amy Pirtle. I'm here 19 today on the matter of the renewal 20 application for the riverboat gaming 21 license held by The Catfish Queen, LLC 22 doing business as The Belle of Baton 23 Rouge, which is located in Baton Rouge, 24 Louisiana. 25 Pursuant to R.S. 27:74 river gaming</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>1 licenses -- riverboat gaming licenses are 2 issued for a five-year term and pursuant 3 to R.S. 27:75(A), the Board is required to 4 act upon any renewal application no later 5 than 30 days prior to the expiration of 6 the current licensee -- license. The 7 Belle of Baton Rouge's license is set to 8 expire on July 18, 2025. 9 The Division has reviewed the 10 financial circumstances of the licensee 11 and completed the suitability 12 investigation of the licensee, its parent 13 companies, and principles. 14 At this time, Ms. Hotard and 15 Investigator Jefferson will provide their 16 findings to the Board. Following their 17 presentation, if it is the Board's 18 pleasure to renew the riverboat gaming 19 license of the Catfish Queen, LLC doing 20 business as Belle of Baton Rouge, a 21 proposed resolution has been prepared for 22 the Board's adoption and the Chairman's 23 signature. 24 MS. HOTARD: 25 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>1 Board Members. My name is Lisa Hotard 2 with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit 3 Section. 4 Catfish Queen, LLC, doing business 5 as Belle of Baton Rouge (Belle), seeks a 6 five-year renewal of its riverboat gaming 7 license. Bally's Corporation is the 8 ultimate parent of Belle through its 9 direct subsidiary, The Queen Casino and 10 Enter -- Entertainment, Incorporated. 11 Since commencing gaming operations 12 in September 1994, Belle has generated 13 approximately \$1.8 billion in gaming 14 revenues and paid \$374.3 million in state 15 gaming fees. In addition, for the years 16 2020 through 2024, the licensee paid 17 approximately \$1.3 million in fees to East 18 Baton Rouge Parish and the City of Baton 19 Rouge. 20 During the past five fiscal years, 21 Belle generated approximately \$60.1 22 million in Adjusted Gross Revenue. 23 For the years 2020 through 2024, 24 approximately \$59.3 million in 25 enhancements were made to the property,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>1 including the renovation of its hotel and 2 ongoing construction of its future 3 landside facility. 4 Additionally, Belle is committed to 5 investing in further improvements to the 6 property over the next five years, as 7 shown on page 8 of Audit's report. 8 In conclusion, no financial issues 9 came to our attention to preclude the 10 Board from approving Belle's riverboat 11 gaming license for a period of five years, 12 effective July 18, 2025. 13 Licensing will now present their 14 findings. 15 MASTER TROOPER JEFFERSON: 16 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and 17 Members of the Board. I'm Master Trooper 18 Brian Jefferson with Louisiana State 19 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division. 20 On March 27, 2025, Catfish Queen, 21 LLC doing business as Belle of Baton Rouge 22 and its parent companies submitted their 23 five-year renewal, level one, part A 24 suitability gaming applications. In 25 accordance with the rules and regulations</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>1 of the Gaming Enforcement Division, a 2 background investigation was conducted on 3 Catfish Queen, LLC doing business as Belle 4 of Baton Rouge, their affiliated entities, 5 officers, directors, key individuals and 6 persons with 5% or more ownership of 7 economic interest in the licensee. 8 The background investigation 9 consists of inquiries to federal, state 10 and local law enforcement agencies, civil 11 jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, 12 the Louisiana Department of Revenue and 13 the Computerized Criminal History 14 Database. 15 Based on this investigation, no 16 information was found that would preclude 17 the Board from approving the five-year 18 renewal of Catfish Queen, LLC doing 19 business as Belle of Baton Rouge. 20 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 21 Okay. Board Members, are there any 22 questions of the AG's Office or State 23 Police in the matter? 24 Okay. I know we do have 25 representatives from the licensee here to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>1 give an update on the property. 2 MR. CANNON: 3 Good morning, Chairman. 4 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 5 Good morning. 6 MR. CANNON: 7 I'm Richard Cannon, General Manager 8 of The Belle of Baton Rouge Casino. 9 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 10 You may proceed, Mr. Cannon. 11 MR. CANNON: 12 The information that we have 13 currently, we are requesting that in July, 14 that we would come before the Board and 15 request a date at that time. Construction 16 has been moving along quite nicely. There 17 were some delays earlier in the year. The 18 river levels were high, which prevented 19 some of the construction from ongoing. 20 And we've met with the Louisiana State 21 Police group in the last 2 weeks ago and 22 again this coming week. 23 And we've hired nearly 30 new 24 employees in the month of May. And, you 25 know, things are moving well. The hotel</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>1 is fully operational and as we toured 2 together, and so those -- those things 3 have all been moving quite nicely. 4 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 5 Any questions, Board Members, for 6 Mr. Cannon or Ms. Pirtle? 7 With regard to em -- employment, you 8 said you've hired 30 employees this month? 9 MR. CANNON: 10 Between the -- we've had 11 terminations. We -- we lost 10, so a -- a 12 net there of -- of 22 is actually the net. 13 But we're slowly trying to ramp up 14 pre-grand opening, so that we don't have 15 ourselves in a position where we -- we 16 don't have enough staff. So we -- we 17 can't take on too much, too fast because 18 there is nowhere to put them yet, but 19 we're trying to make sure that every 20 department that we have is full to 21 capacity and then some, so that as we ease 22 into the fall, then we'll really start 23 ramping up. And I feel very confident 24 with the hiring process, and we're -- 25 we're getting a lot of interest from folks</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>1 that we have to tell just not yet, come 2 back in, you know, two months, three 3 months; and so it's very encouraging. 