Transcript of the Testimony of

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD 9-17-2026

September 17, 2026

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STATE OF LOUISIANA
LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026 MEETING

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 LOUISIANA STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE COMMITTEE ROOM 1, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA on the 17th day of September, 2026.

APPEARANCES:

CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER HEBERT
MS. HERNANDEZ
MR. HENNIGAN
MS. LEWIS
MS. TRAYLOR
KATRINA EMERY
MR. JACKSON
MR. WYATT
MR. SHOLES
MS. BECNEL
MR. LANGLEY
MAJOR J.B. SLATON

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Good morning. Okay. I would like to call to order the Meeting of the Louisiana Gaming Control Board for Thursday, September 17th, 2026.
Ms. Hernandez, would you please call the roll?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Becnel.
MS. BECNEL:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Langley.

MR. LANGLEY:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.
MS. LEWIS:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
Mr. SHOLES:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
Ms. Traylor:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Here.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Colonel Besson.
MAJOR SLATON:
Major Slaton for Colonel Besson.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Secretary Coniglio.
MS. EMERY:

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Katrina Emery on behalf of Secretary Coniglio.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Okay. We have a quorum. Members, thank you for being here this morning.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is our public comment period. If anyone would like to comment on any agenda item before the Board today, now is the time to come forward.

Seeing none.

I would like to take a point of personal privilege to welcome the new head of the Gaming Enforcement Division at Louisiana State Police, Major J.B. Slaton.

Major Slaton began his career with the Louisiana State Police in 2001 as a patrol trooper assigned to Troop I in Lafayette, Louisiana. Major Slaton earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and a Master's degree from Northwestern State University.

Throughout his career, he's held a assignments in patrol, internal affairs, recruiting, public affairs, training,

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operational development and gaming. In his recent assignment as a support command inspector, he oversaw the Louisiana State Police Training Academy, Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, and Louisiana Criminal Justice Information Services. Prior to that he served as a captain within Louisiana State Police's Gaming Enforcement Division.

Mr. Slaton has over 28 years of law enforcement experience, including more than three years serving as a Lafayette Parish Sheriff's deputy from 1998 to 2001. He's a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the recipient of numerous commendations and awards, including the Life Saving Award, Professional Excellence Award and Meritorious Service Award, and multiple unit citations. He is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana where he has raised his five children.

Y'all please give a round of applause to Major Slaton. And welcome back.

The Board would also like to thank

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Major Adam Albright.

Is that him out in the audience this morning? Okay. I see him there. All right.

Major Albright, thank you for your outstanding service as a major over the Gaming Enforcement Division. Major Albright has been reassigned and is now over the Criminal Investigations Division at State Police under Lieutenant Colonel Bo Lummus, who is also in the audience today.

Adam, it's been a pleasure working with you and each of your stints in the Gaming Division, and I'm forever grateful for both, your leadership and your friendship. On behalf of the entire Board, thank you for your service and we wish you continued success.

We'll now move on to Item III, the approval of the minutes. I would ask for a motion to waive the minutes and approve August 20th, 2026 Board Meeting.

So moved by Ms. Becnel and seconded by Mr. Langley.

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Is there any discussion?

Any opposition?

Hearing none, that motion carries.

Now moving on to Item IV on our agenda, our revenue reports.

Good morning, Ms. Jackson.

MS. JACKSON:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. My name is Donna Jackson with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section.

In August, the 15 operating riverboats generated Adjusted Gross Receipts of $151,030,995. The state collected fees totaling $32,471,664.

Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal year '26-'27 to date are approximately $310.6 million, a decrease of $1.3 million or 0.4% from fiscal year '25-'26.

As of August 31, 2026, the state has collected $66.8 million in fees for fiscal year '26-'27.

Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue broken down by regional market. The overall decrease from July was $8.5

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million or 5.3%. Compared to last August, this month's revenues represent a decrease of $9.8 million or 6%.

Next, is the summary of the August 2026 gaming activity for Caesars New Orleans, found on page 3. Caesars generated $24,025,647 in gross gaming revenue. These revenues represent a decrease from July of $1.9 million or 7.4%, and a decrease of $1.8 million, or 7%, from the same month last year. During August, the state received $5,520,548 in minimum daily payments.

To date, Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal year '26-'27 are approximately $50 million, an increase of $2.9 million or 6% from fiscal year '25-'26. As of August 31, 2026, the state collected $11 million in fees for fiscal year '26-'27.

Next, I will present the revenues for Slots at the Racetracks. During August, the four racetrack facilities combined generated Adjusted Gross Receipts of $25, 943,529, a decrease of approximately $1 million or 3.8% from the

previous month, and a decrease of $2.2 million or 7.8% when compared to the same month last year. During August, the state collected $3.9 million in state fees.

To date, Adjusted Gross Receipts for fiscal year '26-'27 are $52.9 million, a decrease of $1.5 million or 3% from fiscal year '25-'26. As of August 31, 2026, the state has collected $8 million in fees for fiscal year '26-'27.

I will now move to the Video Gaming information.

There are 12,863 video gaming devices activated at 1,356 locations. Net Device Revenue for August 2026 was $67,127,574, a decrease of $1.7 million or 2.5% when compared to July 2026, but an increase of $1.8 million or 2.7% when compared to last August. Total Franchise Fees for August were approximately $20.3 million. Fiscal year to date Net Device Revenue is $136 million, an increase of $6.2 million or 4.8% when compared to last fiscal year.

As of August 31, 2026, the state has

collected $41 million in franchise fees for fiscal year '26-'27.

Next, I will present the August revenue for Sportsbook. In August, retail sportsbooks accepted approximately $11.4 million in sports wagers, generating net proceeds of $1.7 million and $156,600 in state taxes. The mobile sportsbooks accepted $260.7 million in sports wagers, resulting in net proceeds of $31 million and $6.7 million in taxes paid to the state.

Finally, for Daily Fantasy Sports, gross revenues for August were approximately $354,000, with net revenue of $42,000 and taxes of $3,400.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Board Members, do we have any questions for Ms. Jackson?

Thank you, Ms. Jackson.

MS. JACKSON:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

We will now move to Item V on our agenda, Casino Gaming Issues. Item A is

the Consideration of the Petition for Approval of Debt Transaction filed by Louisiana Downs Investment Company, LLC, doing business as Louisiana Downs Casino & Racetrack.

Good morning, please identify yourselves for the record.

MS. RIEWERTS:

I'm Lisa Riewerts from Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section.

MR. O'BIERNE:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert, Ryan O'Bierne representing Louisiana Downs.

MR. PRESTON:

Good morning, Chairman, Kevin Preston, Louisiana Downs.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Okay. And, Lisa, I was waiting on you to pronounce your name. All right. You may proceed.

MS. RIEWERTS:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. My name is Lisa Riewerts with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section.