4 We're -- we're getting a lot of -- a lot 5 of interest from a lot of folks. And so a 6 lot -- a lot of folks and people want to 7 come by and look at the property. They're 8 interested in moving -- making a move from 9 either, you know, one of the other 10 properties or from out of -- out of town. 11 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 12 Okay. So just out of curiosity, are 13 there no -- I guess, because if you're 14 telling people to come back, there's no 15 guarantee that they are. There's no 16 process by which y'all can go through the 17 process and have them start later? 18 MR. CANNON: 19 Yeah, you know, this -- we -- we 20 don't want to go into that interviewing 21 process now and -- because then that leads 22 into licensing and the whole thing. And 23 then it's like, we don't want to give them 24 any false hope. We're just saying, you 25 know, we'll -- we'll be opening up that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>1 position or whatever roles they may be 2 looking for at that time. 3 The one thing that we have really 4 stepped up is the dealer training program 5 because they'll be close to 120 dealers 6 needed to run this operation. Currently, 7 The Queen has nearly 90, and we'll have 5 8 more table games -- 4 to 5 more and so 9 we'll need, you know, 110, 120 dealers. 10 But we currently have 18 in our 11 dealer training class and another 13 that 12 are actually full-time. And we have 13 partnered with the state and with The 14 Queen and to give those team members 15 enough hours to -- to make it worth -- 16 worth their while so they stick around. 17 We've actually dual-licensed them, so that 18 they can deal at both properties. It's 19 been working very well. 20 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 21 Okay. 22 MR. SHOLES: 23 Are there any of the employees 24 making less than \$15 an hour? 25 MR. CANNON:</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>1 We do have some security officers 2 making less than \$15, Sir, and some of 3 those we have a -- a yearly merit increase 4 that will take in effect in July. Some of 5 those will then exceed the \$15 at that 6 time. Right now we do have some in 7 between \$14.10 and \$14.90, two-count team 8 members and some security officers. The 9 blended average for the tip team members 10 is \$15.17, and the blended average 11 excluding tip team members is \$16.14. 12 MR. SHOLES: 13 Would it your -- would it be your 14 anticipation, that once you've got fully 15 operational, even the security people will 16 get above \$15? 17 MR. CANNON: 18 I -- it is something that has been 19 discussed with our HR Management Team and 20 asked that we do a review of -- of the 21 area to see what is a competitive rate for 22 that particular position, and that 23 discussion was just last week. Just 24 looking how closely we can get currently 25 ranked as of today, they start at \$14 an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>1 hour. 2 MR. SHOLES: 3 Sir, you would want to be the 4 leaders of the industry as opposed to 5 being the tail? 6 MR. CANNON: 7 Right. Absolutely. 8 MR. SHOLES: 9 Thank you. 10 MR. CANNON: 11 Of course. 12 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 13 Any more questions, Board Members? 14 Okay. If no other questions, I will 15 entertain a motion to adopt the 16 resolution. 17 It's made by Ms. Hamilton-Acker; 18 seconded by Mr. Poole. 19 At this time would you please read 20 the resolution into the record, Ms. 21 Landry? 22 MS. LANDRY: 23 On the 16th day of June 2025, the 24 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a 25 duly noticed public meeting, consider the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>1 license renewal application of Catfish 2 Queen, LLC doing business as Belle of 3 Baton Rouge, and upon motion duly made and 4 seconded, the Board adopted the following 5 Resolution: 6 Be it be resolved that the riverboat 7 gaming casino license of Catfish Queen, 8 LLC doing business as Belle of Baton Rouge 9 be renewed for a term of 5 years 10 commencing on July 18, 2025, subject to 11 all conditions previously placed upon the 12 license. 13 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, 14 Louisiana, this 16th day of June 2025. 15 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 16 Okay. Ms. Hernandez, will you 17 please call the roll? 18 MS. HERNANDEZ: 19 Ms. Lewis. 20 MS. LEWIS: 21 Yes. 22 MS. HERNANDEZ: 23 Mr. Poole. 24 MR. POOLE: 25 Yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>1 MS. HERNANDEZ: 2 Ms. Hamilton-Acker. 3 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: 4 Yes. 5 MS. HERNANDEZ: 6 Mr. Sholes. 7 MR. SHOLES: 8 Yes. 9 MS. HERNANDEZ: 10 Ms. Traylor. 11 MS. TRAYLOR: 12 Yes. 13 MS. HERNANDEZ: 14 Chairman Hebert. 15 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 16 Yes. 17 The motion carries. The resolution 18 is adopted, and the renewal application is 19 approved. 20 MR. CANNON: 21 Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 23 We'll see you next month. 24 MR. CANNON: 25 Thank you.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 2 Our next item from the Casino Gaming 3 Issues is Item B, the consideration of the 4 renewal application for the riverboat 5 gaming license of Louisiana Casino 6 Cruises, LLC doing business as The Queen 7 Baton Rouge. 8 Good morning. Please identify 9 yourselves for the record. 10 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. EVANS: 11 Good morning. I'm Virginia Evans 12 with the Attorney General's Office. 13 MS. HOTARD: 14 Lisa Hotard with Louisiana State 15 Police, Gaming Audit Section. 16 MASTER TROOPER JEFFERSON: 17 Master Trooper Brian Jefferson, 18 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement 19 Division. 20 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 21 Okay. You may proceed. 22 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. EVANS: 23 Thank you, Chairman -- Chairman 24 Hebert and Members of the Board. I am 25 Assistant Attorney General Virginia Evans</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>1 here today in the matter of the renewal 2 application for riverboat gaming license 3 held by Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC 4 doing business as The Queen Baton Rouge, 5 located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 6 Riverboat gaming licenses are issued 7 for a five-year term. Pursuant to 8 Louisiana Revised Statute 27:75(A), the 9 Board is required to act upon any renewal 10 application no later than 30 days prior to 11 the expiration of the current license. 12 Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC doing 13 business as The Queen Baton Rouge's 14 license is set to expire on July 18, 2025. 15 The Division has rev -- reviewed the 16 financial circumstances of the license and 17 completed suitability investigation of the 18 licensee, its parent companies, and 19 principles. 20 At this time, Ms. Lisa Hotard and 21 Investigator Brian Jefferson will provide 22 their findings to the Board. Following 23 their presentation, if it is the Board's 24 pleasure to renew the riverboat gaming 25 license of Louisiana Cruises, LLC doing</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>1 business as The Queen Baton Rouge, a 2 proposed resolution has been prepared for 3 the Board's adoption and the Chairman's 4 signature. 5 MS. HOTARD: 6 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and 7 Board Members. My name is Lisa Hotard 8 with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit 9 Section. 10 Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC doing 11 business as The Queen Baton Rouge, The 12 Queen, seeks a five-year renewal of its 13 riverboat gaming license. Bally's 14 Corporation is the ultimate parent of The 15 Queen through its direct subsidiary, The 16 Queen Casino and Entertainment, 17 Incorporated. 18 Since commencing gaming operations 19 in December 1994, the licensee has 20 generated approximately \$2.7 billion in 21 gaming revenues and paid \$571 million in 22 state gaming fees. In addition, for the 23 years 2020 through 2024, the licensee paid 24 approximately \$6.2 million in fees to East 25 Baton Rouge Parish and the City of Baton</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>1 Rouge. 2 During the past five fiscal years, 3 the licensee generated approximately 4 \$327.6 million in Adjusted Gross Revenue. 5 For the years 2020 through 2024, 6 approximately \$99 million in enhancements 7 were made to the property, including the 8 construction of its new landside facility. 9 Additionally, The Queen is committed to 10 investing in further improvements to the 11 property over the next five years, as 12 shown on page 7 of the Audit's report. 13 In conclusion, no financial issues 14 came to our attention to preclude the 15 Board from approving The Queen's riverboat 16 gaming license for a period of five years, 17 effective July 18, 2025. 18 Licensing will now present their 19 findings. 20 MASTER TROOPER JEFFERSON: 21 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and 22 Members of the Board. I'm Master Trooper 23 Brian Jefferson with the Louisiana State 24 Police, Gaming Enforcement Division. 25 On March 27, 2025, Louisiana Casino</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>1 Cruises, LLC doing business as The Queen 2 Baton Rouge and its parent companies, 3 submitted a five-year renewal, Level 1, 4 Part A suitability gaming application. 5 In accordance with the rules and 6 regulations of the Gaming Enforcement 7 Division, a background investigation was 8 conducted on Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC 9 doing business as The Queen Baton Rouge, 10 their affiliated entities, officers, 11 directors, key individuals and persons 12 with 5% or more ownership or economic 13 interest in licensing. 14 The background investigation 15 consists of inquiries to the state -- 16 federal, state and local law enforcement 17 agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming 18 regulatory agencies, The Louisiana 19 Department of Revenue and the Computerized 20 Criminal History Database. 21 Based on this investigation, no 22 information was found that would preclude 23 the Board from approving the five year 24 renewal of Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC 25 doing business as The Queen of Baton</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>1 Rouge. 2 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 3 Board Members, do we have any 4 questions for either the Attorney 5 General's office or State Police in this 6 matter? 7 Okay. I do understand that we have 8 a representative to come and give an 9 update on the property. 10 Good morning, Mr. Woods. Please 11 state your full name for the record. 12 MR. WOODS: 13 Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Good 14 morning, Board Members. My name is Bruce 15 Woods. I'm the General Manager at The 16 Queen Baton Rouge. 17 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 18 You may proceed. 19 MR. WOODS: 20 Yes, sir. Yes, Mr. Chairman, we are 21 continuing to operate The Queen since 22 going landside, and just, you know, we're 23 continuing to try to provide the best 24 experience we can for our players and 25 guests as well as for our team members</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>1 there. Over the last few months, we -- we</p> <p>2 have seen a -- a certainly large increase</p> <p>3 in business and we just continue to move</p> <p>4 forward to be a good community partner for</p> <p>5 the East Baton Rouge Parish.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:</p> <p>7 Any questions from the Board</p> <p>8 Members?</p> <p>9 MR. WOODS:</p> <p>10 Yes -- yes, Sir? Yes?</p> <p>11 MR. SHOLES:</p> <p>12 Are there any members on your team</p> <p>13 making less than \$15 an hour?</p> <p>14 MR. WOODS:</p> <p>15 Yes. There -- there are -- there</p> <p>16 are a couple, like Richard mentioned. You</p> <p>17 know, our -- our counterpart there, our</p> <p>18 security, we starting -- we're starting at</p> <p>19 \$14. And we have a couple of count team</p> <p>20 members that are at \$14 as well. Our</p> <p>21 non-tip team members have an av -- an</p> <p>22 hourly -- team members have an average</p> <p>23 salary of \$18 an hour. Our tip team</p> <p>24 members have an average salary -- salary</p> <p>25 of \$9 an hour, but with their tips their</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>1 blending rate is at \$16 an hour.</p> <p>2 So we -- we continue to look at the</p> <p>3 market conditions and we certainly want to</p> <p>4 be competitive there; but if in addition</p> <p>5 to that, I think it's important to note</p> <p>6 that, you know, we offer advancement</p> <p>7 opportunities for all our team members.</p> <p>8 So if -- if for example, a security</p> <p>9 officer or count team member, you know,</p> <p>10 wish to make the additional income, you</p> <p>11 know, outside of doing their position, we</p> <p>12 certainly offer some variety positions.</p> <p>13 We offer internal transfers to some</p> <p>14 positions that pay higher rates as well.</p> <p>15 So we -- we're certainly cognizant of the</p> <p>16 fact that people have to make a living and</p> <p>17 we want to be as fair as possible to our</p> <p>18 team members. And I think we provide a</p> <p>19 generous benefit package. And -- and</p> <p>20 again, we try to accommodate anyone that</p> <p>21 -- that wants to advance in the industry</p> <p>22 to the best of our abilities.