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On July 14th, 2026, Louisiana Downs Investment Company, LLC, doing business as Louisiana Downs, submitted a petition for approval of a debt transaction requesting the Board's consideration and approval to refinance its existing real estate secured term note and provide for a working capital line of credit for business purposes. The $13 million proposed Loan Agreement with b1 BANK consists of: A real estate secured term note of up to $11 million; and a commercial revolving line of credit for up to $2 million.

In 2021, Rubico Acquisition Corporation acquired Louisiana Downs' operations. LAD LandCo, LLC owns Louisiana Downs real estate assets and leases them back to Louisiana Downs under a triple-net lease. To finance this acquisition, Rubico secured a $16 million reducing resolving credit facility with Western Alliance Bank, maturing on November 1st, 2026 and a $3 million subordinated term loan with its sole member, Thomas Benninger.

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Based on the review of the proposed Loan Agreement and other financial information provided, the Audit Section prepared financial conclusions found on page 12 of our report for the Board's consideration. Otherwise, no financial issues came to our attention to preclude the Board's approval of the proposed Loan Agreement.

If it is the Board's pleasure to approve this transaction, the Attorney General's Office has prepared a Resolution for the Board's adoption and signature.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Board Members, do we have any questions for State Police?

Okay. Gentleman, do you want to add anything?

MR. O'BIERNE:

Chairman Hebert, I would just like to say on behalf of Louisiana Downs, we really appreciate the great work of the State Police Audit Division and the AG's Office, and we wanted this to be done on a quick time basis, so we really appreciate

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their work.

MR. PRESTON:

Yeah. I think for us just being able to transfer this loan to a local Louisiana bank was great, and we're really excited about this, so we appreciate that.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Okay. Thank you, Mr. Preston and Mr. O'Bierne.

Board Members, at this time I would entertain a motion to adopt the Resolution.

So moved by Mr. Langley, and seconded by Ms. Lewis.

Ms. Hernandez, would you please read the Resolution into the record?

MS. HERNANDEZ:

On the 17th day of September 2026, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly noticed public meeting, consider the Louisiana Downs Investment Company, LLC, doing business as Louisiana Downs Casino & Racetrack Petition for Approval of Debt Transaction, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted this

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Resolution:

Whereas, on October 21st, 2021, the Board approved a certain debt transaction to be entered into by and between Rubico Acquisition Corporation, LAD LandCo, LLC, Rubico Gaming, LLC, Western Alliance Bank, and the Licensee for the purpose of financing the acquisition of 100% of the equity interests in the Licensee, as more particularly set forth in the Resolution adopted by the Board and executed by its Chairman on that date; and

Whereas, on July 14th, 2026, the Licensee filed a petition requesting the Board approval of a proposed new debt transaction pursuant a certain Loan Agreement by and between the Licensee, RAC and b1Bank, for the purpose of securing a Term Loan up to $11 million to pay off existing indebtedness and obtain a Commercial Revolving Line of Credit up to $2 million to be used for business purposes; and

Whereas, the proposed debt transaction requires prior Board approval,

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Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Licensee's request for approval of a new debt transaction, specifically establishing a Term Loan up to $11 million and Commercial Revolving Line of Credit up to $2 million entered into by and between the Licensee, RAC, and b1Bank, in the aggregate of $13 million, and the transactions contemplated, thereby, is hereby approved.

Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 17th day of September 2026.

Please call the roll, Ms. Hernandez.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Ms. Becnel.

MS. BECNEL:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Ms. Hennigan.

MS. HENNIGAN:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Mr. Jackson.

MR. JACKSON:

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Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Mr. Langley.

MR. LANGLEY:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Ms. Lewis.

MS. LEWIS:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Mr. Sholes.

MR. SHOLES:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Ms. Traylor.

MS. TRAYLOR:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Mr. Wyatt.

MR. WYATT:

Yes.

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Chairman Hebert.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Yes.

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That motion carries. The Resolution is adopted and the Debt Transaction is approved as set forth in the Resolution.

Thank you, gentleman.

(Both said thank you.)

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

We will now move on to Item VI, Sports Wagering Issues. Item A is the Consideration of the Renewal Application for the Sports Wagering License of Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles.

Please identify yourselves for the record.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL CORBETT:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Members of the Board. My name is Charlene Corbett. I'm an Assistant Attorney General.

MS. RIEWERTS:

Lisa Riewerts with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit.

MS. BROWN:

Tori Brown, Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

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ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL CORBETT:

We're here in the matter of the Renewal Application of the Sports Wagering License of Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles. Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statute 27:601 et sequentia, the Board is charged with applying or denying applications for Sports Wagering Licenses.

On April 18th, 2022, the Board approved the Licensee's Sports Wagering Licence for a term of five years commencing November 10th, 2021. It is set to expire on November 10th, 2026. The representative for the Licensee is present today to answer any questions the Board may have.

The Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division has reviewed and investigated the Renewal Application submitted by the Licensee and completed all required suitability investigations.

At this time Lisa Riewerts and Investigator Tori Brown will provide their findings to the Board. Following their

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presentation, if it is the Board's pleasure to renew the Sports Wagering License of Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles, the proposed Resolution has been prepared for the Board's adoption and the Chairman's signature.

MS. RIEWERTS:

My name is Lisa Riewerts with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the financial information submitted by the Sports Wagering Operator License Renewal Applicant, Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles, and its ultimate parent, Fertitta Entertainment, Inc.

Through a Retail Sportsbook Agreement and its subsequent amendment effective January 24th, 2024, Golden Nugget Lake Charles contracted with DK Crown Holdings, Inc., doing business as DraftKings, to be its sports wagering platform provider for its retail sportsbook operations. Pursuant to the

amended agreement, DraftKings provides Golden Nugget Lake Charles with a turnkey retail operation under the DraftKings sportsbook brand. This includes the operation and risk management, maintenance and support of its sports wagering platform, betting systems, and on-going support services.

No financial issues came to the Audit Section's attention that were of such a nature as to preclude the Board from approving the renewal of Golden Nugget Lake Charles' Sports Wagering Operator License.

Licensing will now present their findings.

MS. BROWN:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Members of the Board. I'm Investigative Specialist, Tori Brown, with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

On May 29th, 2026 Gold Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles and its parent companies, submitted their five year

renewal application packet for their Sports Wagering License.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of Louisiana Gaming Law and the Gaming Enforcement Division, a background investigation was conducted on Golden Nugget Lake Charles, its affiliated entities, officers, directors, key individuals, and persons with five percent or more ownership or economic interest in the license. The background investigations consisted of inquiries to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, the Louisiana Department of Revenue and the computerized criminal history database.

Based on this investigation, no information was found that would preclude the Board from providing the five year renewal of Golden Nugget Lake Charles.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Board Members, do we have any questions for the Attorney General's Office or State Police in this matter?

I do know that we have representatives from Golden Nugget here this morning.

Mr. Hennagin.

MR. HENNAGIN:

Yes.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Ladies, you can now --

Good morning.

MR. HENNAGIN:

Good morning.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Please identify yourself for the record.

MR. HENNAGIN:

My name is Greg Hennagin. I'm the General Manager of the Golden Nugget Lake Charles.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Okay. Mr. Hennagin, is there anything further that you would like the Board to know regarding the renewal?

MR. HENNAGIN:

No. We're very happy with our Sportsbook operation. We -- we -- I'm

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claiming that we have the nicest Sportsbook in the state. It's very popular and we jam packed this weekend for the LSU game. So looking forward to it.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Board Members, any questions for Mr. Hennagin?
If not, I will entertain a motion to adopt the Resolution.
So moved by Traylor; seconded by Mr. Jackson.
Ms. Hernandez, would you please read the Resolution into the record?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
On the 17th day of September 2026, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly noticed public meeting, consider the sports wagering license renewal application of Golden Nugget Lake Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted the following Resolution:
Be it resolved that the sports wagering license for Golden Nugget Lake

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Charles, LLC, doing business as Golden Nugget Lake Charles be renewed for a term of five years commencing on November 10th, 2026.
This done and signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 17th day of September 2026.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Would you please call the roll?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Becnel.
MS. BECNEL.
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Langley.
MR. LANGLEY:
Yes.

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MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.
MS. LEWIS:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
MS. TRAYLOR:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.
That motion carries. The Resolution is adopted and the sports wagering license is renewed.
Thank you.
MR. HENNAGIN:

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Thank you very much.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Item B under Sports Wagering Issues is the Consideration of the Renewal Application for the Sports Wagering License of Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City.
Good morning, please identify yourselves for the record.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS, JR:
Assistant Attorney General Kanick Lewis, Jr..
MS. BAILEY:
Megan Bailey with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section.
MS. BROWN:
Tori Brown with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
You may proceed.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS, JR.:
Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. We're here in the matter of the Renewal Application of the Sports Wagering License of Horseshoe

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Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Bossier City -- I'm sorry, Horseshoe Bossier City pursuant to the Louisiana Revised Statute 27:601 et seq, the Board is charged with approving or denying renewal applications for Sports Wagering Licensees -- Sports Wagering Licenses.

On April 18th of 2022, the Board approved the Licensee's Sports Wagering License for a term of five years commencing on October 31st, 2021, which is set to expire on October 31st of 2026.

Representatives for the Licensee are present today to answer any questions the Board may have. The Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division has reviewed and investigated the renewal application submitted by the Licensee and completed all required suitability investigations.

At this time, Megan Bailey and Investigator Tori Brown will provide their findings to the Board. Following their presentations, if it is the Board's pleasure to renew the Sports Wagering

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License of Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City, a proposed Resolution has been prepared for the Board's adoption and the Chairman's signature.

MS. BAILEY:

My name is Megan Bailey with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the financial information submitted by the Sports Wagering Operator License renewal applicant, Horseshoe Entertainment, a Louisiana Limited Partnership, doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City, and its ultimate parent, Caesars Entertainment, Inc.

Through intercompany agreements, Horseshoe Bossier City contracted with its affiliated company, American Wagering Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportsbook, to be its sports wagering platform provider for its Louisiana retail and online sportsbook operations. Pursuant to these agreements, American Wagering, Incorporated provides Horseshoe

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Bossier City with turnkey retail and online sportsbook operations. This includes the operation and risk management, maintenance and support of its sports wagering platform, betting systems, and on-going support services.

No financial issues came to the Audit Section's attention that were of such a nature as to preclude the Board from approving Horseshoe Bossier City's sports wagering operator license.

Licensing will now present their findings.

MS. BROWN:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Members of the Board. I am Investigative Specialist, Tori Brown, with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

On May 29th, 2026, Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City and its parent companies submitted their five year renewal for their sports wagering license.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of Louisiana Gaming Law and

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the Gaming Enforcement Division, a background investigation was conducted on Horseshoe Bossier City, its affiliated entities, officers, directors, key individuals, and persons with five percent or more ownership or economic interest in the license. The background investigations consisted of inquiries to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, the Louisiana Department of Revenue, and a computerized criminal history database.

Based on this investigation, no information was found that would preclude the Board from approving the five year renewal of Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Board Members, any questions for State Police or the Attorney General's office?

Okay. Thank you. We do have representatives from Caesars here this morning.

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Good morning.
MR. BARBIN:
Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. My name is Jeff Barbin from Phelps Dunbar, and I represent Caesars Entertainment. You'll notice that Caesars has the next three agenda items that will provide some general comments, and then answer any questions you have.
To my left is Whitney Willingham. Ms. Willingham is the SP and General Manager at Horseshoe Bossier City.
MS. WILLINGHAM:
Good morning, Chairman and Members of the Board. Thank you for having us this morning. Again, Whitney Willingham, General Manager at Horseshoe Bossier. We're excited to be here. Sports betting has certainly been a great addition to our business. The last time we were before you guys in relation to sports betting was back in 2021. We've done a lot at the property. We've moved into our permanent sportsbook space, which is beautiful. I would also like to say probably the

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greatest space in the Bossier City market, just under seven thousand square feet. And what we found is sports betting really contributes a lot more to our business, beyond just the sportsbook. There is a lot of crossover play that comes into play with those guests. A large portion of them also contributes to table slots and poker as well. So we know how important it is to our business, which is why we're glad to be here for this renewal. And I'll be happy to take any questions you guys have.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Board Members, do we have any questions for the representatives from Horseshoe?
Okay. Before I ask for a motion, I will say that I had the pleasure of visiting with Ms. Willingham a couple of weeks ago at her office and I think one of the -- the most innovative things that I've seen, I'll call it, is the fact that her office actually is visible to every patron that comes in and out of the

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casino, which I think is -- is a wonderful thing for patrons to be able to see that. And during our -- our visit, there was actually a patron who came in with a complaint that was handled while we were having our -- our meeting. And so, you know, thank you and all of the GMs for everything that you do on the property. I know it's a very tough job, but I thought that was very -- very neat and innovative.
So Board Members, at this time, I will entertain a motion to adopt the Resolution.
So moved by Vice-Chair Jackson; seconded by Ms. Becnel.
Ms. Hernandez, would you please read the Resolution into the record?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
On the 17th day of September, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly noticed public meeting, consider the sports wagering license renewal application of Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City, and upon motion duly made and

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seconded, the Board adopted the following Resolution:
Be it resolved that the sports wagering license for Horseshoe Entertainment, L.P., doing business as Horseshoe Bossier City be renewed for a term of five years commencing on October 31st, 2026.
Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this 17th day of September 2026.
THE COURT:
And would you please call the roll?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Becnel.
MS. BECNEL:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:

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Mr. Langley.
MR. LANGLEY:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.
MS. LEWIS:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
MS. TRAYLOR:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.
That motion carries and the sports wagering license is renewed.