</p> <p>23 MR. SHOLES:</p> <p>24 I'm not going to delay the meeting,</p> <p>25 but I -- I really have difficulty</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>1 understanding why we can't give people at</p> <p>2 least minimum wage when -- when business</p> <p>3 is really profitable. That -- being below</p> <p>4 \$15 an hour, I mean, it's just -- okay.</p> <p>5 MR. WOODS:</p> <p>6 Yeah, we -- we certainly understand</p> <p>7 that. And again, we -- we are certainly</p> <p>8 looking at all of our market conditions.</p> <p>9 We want to be as fair as we possibly can</p> <p>10 to our team members, you know, working</p> <p>11 within the restraints of -- of business</p> <p>12 there. So like we -- we are certainly</p> <p>13 taking that into consideration.</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:</p> <p>15 Mr. Woods, you mentioned, you know,</p> <p>16 an increase in -- in revenue in the last</p> <p>17 few months. How much of that do you</p> <p>18 contribute to the entertainment that is</p> <p>19 offered there, more specifically, the --</p> <p>20 the concert series that you all have been</p> <p>21 putting on on the weekends?</p> <p>22 MR. WOODS:</p> <p>23 Well, you know, that -- that is part</p> <p>24 of our non-gaming record. Now, we do get</p> <p>25 some crossover with that. I -- I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">32</p> <p>1 certainly noticed that a couple of</p> <p>2 weekends ago that we got a lot of</p> <p>3 crossover on -- onto our gaming floor.</p> <p>4 Sometimes it -- it doesn't necessarily</p> <p>5 crossover to gaming, but we do still make</p> <p>6 good food and beverage revenue off the</p> <p>7 confer -- concerts. We normally have a --</p> <p>8 approx -- approximately 400 people show</p> <p>9 up, so it's, you know, a good</p> <p>10 entertainment option for the community as</p> <p>11 well, and it's, you know, spreads good</p> <p>12 will, and it's, you know, good for the</p> <p>13 brand, but it depends upon the concert.</p> <p>14 Sometimes we get crossover into slots and</p> <p>15 table games, but there are some concerts,</p> <p>16 where we really don't get much crossover.</p> <p>17 The patron just comes in to enjoy the --</p> <p>18 the -- the music and -- and have a good</p> <p>19 time, and then they, you know, go on about</p> <p>20 their business there.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:</p> <p>22 Well, there is some good feedback</p> <p>23 from the folks in the community, so, you</p> <p>24 know, keep up the good -- good job.</p> <p>25 MR. WOODS:</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">33</p> <p>1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  2 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:  3 Okay. Any more questions from the  4 Board?  5 If not, I will entertain a motion to  6 adopt the resolution.  7 So moved by Ms. Traylor and -- and  8 seconded by Ms. Lewis. Moving closer to  9 the opposite side of me. Excuse me. I'm  10 sorry. Look, I got a little off-track  11 there. I'm sorry.  12 Ms. Landry, will you please read the  13 resolution into the record?  14 MS. LANDRY:  15 On the 16th day of June 2025, the  16 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a  17 duly noticed public meeting, consider the  18 license renewal application of Louisiana  19 Casino Cruises, LLC doing business as The  20 Queen Baton Rouge, and upon motion duly  21 made and seconded, the Board adopted the  22 following Resolution:  23 Be it resolved that the riverboat  24 gaming casino license of Louisiana Casino  25 Cruises, LLC doing business as The Queen</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">34</p> <p>1 Baton Rouge be renewed for a term of five  2 years commencing on July 18, 2025, subject  3 to all conditions previously placed upon  4 the license.  5 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,  6 Louisiana, this 16th day of June 2025.  7 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:  8 Ms. Hernandez, will you please call  9 the roll?  10 MS. HERNANDEZ:  11 Ms. Lewis.  12 MS. LEWIS:  13 Yes.  14 MS. HERNANDEZ:  15 Mr. Poole.  16 MR. POOLE:  17 Yes.  18 MS. HERNANDEZ:  19 Ms. Hamilton-Acker.  20 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:  21 Yes.  22 MS. HERNANDEZ:  23 Mr. Sholes.  24 MR. SHOLES:  25 A reluctant yes.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">35</p> <p>1 MS. HERNANDEZ:  2 Ms. Traylor.  3 MS. TRAYLOR:  4 Yes.  5 MS. HERNANDEZ:  6 Chairman Hebert.  7 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:  8 Yes.  9 The motion carries. The resolution  10 is adopted and the renewal application is  11 approved. Thank you.  12 MR. WOODS:  13 Thank you.  14 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:  15 We'll now move on to Item C of the  16 Casino Gaming Issues, which is the  17 consideration of the petition for approval  18 to amend certain leases for Louisiana  19 Casino Cruises, LLC doing business as The  20 Queen of Baton Rouge, and the Catfish  21 Queen, LLC doing business as the Belle of  22 Baton Rouge and finally, Premier  23 Entertainment Shreveport, LLC doing  24 business as Bally's Shreveport Casino &amp;  25 Hotel.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">36</p> <p>1 Good morning. Please identify  2 yourselves for the record.  3 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. HOUSTON:  4 Assistant Attorney General Delancey  5 Houston.  6 MR. STEVENS:  7 Greg Stevens with Phelps Dunbar on  8 behalf of the licensees.  9 MR. McDIARMID:  10 Good morning. Josh McDiarmid on  11 behalf of GLP Capital.  12 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:  13 You may proceed.  14 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. HOUSTON:  15 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and  16 Board Members. I am here in the matter of  17 the petition for approval to amend certain  18 leases filed by Catfish Queen, LLC doing  19 business as Belle of Baton Rouge,  20 Louisiana Casino Cruises, LLC doing  21 business as The Queen Baton Rouge, and  22 Premier Entertainment Shreveport, LLC  23 doing business as Bally's Shreveport  24 Casino &amp; Hotel requesting Board approval  25 to amend two previously approved leases</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">37</p> <p>1 associated with Bally's Corporation 2 subsidiaries. 