Thank you.
MS. WILLINGHAM:
Thank you, Chairman.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Moving on to Item C under Sports Wagering Issues, Consideration of the Renewal Application for the Sports Wagering License of Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans.
Good morning, please identify yourselves for the record.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL DANAGEOZIAN:
Good morning. This is Assistant Attorney General Amy Danageozian.
MS. BAILEY:
Megan Bailey with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section.
MS. BROWN:
Tori Brown with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
You may proceed.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL DANAGEOZIAN:
We're here in the matter of Jazz

Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans' renewal application for its sports wagering license. Pursuant to the Louisiana Sports Wagering Act, the Board is charged with approving or denying renewal applications for sports wagering licenses.

On April 18th, 2022, the Board approved the Licensee's Sports Wagering License for a term of five years commencing on October 31st, 2021 and expiring on October 31st, 2026.

Representatives for the Licensee are present today to answer any questions the Board may have. The Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division has reviewed and investigated the renewal application submitted by the Licensee and completed all required suitability investigations.

At this time, Megan Bailey and Investigator Tori Brown will provide their findings to the Board. Following their presentation, if it is the Board's pleasure to renew the Sports Wagering

License of Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans, a proposed Resolution has been prepared for the Board's adoption and the Chairman's signature.
MS. BAILEY:
Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. My name is Megan Baily with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the financial information submitted by the Sports Wagering License renewal applicant, Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans, and its ultimate parent, Caesars Entertainment, Incorporated.

American Wagering Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportsbook, is Caesars New Orleans' sports wagering platform provider for its retail operations.

No financial issues came to the Audit Section's attention that were of such a nature to preclude the Board from approving Caesars New Orleans' Sports

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Wagering Operator License.
Licensing will now present their findings.
MS. BROWN:
Good morning Chairman Hebert and Members of the Board. I'm Investigative Specialist Tori Brown with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.
On May 29th, 2026, Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business Caesars New Orleans and its parent companies submitted their five year renewal application packet for their Sports Wagering License. In accordance with the rules and regulations of Louisiana Gaming Law and the Gaming Enforcement Division, a background investigation was conducted on Caesars New Orleans, its affiliated entities, officers, directors, key individuals and persons with five percent or more ownership or economic interest in the license. The background investigations consisted of inquiries to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies,

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the Louisiana Department of Revenue, and the computerized criminal history database.
Based on this investigation, no information was found that would preclude the Board from approving the five year renewal of Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Board Members, do we have any questions for the Attorney General's Office or State Police on this matter?
Thank you.
Mr. Barbin, do you want to come back up?
MR. BARBIN:
Good morning, again, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. I'm Jeff Barbin representing Caesars Entertainment. To my left is Jonathan Jones. Jonathan is set to become the SVP and General Manager of Caesars New Orleans pending regulatory approval, and he's going to give you a little bit of a background on himself.
MR. JONES:

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Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to be with you this morning. I've been with Caesars Entertainment for 21 years across markets in Nevada, Missouri, Indiana and most recently, Mississippi. But I'm a native New Orleanian, and it's really been an honor to transition into this new role as General Manager of Caesars New Orleans in my home town and my home state, and be a part of the great property that -- that has tremendous momentum and really a part of an amazing team that I've been able to join.
As it relates to sports betting, you know, I may continue the trend with superlatives. I think we have the best place to watch a game in New Orleans. These past two Saturdays have been electric. We were at capacity. We've got four live betting windows, 24 self-serve kiosks, and capacity for up to 250 people, and so it's been really, really fun to watch that and continue that. Like Whitney said, you know, we see a lot of

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crossover playing the table games, poker and slots as well. Our non-gaming revenue certainly benefits from the existing sports betting. And I think something that has been on our mind in this industry for a while is how do we get younger as an industry. And we have certainly seen our database go a lot younger with the existence of sports betting. So we're happy to answer any questions, but I do want to thank the LSP and the Attorney General's Office for their hard work on this process.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Board Members, do we have any questions or comments?
Judge Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's that time of the year when college kids are back in school and they get excited about football season. What are we doing to limit their access or prohibit access to our sports betting for people who are under age? Just tell us what we're -- how

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we're working on that now.
MR. JONES:
Yes. In terms of the brick and mortar Sportsbook, you know, we have -- we have a very keen focus on underage admissions and we -- we take that very seriously. So, you know, we work hard to make sure no one gets in that's under 21 into the casino. As it relates to our -- our digital app, we have multi-factor verification processes that -- that work really hard to make sure that we -- we don't allow that.
MR. SHOLES:
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
All right. Any more questions, Board Members?
First of all, Mr. Jones, welcome home. And I've heard nothing of great things about you in your previous stint in Mississippi, and I hope you bring all of that with you to Louisiana.
MR. JONES:
Yes, sir.

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CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
And I look forward to -- and we chatted briefly, but I look forward to meeting with you next week.
MR. JONES:
Yes, sir.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Okay. Board Members, I will entertain a motion to adopt the Resolution.
So moved by Ms. Traylor; seconded by Ms. Hennigan.
Ms. Hernandez, would you please read the Resolution into the record?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
On the 17th day of September 2026, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly noticed public meeting, consider the sports wagering license renewal application of Jazz Casino Company, LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted the following Resolution:
Be it resolved that the sports wagering license for Jazz Casino Company,

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LLC, doing business as Caesars New Orleans be renewed for a term of five years commencing on October 31st, 2026.
Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this 17th day of September 2026.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Would you please call the roll?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Becnel.
MS. BECNEL:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Langley.
MR. LANGLEY:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.

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MS. LEWIS:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
MS. TRAYLOR:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.
The motion carries. The Resolution is adopted and the sports wagering license is renewed.
Thank you.
MR. JONES:
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

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Our last item under Sports Wagering Issues, Item D is the Consideration of the Renewal Application for the Sports Wagering Platform Provider Permit of American Wagering, Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportsbook.

Good morning, please identify yourselves for the record.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:

Good morning. I'm Assistant Attorney General, Cathryn Langlois.

MS. BAILEY:

Megan Bailey with Louisiana State Police's Gaming Audit Section.

MS. YOUNG:

Shemika Young with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Please proceed.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:

We're here today in the matter of American Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars Sportsbook Renewal Application and for its Sports Wagering Platform Provider Permit. Pursuant to Louisiana Revised

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Statute Title 27, Section 601, the Board is charged with approving or denying renewal applications for sports wagering platform provider permits.

On April 18th, 2022, the Board approved the Permittee's Sports Wagering Platform Provider Permit for a five year term commencing on October 31st, 2021 and expiring on October 31st of 2026.

Representatives are here today to answer any questions the Board may have. The Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division has reviewed and investigated the renewal application submitted by the Permittee and completed all required suitability investigations.

At this time, Megan Bailey and Investigator Shemika Young will provide their findings to the Board. Following their presentation, if it is the Board's pleasure to renew the Sports Wagering Platform Provider Permits of American Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars Sportsbook, a proposed Resolution has been prepared for the Board's adoption and the

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Chairman's signature.