3 Bally's Corporation currently owns 4 the Belle and The Queen through its wholly 5 owned subsidiary The Queen Casino &amp; 6 Entertainment, Incorporated. Bally's 7 Corporation owns Bally's Shreveport 8 through its wholly owned subsidiaries 9 Premier Entertainment Louisiana I, LLC and 10 Bally's Management Group, LLC. 11 Gaming and Leisure Properties, 12 Incorporated is a real estate investment 13 trust that owns the real property assets 14 and leasehold interests of Belle, Queen, 15 and Bally's Shreveport. 16 On February 3, 2025, this Board 17 approved a Merger Agreement between 18 Bally's and QCE, for the merger with QCE 19 and the acquisition of QCE's wholly owned 20 Louisiana licensees, Belle and Queen. SG 21 CQ Gaming, LLC, a direct parent company of 22 QCE prior to the merger, gained ownership 23 interest in Bally's, resulting in QCE 24 becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of 25 Bally's.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">38</p> <p>1 The first lease presented to the 2 Board for approval of proposed amendments 3 is the Third Amended -- excuse me -- the 4 Third Amended and Restated Master Lease. 5 Currently, under the Third Amended 6 and Restated Master Lease, GLP Capital 7 leases the real property assets of Belle 8 and Queen, including the land, buildings, 9 and fixtures to the licensees. The Third 10 Amended and Restated Master Lease was 11 effectuated between all involved parties 12 on November 13, 2023, as amended by the 13 First Amendment as of September 9, 2024, 14 and as amended by a Second Amendment dated 15 February 10, 2025. 16 Now, GLP Capital, as lessor, 17 together with QCE, Belle, Queen, and 18 Bally's seeks Board approval to effectuate 19 the proposed Third Amendment to the Third 20 Amended and Restated Lease to incorporate 21 certain amendments, some of which include: 22 Removing Queen Baton Rouge from this 23 lease; decreasing the rent amount of the 24 lease; and providing for additional 25 guarantees of the lease by Bally's</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">39</p> <p>1 unrestricted subsidiaries. 2 The Belle, Queen, and QCE will 3 continue to guaranty payments due under 4 this lease agreement for the rent amount 5 and will execute a Fourth Amended and 6 Restated Guaranty. 7 The second lease presented to the 8 Board for approval of proposed amendments 9 to the Master Lease is between Bally's 10 Management and GLP Capital. 11 On November 21, 2024, the Board 12 approved the sale/leaseback transact -- 13 transaction whereby Bally's Shreveport, 14 Bally's Management, Bally's, and GLP 15 Capital entered into a Contribution 16 Agreement. Bally's Shreveport transferred 17 legal title of its real estate assets, 18 including its riverboat vessel, to GLP 19 Capital. 20 Subsequent to the closing of the 21 Agreement, GLP Capital, as Lessor, entered 22 into a Master Lease Agreement with Bally's 23 Management, as Tenant, to leaseback the 24 real property assets used in the 25 operations of Bally's Shreveport. Bally's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">40</p> <p>1 Management then entered into a sublease 2 agreement with Bally's Shreveport for its 3 real property assets. 4 Now, GLP Capital as landlord with 5 Bally's Management, as tenant, seeks Board 6 approval to effectuate the proposed First 7 Amendment to the Master Lease to 8 incorporate certain amendments, some of 9 which are: Adding Casino Queen Illinois 10 and Queen Baton Rouge as leased property 11 under the master lease; increasing the 12 rental amount of this lease; and adding 13 Casino Queen Illinois and Queen Baton 14 Rouge as guarantors. 15 GLP Capital, as Lessor, will enter 16 into the First Amendment to the Master 17 Lease with Bally's Management, as Tenant, 18 to leaseback the real property used in the 19 operations of The Queen. Bally's 20 Management, as Sub-Landlord, will continue 21 to sublease Bally's Shreveport, as 22 Sub-Tenant, pursuant to an Amended and 23 Restated Sublease. 24 Additionally, Bally's Management, as 25 Sub-Landlord, will into -- enter into a</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">41</p> <p>1 separate sublease with Queen Baton Rouge, 2 as Sub-Tenant, to sublease its real 3 property assets used in operations, 4 pursuant to a certain Sublease Agreement. 5 The Board's previous approvals of 6 both the Third Amendment to the Third 7 Amended and Restated Lease and the Master 8 Lease required GLPI and Bally's to agree 9 to a Statement of Conditions and execute 10 an Acknowledgment and Acceptance of 11 Certain required -- Conditions required by 12 all REIT transactions. 13 Pursuant to Condition 20, QCE, GLPI, 14 and Bally's, their subsidiaries, and their 15 successors and assigns shall be required 16 to obtain prior Board approval for any 17 transfer involving either lease agreement 18 or their rights and obligations under this 19 lease. 20 Therefore, due to the transfer of 21 rights, obligations, and the Licensee's 22 property through the anticipated execution 23 of the Third Amendment to the Third 24 Amended and Restated Lease and First 25 Amendment to the Master Lease, Board</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">42</p> <p>1 approval is required. If the Board 2 approves the Amendments, GLPI and Bally's 3 will be required to accept and acknowledge 4 revised Conditions. 5 The parties intend to execute the 6 Third Amendment to the Third Amended and 7 Restated Lease and the First Amendment to 8 the Master Lease on or by June 30, 2025 if 9 approved today by the Board. 10 Additionally, on June 5, 2025, 11 Bally's and QCE filed a Notice of Transfer 12 with the Board relating to the transfer of 13 Queen Baton Rouge from one internal 14 holding company, currently QCE, to another 15 internal holding company, Bally's 16 Management. 17 Pursuant to Louisiana -- excuse me. 18 Pursuant to LAC:42, title third -- I'm so 19 sorry -- title 42, part III, section 20 2504(A), Bally's Management has previously 21 been found suitable through its ownership 22 in Bally's Shreveport and this proposed 23 transfer is between affiliated entities; 24 therefore, this noticed transfer does not 25 need prior Board approval and is not up</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">43</p> <p>1 for consideration at this time. 2 However, The Queen's Statement of 3 Conditions do require Board approval to be 4 updated to reflect a change in ownership 5 to another Bally's subsidiary, which is 6 anticipated to occur at the end of the 7 month. 8 GLPI and Bally's Corporation will 9 have to execute an updated Acknowledgement 10 and Acceptance of the REIT Conditions for 11 Queen Baton Rouge as required by the Board 12 for all REIT transactions. 13 Under the REIT conditions, Board 14 approval is required for any transfer of a 15 master lease agreement or the rights or 16 obligations of the parties under the 17 lease. 