MS. BAILEY:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. My name is Megan Bailey with Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit Section. The Audit Section has reviewed the financial information submitted by the sports wagering platform provider renewal applicant, American Wagering, Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportsbook, hereinafter referred to as AWI. Caesars Entertainment, Incorporated is the ultimate parent of AWI through its wholly owned subsidiary, William Hill U.S. Holdco, Incorporated.

Caesars' affiliated company, AWI, entered into intercompany management agreements with all three of Caesars' Louisiana gaming licensees, Horseshoe Bossier City, Caesars New Orleans and Horseshoe Lake Charles, to be their retail sports wagering platform provider. Pursuant to the agreements, AWI provides each property with a turnkey retail sportsbook operation. This includes the

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management, maintenance and support of all retail sportsbook betting systems, operation risk, and on-going support services.

Additionally, AWI leases retail sportsbook space and satellite locations on Louisiana Downs Casino and Racetrack's property to operate its internally branded retail sportsbook, Sportsbook at Louisiana Downs.

After gaining access to Louisiana's mobile sports wagering market through its partnership with Horseshoe Bossier City, AWI launched its Caesars branded online and mobile sportsbook on January 28th, 2022, utilizing one of Horseshoe Bossier City's two legally authorized mobile licenses.

For the six-month interim period ended June 30th, 2026, Caesars' digital segment operated by AWI generated $725 million in revenues, representing a 6.9% increase when compared to the same period last year. This was a result of an increase in casino revenues in online

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casino handle coupled with improved online casino and Sports betting hold.

It is our assessment, based on the information reviewed, that AWI possesses the financial ability to support its sports wagering operations in Louisiana. No financial issues came to the Audit Section's attention that were of such a nature as to preclude the Board from approving the renewal of AWI's sports wagering platform provider permit.

Licensing will now present their findings.

MS. YOUNG:

Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Members of the Board. I am Shemika Young with the Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement Division. On May 29th, 2026, American Wagering, Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportbook -- I'm sorry, Caesars Sportbook and its parent companies submitted their five year renewal application packet for their sport -- Sports Wagering License.

In accordance with the rules and

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regulations of Louisiana Gaming Law and the Gaming Enforcement Division, a background investigation was conducted on American Wagering, Incorporated, its affiliated entities, officers, directors, key individuals and persons with five percent or more ownership or economic interest in the license. The background investigations consisted of inquires to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, civil jurisdictions, gaming regulatory agencies, the Louisiana Department of Revenue and the computerized criminal history database.

Based on this investigation no information was found that would preclude the Board from approving the five-year renewal of American Wagering, Incorporated.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Board Members, do we have any questions for State Police or the Attorney General's Office in this matter?

Okay. Thank you.

MR. BARBIN:

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Good morning, Chairman Hebert and Board Members. I'm Jeff Barbin representing AWI in the matter. I don't have any -- any comments to give. I just want to say a round of thanks to the State Police, Attorney General's Office and Board staff for all of their hard work in these renewals, and I'm happy to answer any questions you have.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Okay. And certainly the Board echos those sentiments as it relates to State Police and the AG's Office.

Board Members, do we have any questions for Mr. Barbin?

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge also in attendance we have the Regional Vice-President for Caesars, Mr. Robert Urland as well as counsel Cara Hall and other members of the Caesars team. Thank you for doing this this morning.

At this time I will entertain a motion to adopt the Resolution.

So moved by Mr. Jackson; seconded by Ms. Becnel.

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Ms. Hernandez, would you please read the Resolution into the record?

MS. HERNANDEZ:

On the 17th day of September 2026, the Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a duly noticed public meeting, consider the sports wagering platform provider permit renewal application of American Wagering, Incorporated, doing business as Caesars Sportsbook, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

Be it be resolved that the sports wagering platform provider permit for American Wagering, Inc., doing business as Caesars Sportsbook be renewed for a term of five years commencing on October 31st, 2026.

Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 17th day of 2026.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Would you please call the roll?

MS. HERNANDEZ:

Ms. Becnel.

MS. BECNEL:

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Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Langley.
MR. LANGLEY:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.
MS. LEWIS:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
MS. TRAYLOR:
Yes.

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MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.
That motion carries and the Resolution is adopted and the Sports Wagering Platform Provider Permit is approved.
MR. BARBIN:
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Thank you, Mr. Barbin.
Okay. Our final agenda item is the Consideration of the Appeal of Tiffany Kirkland.
Is Ms. Kirkland in the audience?
Okay. Good morning and please make your appearances for the record.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:
Good morning. I'm Assistant Attorney General Cathryn Langlois

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appearing on behalf of the Division.
MS. KIRKLAND:
I'm Tiffany Kirkland.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Okay. Before we proceed I would like to remind the parties today that this Board is operating in its appellant capacity. The Board's decision will be based on the record of the Administrative Hearing and the arguments made today, but no new evidence can be considered today.
Ms. Kirkland, as this is your appeal, you will proceed first with your argument.
MS. KIRKLAND:
Thank you. Good morning, Board Members. My name is Tiffany Kirkland, and I respectfully -- I am respectfully asking the Board to overturn the findings of unsuitability and reverse the decision against me. I understand the responsibility of this Board has to protect the integrity of Louisiana Gaming, but I also understand that I have a burden of demonstrating my suitability. I'm not

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asking the Board to disregard my history, excuse -- excuse mistakes, or pretend that my application was perfect. I am not asking the Board to consider the circumstances around the information and my application I am actually -- what I actually understood when I answered the questions. The evidence presented and what all -- overall -- what my overall record demonstrates about honesty, integrity and suitability.
My twenty years in gaming before addressing the -- before addressing the individual issues, I want the Board to understand the professional history I bring to this matter. I have been doing -- I have been in the gaming industry for approximately twenty years. During those twenty years, I have worked in gaming and held licenses -- gaming licenses in multiple jurisdictions, including Mississippi and Indiana. And throughout those two -- approximately twenty years, I have never had a gaming-regulated disciplinary issue, a gaming license

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issue, or a finding that I was unsuitable to work in gaming, with all licensing employment happening after the issues in this matter occurred.

I understand that having twenty years of gaming does not automatically establish suitability. I am not asking the Board to treat it that way, but I believe it is important evidence of my history.

For two decades I worked in an industry where honesty -- honesty, integrity, compliance and responsibility are fundamental requirements. I have been regulated in other jurisdictions, and I have not had a gaming-regulated issue with my licensing. I respectfully ask the Board to consider that history when determining the matter before you actually demonstrate about -- about me.

I also believe it is important -- that it is an important issue concerning the investigation process in my case. My application was ultimately evaluated based on a significant part on discrepancies

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involving what I disclose and how I answered certain questions; but I was never given an investigative report, an interview where someone sat me down and went through those questions with me.

I believe it is particularly important in my case as an interview would have allowed me -- allowed the investigator to go through question by question; ask me what did you understand about this question to me; why did you answer it this way; what information are you relying upon when you answered it; did you understand the legal terminology being used; did you believe the question applied to you in this particular circumstances.