18 The Attorney General's Office has 19 reviewed the Third Amendment to the Third 20 Amended and Restated Lease, the First 21 Amendment to the Master Lease, Sub-Lease 22 Agreements, and related agreements and 23 find no issues that would preclude the 24 Board for approval today. 25 If the Board decided to grant</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">44</p> <p>1 approval, a Resolution has been prepared 2 for the Board's adoption. Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 4 Okay. Gentleman, anything to add on 5 behalf of the licensee or GLPI? 6 MR. STEVENS: 7 No, sir. 8 MR. McDIARMID: 9 No, sir. 10 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 11 Do we have any questions from the 12 Board Members? 13 If not, I'll entertain a motion to 14 adopt the resolution. 15 It's so moved by Ms. Lewis and 16 seconded by Ms. Traylor. 17 Would you please read the Resolution 18 into the record, Ms. Landry? 19 MS. LANDRY: 20 On the 16th day of June 2025, the 21 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a 22 duly noticed public meeting, consider the 23 Petition for Approval to Amend Certain 24 Leases filed by Louisiana Casino Cruises, 25 LLC doing business as The Queen Baton</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">45</p> <p>1 Rouge, Catfish Queen, LLC doing business 2 as Belle of Baton Rouge, and Premier 3 Entertainment Shreveport, LLC doing 4 business as Bally's Shreveport Casino and 5 Hotel, and upon motion duly made and 6 seconded, the Board adopted this 7 Resolution: 8       Whereas, Catfish Queen's and 9 Louisiana Casino Cruises' real estate 10 assets and leasehold interests are owned 11 by Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc.'s 12 subsidiary, GLP Capital L.P., and are 13 leased back to the licensees pursuant to a 14 Third Amended and Restated Master Lease, 15 as amended; 16       Whereas, Premier Entertainment 17 Shreveport's real estate assets and 18 leasehold interests are owned by GLP 19 Capital; leased to Bally's Management 20 Group, LLC, an indirect parent company of 21 Premier Entertainment Shreveport, pursuant 22 to a Master Lease Agreement; and subleased 23 directly to the licensee. 24       Whereas, GLP Capital intends to 25 release the real estate assets and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>1 leasehold interests of Louisiana Casino 2 Cruises from the Third Amended and 3 Restated Master Lease and continue to 4 lease the real property assets of Catfish 5 Queen, pursuant to a Third Amendment to 6 the Third Amended and Restated Master 7 Lease. 8       Whereas, Bally's Management and GLP 9 Capital intend to add the real estate 10 assets and leasehold interests of 11 Louisiana Casino Cruises to the Bally's 12 Master Lease, pursuant to a First 13 Amendment to Master Lease, and sublease 14 those real property assets directly to 15 Louisiana Casino Cruises pursuant to a 16 sublease agreement; 17       Whereas, Bally's Management will 18 continue to sublease the real property 19 assets and leasehold interests leased from 20 GLP Capital to Premier Entertainment 21 Shreveport, pursuant to an Amended and 22 Restated Sublease; and 23       Whereas, the amendments provided in 24 and related to the Third Amendment to the 25 Third Amended and Restated Master Lease,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">47</p> <p>1 First Amendment to Master Lease, and 2 ancillary subleases require prior Board 3 approval. 4       Now, therefore be it resolved that 5 the removal of the real estate assets and 6 leasehold interests of Louisiana Casino 7 Cruises from the Third Amended and 8 Restated Master Lease to the Bally's 9 Master Lease, as amended, is hereby 10 approved. 11       Be it further resolved that the 12 execution of the Third Amendment to the 13 Third Amended and Restated Master Lease by 14 and between GLP Capital, as Lessor, and 15 Catfish Queen, as Lessee, and related 16 agreements, is hereby approved. 17       Be it further resolved that the 18 execution of the First Amendment to Master 19 Lease by and between GLP Capital, as 20 Lessor, and Bally's Management, as Lessee, 21 and related agreements, is hereby 22 approved. 23       Be it further resolved that the 24 execution of the Amended and Restated 25 Sublease between Bally's Management, as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">48</p> <p>1 Lessor, and Premier Entertainment 2 Shreveport, as Tenant, is hereby approved. 3       Be it further resolved that the 4 execution of the sublease by and between 5 Bally's Management, as Lessor, and 6 Louisiana Casino Cruises, as Tenant, is 7 hereby approved. 8       Be it further resolved that the 9 execution of all documents necessary to 10 effectuate the transactions contemplated 11 by and provided for in the Third Amendment 12 to the Third Amended and Restated Master 13 Lease, First Amendment to Master Lease, 14 subleases, and related agreements, all as 15 more particularly described therein is 16 hereby approved. 17       Be it further resolved that the 18 execution of the Statement of Conditions 19 to the Riverboat Gaming License of 20 Louisiana Casino Cruises reflecting the 21 change in parent company from The Queen 22 Casino and Entertainment, Inc. to Bally's 23 Corporation is hereby approved. 24       Be it further resolved that the 25 approvals contained in this resolution are</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">49</p> <p>1 subject to GLPI's and Bally's 2 Corporation's execution of the 3 Acknowledgement and Acceptance of 4 Conditions to Approval, a copy of which is 5 attached hereto and incorporated herein. 6 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, 7 Louisiana this 16th day of June 2025. 8 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 9 Thank you. Ms. Hernandez, will you 10 please call the roll? 11 MS. HERNANDEZ: 12 Ms. Lewis. 13 MS. LEWIS: 14 Yes. 15 MS. HERNANDEZ: 16 Mr. Poole. 17 MR. POOLE: 18 Yes. 19 MS. HERNANDEZ: 20 Ms. Hamilton-Acker. 21 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: 22 Yes. 23 MS. HERNANDEZ: 24 Mr. Sholes. 25 MR. SHOLES:</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">50</p> <p>1 Yes. 2 MS. HERNANDEZ: 3 Ms. Traylor. 4 MS. TRAYLOR: 5 Yes. 6 MS. HERNANDEZ: 7 Chairman Hebert. 8 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 9 Yes. 10 That motion carries. The resolution 11 is adopted, approving the Amendments to 12 the movement -- lease agreements. Excuse 13 me. 14 Thank you. Y'all have a good day. 15 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: 16 Thank you, Board Members. 