If I misunderstood a question, I could have explained that. If I forgot something, I could have explained that. If I believed particular record not did not apply to me, I could explain why. And if that -- if there was an inconsistency, the investigator could have determined whether it reflected an intentional attempt to mislead or whether it reflected

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misunderstanding, human error or incomplete recollection.

I understand that the investigative interview is not legally required in every gaming application. I'm not arguing that the Division was required to interview me in every case. My point is that the interview of an investigative tool recognized by the Board's regulations and in my particular case where understandings of the questions became the central finding against me, an interview would have provided an important opportunity to develop those facts. Instead, conclusions were drawn from discrepancies without giving me an opportunity to explain directly of what I understood the questions to mean.

That distinction matters because the issue before the Board is not simply whether every answer on my application was perfect, the issue for what those answers and omissions actually demonstrate about my honesty and integrity.

I also want to make clear that I did

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not simply refuse to disclose my history. When submitting my application, I disclosed substantial information about my past, which included charges that was involved due to identity theft, and also disturbing the peace, and different -- and my tax liens, and a small claims judgment made against me. And also I disclosed my bankruptcy. I also disclosed the matter of the bad checks when I was a minor, which I understood it to involve identity theft.

I acknowledge that I did not disclose every old small claims judgment. I forgot some. Three of the matters were more than fifteen years old. I'm not going to stand before the Board and say that my application was perfect, and when I knew -- and when I know there are things I could have disclosed more completely. I acknowledge those mistakes, but I respectfully ask the Board to distinguish an in overt omission or forgotten information from intentional efforts to conceal information.

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I would also like to address the finding concerning the alleged marriage to Reginald Kirkland. I respectfully disagree that I intentionally concealed my marriage because of his criminal history. First, I personally identified Reginald Kirkland on my application. If my intention had been to hide him because of his history, I respectfully ask the Board to consider why would I have personally identified him?

But there is another important piece of evidence that I would like the Board to consider. I have a letter signed by the probate judge in Alabama stating that there is no record of a marriage between me and Reginald Kirkland in probate records.

That documentation is important because the findings against me assumes that I was legally married to him and that I intentionally concealed that marriage. I respectfully ask the Board to look at the actual evidence and ask what evidence in the record establishes that I was

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legally married to Reginald Kirkland.

Am I not asking the Board -- I'm not asking the Board to simply expect -- accept my statement over the Division's evidence. I'm asking the Board to consider the signed documentation from the Alabama probate judge and determine what the evidence establishes.

My understanding of the marital status question was based on the information and records available to me. I did not intentionally provide false information to conceal Reginald Kirkland or his history, and this is exactly why I believe the investigative interview would have been important if someone had sat me down and went and gone through these -- this question directly, I could have explained what I understood the question to mean and provide documentation concerning the absence of a marriage record. Instead, the issue was ultimately categorized as a concealment.

I respectfully ask the Board to distinguish intentional concealment from

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disputed illegal status question, and the official documentation I have obtained does not establish the marriage that was actually to me.

The second issue involves a matter from 2009, approximately 17 years ago. The matter involved a prescription medication, as I understood it I had been prescribed for a toothache. The matter was dismissed and there was no conviction. I acknowledge that there was an inconsistent answer in concerning this matter, and I'm not denying that inconsistency. My explanation is that I understood the question concerning drug convictions to refer to a criminal conviction involving unlawful drugs or controlled substance. I did not understand that question to be asking about dismissed prescription medication matters.

I understand that the Louisiana law allows the Board to consider dismissed matters. I'm not asking for the Board to ignore this matter simply because it was

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dismissed. I'm asking the Board to consider the age of the matter, the circumstances surrounding it, and the fact that it was dismissed, the absence of a conviction and what my answers actually demonstrate about my honesty and integrity. An inconsistent answer does not automatically mean the same thing as an intentional attempt to deceive.

The Republic Finance matter is another issue that I respectfully ask the Board to consider the circumstances surrounding this obligation. I dispute the underlying obligation belongs to me. At the time the loan was acquired, I was living in Indiana. The check associated with the loan was mailed to a Mississippi address that I no longer lived at. I provided evidence concerning my credit report and employment records. I -- my credit report did not show corresponding Republic Finance account, and I provided more than four months of pay stubs that did not show a wage garnishment.

I understand those facts by

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themselves do not establish who legally owed the debt, but that they are relevant circumstances when determining what I knew, what I understood, and whether the omission from my application was an intentional attempt to conceal an obligation. The existence of a default judgment and an intentional attempt to deceive are not automatically the same thing.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider this evidence surrounding the underlining obligations rather than treating the existence of a judgment itself as proof of intentional dishonesty.

I also want to make something very clear concerning the criminal matters being discussed. I have no prior criminal convictions arising from those matters. The criminal matters being discussed were all dismissed. I understand that the Louisiana Gaming Law allows the Board to consider arrest charges and dismissed matters. I'm not asking the Board to disregard them. I'm asking that they be

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considered accurately and in context. A dismissed charge is different from a conviction.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider these matters -- matters actually demonstrate about my present character, honesty and integrity. I understand the Division has categorized the various issues as demonstrating a pattern, but I respectfully ask the Board to look at each matter individually before reaching any conclusions. Some information was disclosed. Some information was forgotten. Some information involved questions I understood differently. Some information is disputed. Some matters are many years old, and some criminal matters were dismissed without convictions. I respectfully ask the word pattern, not substitute for examining the actual circumstances of each individual matter.

There is an additional matter I respectfully ask the Board to consider. These -- the circumstances surrounding my remand hear -- my remand hearing. On the

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day of that remand hearing, there was an accident on the interstate that caused the roadway to be closed. I was not involved in that accident. The roadway closure had caused me to be approximately 45 minutes late arriving at that hearing. I did not simply choose not to appear or disregard the hearing. I made efforts to communicate what was happening. I sent E-mails. I also communicated with the Hearing Office to make them aware of the circumstances, and that I was delayed.

Despite those communications, the Hearing began before I arrived. Statements were made and matters were addressed before I was present. As a result, I did not have the opportunity to hear the statements as they were being made and to cross-examine or respond to them at that point in the preceding.

I'm not asking the Board to excuse my late arrival. I'm asking the Board to consider why I was late. The delay was caused by an interstate road closure resulting from an accident I was not

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involved in, and that I communicated the circumstances to the Hearing Office. I also ask the Board to consider the effect of beginning the Hearing before I arrived. This is particularly important because questions about what I understood and why I answered questions the way I did, and whether the act -- whether my actions reflected intention deception are essential to the findings against me.

I respectfully ask the Board to consider whether the record fully reflects my opportunity to respond to those statements and evidence presented before I arrived.

Members of the Board, I am asking you to find that I have made -- I'm not asking you to find that I never made a mistake. I have acknowledged that there are things I could have answered differently and information I should have disclosed more completely. What I am asking you is to determine whether those mistakes demonstrate that I am a person who lacks honesty, integrity, and ability

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to comply with the required gaming regulations.

I respectfully submit that my approximately twenty years of my history in the gaming industry, my history of holding licenses in other jurisdictions without gaming-related disciplinary issues, my disclosure, those circumstances surrounding the disputed information, the age of the disposition of the criminal matters, and the disputed Republic Finance obligation, the Alabama probate judge documentation concerning the absence of a marriage record, the lack of an investigative interview to clarify my understandings and the circumstances surrounding my remand hearing shall all be considered.

I did not knowingly or intentionally set out to deceive the Division. I answered the application based upon my understanding, knowledge, and information available to me at that time. Where I made mistakes, I acknowledged them. Where I misunderstood a question, I explained

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that. And where I forgot information, I acknowledged that. Where I disputed obligation, I have provided evidence supporting my position and there were -- and there were inconsistencies I asked the Board to consider the circumstances behind them rather than automatically treating them as an intentional deception.

For approximately twenty years I worked in the gaming industry without regulation issues. I asked the Board to consider that history along with my entire record before making its determination. I'm not asking you to overlook mistakes. I'm asking the Board to determine whether those mistakes establish a lack of honesty, integrity, and suitability.

I respectfully ask the Board to distinguish a mistake from intentional dishonesty, a misunderstanding from deliberate deception, forgotten information from deliberate concealment, and a disputed matter from an established act of dishonesty. I respectfully ask the Board to overturn the findings of

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unsuitability and reverse the decision against me. Thank you for your time in allowing me to address this Board.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Thank you, Ms. Kirkland.

Ms. Langlois.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:

I would first like to address the Permittee's tenure argument. The Permittee's tenure in other states has no bearing on the suitability investigation in Louisiana. Additionally, the Permittee has not provided any evidence at either the original or the remand hearing to show that she has been employed for twenty years in the gaming industry. And if the Permittee has been in the gaming industry for twenty years, then she should know how to submit a gaming application.

We are not in Indiana or Mississippi. We are in Louisiana, and in Louisiana the law is clear. Gaming is strictly regulated and a gaming permit is a privilege. It's not a right. And the Permittee does bear the burden of proving

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her suitability, which she has failed to do.

Secondly, the Permittee argues that she was not given an opportunity with State Police or interviewed by State Police; however, the record shows otherwise. Trooper Mimms with Louisiana State Police, he was -- he testified at both the original and the remand hearing. And it was shown that he not only interviewed the Permittee, he called the Permittee as well as e-mailed the Permittee. And at the remand hearing the Division introduced an additional Exhibit, which was an e-mail from Ms. Kirkland to Trooper Mimms providing additional documentation that he had requested when he was doing her key investigation.

Secondly, I want to talk about the Permittee's employment at Horseshoe Indianapolis. The Division's investigation uncovered that the Permittee was fired from gross misconduct from her previous position at Horseshoe Indianapolis. On both her non-key and key

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gaming applications, the Permittee omitted that she was fired from her previous gaming position and she mislead the Division by stating that she left her position to move back home.

Then, when asked on her key application if she had ever been terminated from any position, the Permittee answers no. These omissions and misleading information are a direct violation of Louisiana Gaming Law and grounds to find the Permittee unsuitable to hold a gaming permit. The Permittee has now had two hearings and opportunities to provide evidence to clarify her termination; however, she was unable to provide any.

Next, I would like to talk about the Permittee's failure to disclose financial judgments. The Permittee failed to disclose financial judgments including two small claims judgements, which were within the fifteen-year time period required on the application and those are in the record as an exhibit. And the Permittee

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also failed to disclose a lawsuit that was filed to recover money owed by the Permittee on a defaulted personal loan and which a default judgment was found against the Permittee. This was introduced as a new exhibit in the remand hearing.

In the Permittee's memorandum, she argued that the lawsuit did not -- was not hers and it did not match her social security number; however, in the exhibit there is no social security number. It is an account number, and it is only eight digits long and social securities are typically nine digits. Trooper Mimms testified under oath that he found the lawsuit after he ran a search using the Permittee's date of birth and social security number. The Permittee does argue that this is not in her credit report; however, the Permittee failed to provide her credit report or any evidence otherwise. The Division considers her failure to include this lawsuit a false statement and grounds for the denial of the Permittee's key gaming application.

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Additionally, the Permittee failed to disclose a criminal charge. The Division's investigation determined that the Permittee failed to disclose a possession of charge of controlled substance on her key employee application. This charge was dismissed; however, the key gaming application is clear in the directions that any criminal charge is required to be disclosed even if it was later dismissed or it happened a long time ago.

Further, Louisiana Gaming Law does not prescribe the Permittee's failure to disclose a criminal charge bears directly on her honesty and credibility. The Permittee has no grounds to argue she misunderstood whether she was required to disclose it particularly given she disclosed other charges that were dismissed.

The Permittee also misrepresented her marriage. She misrepresented her marital status by listing herself as single on her non-key gaming application,

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but later identifying a spouse on her key gaming application. It was discovered that the Division's investigation that a marriage license existed between the Permittee and Reginald Kirkland. Testimony and evidence were introduced that Reginald Kirkland had multiple felony drug arrests and convictions, then Ms. Kirkland legally uses Mr. Kirkland's name and the two permanently share a mortgage together. The Permittee has failed to introduce any evidence that she is divorced from Mr. Kirkland. This association is highly material to the Permittee's suitability because the Permittee's affiliations are an assessment of character.

Additionally, there is no intent element in any disclosure of law of gaming laws. At the remand hearing the Permittee did introduce a marriage license; however, she did not introduce anything that stated there was no marriage between her and Reginald Kirkland.

I would also like to address the

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Permittees's argument that she was afforded due process during the remand hearing because she was late. The Permittee has demonstrated no material prejudice or violation of due process.

The Permittee received adequate notice, which is the most elementary requirement of due process. The Permittee was afforded due process as she received adequate notice of the hearing date, time and location. The notice of hearing stated the hearing was to be conducted at 9:00 a.m. and to arrive fifteen minutes early. It is the Permittee's responsibility to make accommodations to ensure that she is on time to the hearing.

Once the Permittee arrived at the hearing, she was afforded due process by the opportunity to participate in the hearing and to cross-examine every witness of the Division. She was also able to present every exhibit she had and offer every exhibit and argue her case.

Lastly, the Permittee was afforded a ten-minute recess to retrieve additional

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exhibits from her car. Once again the Permittee was no -- has not demonstrated any material prejudice or violation of due process.

The Board should affirm the Hearing Officer's decision. The Permittee has been given ample opportunities to submit evidence in not one, but two administrative hearings. It is not appropriate to remand this case as any additional material evidence existed at the time of the original or the remand hearing. Additionally, this case should not be reversed because the Hearing Officer's decision is reasonably based on Louisiana Gaming Law and the evidence and testimony presented to her. The only legal option is to affirm the Hearing Officer's decision as anything else would be against Gaming Law.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Ms. Kirkland, I will allow a two-minute revoke.