17 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 18 Okay. Moving on to Item VI on our 19 agenda, Consideration of Proposed 20 Settlement in the matter of Lakeview 21 Landings, LLC doing business as The Blue 22 Crab Restaurant. 23 Good morning. 24 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS, JR.: 25 Good morning, Chairman Hebert and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">51</p> <p>1 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney 2 General Kanick Lewis, Jr., and I'm here on 3 the matter of the settlement of Lakeview 4 Landings, LLC doing business as The Blue 5 Crab Restaurant, which holds a Type 2 6 Video Draw Poker Gaming License. 7 The settlement addresses the late 8 submission of the annual forms and fees 9 that are required to be submitted to the 10 Division no later than July 1st of each 11 year. The licensee did not submit their 12 2024 annual forms and fees until March 13 13th of 2025, which gave rise to a 14 violation of gaming law. 15 The civil penalty contained in this 16 settlement is \$1,500. The settlement has 17 been signed by the Hearing Officer and is 18 now before the Board for final approval. 19 At this time, I'll be happy to 20 answer any questions you may have. 21 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 22 Okay. Board Members, do we have any 23 questions for Mr. Lewis? 24 If not, I will entertain a motion to 25 approve the settlement.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">52</p> <p>1 Judge Sholes made the motion; 2 seconded by Ms. Hamilton-Acker. 3 All in favor, say aye. 4 (All said aye). 5 Any opposition? 6 Hearing none, the motion carries and 7 the settlement is approved. 8 Thank you, Mr. Lewis. 9 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS, JR.: 10 Thank you. 11 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 12 Okay. Board Members, our final 13 agenda item is the consideration of the 14 appeal of Theodore W. Robinson, Permit 15 Number P040074563. 16 It was my understanding that Mr. 17 Robinson was supposed to be represented by 18 counsel. 19 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. WESTRA: 20 That was my understanding as well. 21 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 22 Okay. And that's Mr. Vidrine; 23 correct? 24 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. WESTRA: 25 Correct.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">53</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN HEBERT:</p> <p>2 Can someone from State Police please</p> <p>3 step out to see if Mr. Vidrine may be out</p> <p>4 there?</p> <p>5 Okay. Thank you, Captain.</p> <p>6 Okay. We're going to proceed. I</p> <p>7 want to remind you, Mr. Westra, that the</p> <p>8 Board is operating at its appellant</p> <p>9 capacity this morning, and the decision</p> <p>10 will be based solely on the record of the</p> <p>11 Administrative Hearing and no new evidence</p> <p>12 can be considered at this Board Meeting.</p> <p>13 You can proceed.</p> <p>14 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. WESTRA:</p> <p>15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members</p> <p>16 of the Board. I am Ben Westra, Assistant</p> <p>17 Attorney General, appearing on behalf of</p> <p>18 the Division.</p> <p>19 This matter comes before the Board</p> <p>20 to determine whether the Hearing Officer's</p> <p>21 decision to revoke Mr. Robinson's permit</p> <p>22 was correct solely based on the evidence</p> <p>23 presented at the Administrative Hearing.</p> <p>24 We contend that the Hearing Officer</p> <p>25 correctly determined that he's unsuitable</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">54</p> <p>1 to hold a non-key gaming employee permit</p> <p>2 and correctly revoked his permit.</p> <p>3 Revised Statute 27:28(A) grants the</p> <p>4 Board significant discretion to determine</p> <p>5 suitability based on whether a person is</p> <p>6 of good character, honesty, and integrity.</p> <p>7 The purpose of which is to ensure the --</p> <p>8 that permittees do not pose a threat to</p> <p>9 the public interest of this state or to</p> <p>10 the effective regulation and control of</p> <p>11 gaming.</p> <p>12 At the hearing, the Division</p> <p>13 presented evidence and testimony by</p> <p>14 supporting the Hearing Officer's decision.</p> <p>15 The testimony of the Arresting Officer</p> <p>16 established that he was arrested by the</p> <p>17 Lake Charles Police Department for</p> <p>18 domestic abuse battery against his son in</p> <p>19 violation of Revised Statute 14:35.3. The</p> <p>20 evidence showed that he -- that the</p> <p>21 permittee, while in an intoxicated state,</p> <p>22 attacked his son, causing bruising and</p> <p>23 damage to his face. He not only admitted</p> <p>24 to these actions to the Arresting Officer,</p> <p>25 but also demonstrated a lack of remorse by</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">55</p> <p>1 stating that he would do it again. His</p> <p>2 actions in attacking his son, admitting to</p> <p>3 doing so and his lack of remorse</p> <p>4 immediately after speaks to his true</p> <p>5 character and his propensity for violence.</p> <p>6 I would point out that while R.S. 14:35.3</p> <p>7 is not a statutory disqualifier under R.S.</p> <p>8 27:28(B), R.S. 27:28(D) grants this Board</p> <p>9 the authority to consider evidence of or</p> <p>10 related to an arrest in violating</p> <p>11 suitability standards. But regardless of</p> <p>12 its classification as a crime of violence</p> <p>13 or not, this was a serious offense that</p> <p>14 reflects poorly on his character.</p> <p>15 Allowing him to retain his gaming</p> <p>16 permit after such behavior would undermine</p> <p>17 the effective regulation of this industry.</p> <p>18 Beyond the domestic abuse arrest,</p> <p>19 the evidence presented at the hearing also</p> <p>20 established his unsuitability based on his</p> <p>21 actions during his employment. The Vice</p> <p>22 President of Human Resources at the Golden</p> <p>23 Nugget Lake Charles testified that he</p> <p>24 improperly awarded comps to a player at</p> <p>25 the Golden Nugget and then subsequently</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56</p> <p>1 used those comps for his own benefit</p> <p>2 without proper authorization. When he</p> <p>3 issued the comps at issue, he was working</p> <p>4 in a public capacity; and, therefore,</p> <p>5 lacked the proper authorization to issue</p> <p>6 them per the casino's policy. Evidence</p> <p>7 presented also proved that he used over</p> <p>8 \$300 of these comps without the player to</p> <p>9 whom they were issued present with him,</p> <p>10 which is also required under casino</p> <p>11 policy. When he was confronted by HR</p> <p>12 during an investigation into this matter,</p> <p>13 he was dishonest about the amount of comps</p> <p>14 that he used while dining. His disregard</p> <p>15 for casino policies and his dishonesty</p> <p>16 once confronted, definitely raised</p> <p>17 questions about the good character,</p> <p>18 honesty, and integrity that are required</p> <p>19 of him to participate in this industry.</p> <p>20 We maintain that the Hearing Officer</p> <p>21 correctly determined that he is unsuitable</p> <p>22 for holding a gaming permit. His actions</p> <p>23 that led to his arrest for domestic abuse</p> <p>24 battery against his son along with the</p> <p>25 improper authorization and personal use of</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">57</p> <p>1 comps at the casino, and his subsequent 2 dishonesty to Human Resources collectively 3 raises significant concerns about his 4 suitability. 5 These actions demonstrate that he 6 poses a threat to the public interest of 7 this state and the effective regulation of 8 gaming. Our position is that he does not 9 possess the good character, honesty, and 10 integrity required to participate in the 11 Louisiana gaming industry. Therefore, we 12 would respectfully request that this Board 13 affirm the Hearing Officer's decision, 14 revoking his permit and rendering him 15 unsuitable. 16 I would be happy to answer any 17 questions that you might have. 18 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 19 Board Members, do we have any 20 questions for Mr. Westra? 21 Okay. Hearing none, I will 22 entertain a motion to either affirm the 23 Hearing Officer's decision revoking Mr. 24 Robinson's Non-Key Gaming Employee Permit 25 or reversing the Hearing Officer's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">58</p> <p>1 decision. 2 Okay. It's been moved by Mr. Poole 3 that we affirm the Hearing Officer's 4 decision and seconded by Ms. 5 Hamilton-Acker. 6 Is there any discussion? 7 Any opposition? 8 Ms. Hernandez, would you please call 9 the roll so that the Board can vote on 10 this matter? 11 MS. HERNANDEZ: 12 Ms. Lewis. 13 MS. LEWIS: 14 Yes. 15 MS. HERNANDEZ: 16 Mr. Poole. 17 MR. POOLE: 18 Yes. 19 MS. HERNANDEZ: 20 Ms. Hamilton-Acker. 21 MS. HAMILTON-ACKER: 22 Yes. 23 MS. HERNANDEZ: 24 Mr. Sholes. 25 MR. SHOLES:</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">59</p> <p>1 Yes. 2 MS. HERNANDEZ: 3 Ms. Traylor. 4 MS. TRAYLOR: 5 Yes. 6 MS. HERNANDEZ: 7 Chairman Hebert. 8 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 9 Yes. 10 And the Hearing Officer's decision 11 is affirmed. 12 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WESTRA: 13 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Board 14 Members. 15 CHAIRMAN HEBERT: 16 Thank you. 17 Okay. Before moving to Adjournment, 18 just a few announcements. First, I would 19 like to announce that our July Board 20 Meeting will take place on Thursday, July 21 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., and we will be 22 back at the Louisiana State Capitol. And 23 then finally, I would just like to say 24 thank you to Governor Landry as well as 25 the Louisiana State Senate on behalf of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">60</p> <p>1 the four candidates for confirmation. 2 It's been a long and arduous process for 3 all of us, but on behalf of -- of our two 4 Board Members who are -- who are not here, 5 those being Ms. Becnel and Mr. Langley as 6 well as Ms. Lewis and myself, we would 7 like to say thank you to both, the 8 Governor and the Senate. 9 And with that, I would ask for a 10 motion to adjourn. 11 It's been moved by Ms. Lewis, and 12 seconded by Mr. Poole. 13 Any opposition? 14 Hearing none, we are adjourned. We 15 will see you back at the Capitol next 16 month. 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">61</p> <p>1 REPORTER'S PAGE</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 I, BELINDA K. AMERSON, Certified Court</p> <p>5 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the</p> <p>6 officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the Federal</p> <p>7 Rules of Civil Procedure and/or Article 1434 (B)</p> <p>8 of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, before</p> <p>9 whom this sworn testimony was taken, do hereby</p> <p>10 state on the record:</p> <p>11 That due to the interaction in the</p> <p>12 spontaneous discourse of this proceeding, dashes</p> <p>13 (--) have been used to indicate pauses, changes</p> <p>14 in thought, and/or talkovers; that same is the</p> <p>15 proper method for a Court Reporter's</p> <p>16 transcription of a proceeding, and that dashes</p> <p>17 (--) do not indicate that words or phrases have</p> <p>18 been left out of this transcript; also, that any</p> <p>19 words and/or names which could not be verified</p> <p>20 through reference material have been denoted with</p> <p>21 the phrase "(phonetically spelled)."</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24 BELINDA K. AMERSON, CCR</p> <p>25 CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">62</p> <p>1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE</p> <p>2 This certificate is valid only for a</p> <p>3 transcript accompanied by my original signature</p> <p>4 and original required seal on this page.</p> <p>5 I, BELINDA K. AMERSON, Certified Court</p> <p>6 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, as</p> <p>7 the officer before whom this testimony was taken,</p> <p>8 do hereby certify that this hearing was reported</p> <p>9 by me in the stenotype reporting method, was</p> <p>10 prepared and transcribed by me or under my</p> <p>11 personal direction and supervision, and is a true</p> <p>12 and correct transcript to the best of my ability</p> <p>13 and understanding;</p> <p>14</p> <p>15 That the transcript has been prepared in</p> <p>16 compliance with transcript format guidelines</p> <p>17 required by statute or by rules of the board;</p> <p>18</p> <p>19 That I have acted in compliance with the</p> <p>20 prohibition on contractual relationships, as</p> <p>21 defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure</p> <p>22 Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions</p> <p>23 of the board;</p> <p>24 That I am not related to counsel or the</p> <p>25 parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in</p> <p>the outcome of this matter.</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24 BELINDA K. AMERSON, CCR</p> <p>25 CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER</p>

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