MS. KIRKLAND:

Okay. I testified under oath in the

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initial hearing with the Officer about my twenty years of gaming, and also how can I cross-examine the witnesses at the remand if I did not hear their testimonies as they were given. Ms. Lisa Crosby was there from Penn Entertainment and she stated that Officer Mimms testified that he never done my interview because I was unreachable. I was not being -- I was not accessible to him. He tried to reach me by phone, and as well at work. Ms. Lisa Crosby testified and said that Officer Mimms never reached out to her to get in contact with me. So when he said that HR said that I was uncooperative, she confirmed that that was not true.

Officer Mimms also he testified that know all of the records that he was given was given to him by me. The marriage records that he received from me via e-mail was not because we interviewed and he asked for them. It was when I turned in my initial application, I forgot to attach it to them and he said that is fine you can e-mail it to me when you get it.

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It was part of my additional documentation.

The Horseshoe Indianapolis, Indiana, I did present documentation during the remand from the unemployment office that says that Caesars Entertainment could not produce paperwork showing where I was lawfully terminated. There was a dispute between me and my senior. I walked out. So what they may see it -- and to my understanding, I resigned. If they seen it as gross misconduct, then that is their determination of that, but that is why I separated from employment and they were unable to verify that with the State of Indiana. So the State of Indiana ruled in my favor on that.

And if the lawsuit was found using my name and social security number, why was that not found in the initial investigation? Why was that not found until the remand hearing? My understanding from the remand hearing, when I left the Board, was for me to produce information to the Board that had

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not already been introduced to clear up any discrepancies. The hearing -- the Division took it upon themselves to present new information that I was unaware of, so I wasn't prepared to defend myself on those instances. I got those paperwork -- I got that paperwork a couple of days before the hearing, and I had no way to dig that up, but I did turn in my credit report as well as check stubs showing there was no judgment against me.

And if I wanted to omit something -- if everything I turned in was dismissed and she stated on the record that I turned in a lot of dismissed cases, why would I omit anything? If I would have omitted the bad checks and everything else that was against me and had been dismissed due to identity theft, why leave something out? When that many moving parts is going and a fifty-page application, it's very easy to move things out. I'm used to an interview being happening when I apply for key licensing in other states, and that just did not happen here. And I feel like

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a lot of these answers and discrepancies could have been corrected then. As far as my -- just like last week, me being late for the accident -- last week the entire Baton Rouge interstate was shut down for an accident. I cannot control acts of God, I mean nature or anything else that may take place. I was in time and would have been on time for that hearing, had I not got caught in that accident in the roadway closure.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Thank you, Ms. Kirkland.

Board Members, questions?

Mr. Wyatt.

MR. WYATT:

Mr. Chairman, thank you.

In reading the documentation that we were given, Ms. Kirkland, it leads me to believe that you were licensed in at least one other state prior to your application here in Louisiana?

MS. KIRKLAND:

Yes, sir. It was two app -- two states I'm in gaming, but only one other

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state that I had an extensive key license application, and that was Indiana; and they assist you with doing that application. I've never had to do one on my own as I did here.

MR. WYATT:

But you did go through that application process in Indiana, also; did you not?

MS. KIRKLAND:

Yes, sir, and I was licensed there for three years as a licensee.

MR. WYATT:

Was that licensing process significantly different than it was here in Louisiana?

MS. KIRKLAND:

Oh, yes. I --

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:

I would like to object to this line of testimony as this was not presented at the original or the remand hearing, and this would elicit new testimony.

MS. KIRKLAND:

No. We discussed the level-one

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license at the hearing.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

I'm going to allow this testimony.

Go ahead.

MR. WYATT:

I'm just trying to clarify because it -- it -- I just wanted to ascertain whether or not you had gone through this process before?

MS. KIRKLAND:

Yes, sir. Theirs differs a lot from the State of Louisiana. Theirs is a very lengthy application as well, but also on top of that I had to produce three years of bank statements for every bank that I bank with and all of my children's accounts as well. They go through your financials with a fine tooth, so it is a lot more extensive than Louisiana and that is -- like I say you had someone that walks you through that process. You can not do it alone. So -- and every question is made sure you understand.

CHAIRMAN HEBERT:

Did that significantly answer your

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question?
MR. WYATT:
Yes, thank you, Mr. Hebert.
You -- you registered -- you requested a license under the name of Tiffany Kirkland?
MS. KIRKLAND:
Yes, sir.
MR. WYATT:
Your maiden name?
MS. KIRKLAND:
My maiden name is Fielder, but my ID and everything was under Kirkland. We were, like I said, under oath I testified -- we were married and when the license never got put on record in the State of Alabama; so in 2014 when I tried to divorce him I could not because our marriage was never on file and you can't divorce someone if the marriage was never put on record in the courts. So at that time the probate judge awarded me a letter stating that they had no record of my marriage so as far as the State of Alabama was concerned, no marriage ever occurred.

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So that is what I've used on every gaming application hence and never had an issue until today -- I mean until now. I'm sorry.
MR. WYATT:
But you continue using the name Kirkland?
MS. KIRKLAND:
Yes, sir. I continued to use the name Kirkland just for -- I was in gaming and all of the reasons that make everything more easy for kids and everything like that. That's the only reason why I continue to use the name.
MR. WYATT:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Thank you, Mr. Wyatt.
Any further questions?
Do I have a motion?
MR. WYATT:
I move that the appeal be denied.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
You move that the appeal be --
MR. WYATT:

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That the reconsideration be denied.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Okay. So you're moving to affirm the Hearing Officer's decision?
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
There has been a motion by Mr. Wyatt to affirm the decision of the Hearing Officer.
Do I have a second?
Seconded by Ms. Lewis.
Ms. Hernandez, would you please call the roll?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Becnel.
MS. BECNEL:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Hennigan.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Jackson.
MR. JACKSON:

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Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Langley.
MR. LANGLEY:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Lewis.
MS. LEWIS:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Sholes.
MR. SHOLES:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Ms. Traylor.
MS. TRAYLOR:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Mr. Wyatt.
MR. WYATT:
Yes.
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Chairman Hebert.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.

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What is the count? Nine?
MS. HERNANDEZ:
Yes.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Okay. The Hearing Officer's decision is affirmed.
Thank you.
MS. Hennigan:
Chairman Hebert?
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Yes.
MS. Hennigan:
I would like to personally thank the AG's Office for your diligence in addressing my concerns from the first hearing at the remand hearing. I appreciate you bringing that clarification in the remand.
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANGLOIS:
Thank you.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Ms. Kirkland, I would like to share with you that this case has moved me deeply. And I have spent hours combing through every bit of the hearing

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transcript of the evidence. And gaming in Louisiana is highly regulated, and the reason for that is because people in power did not hold good honesty, integrity and character in their practices. And for the key gaming permit, it is such a high bar. I also want you to know that I personally have had to subject myself to the State Police as well. I have had to go through this process also, and it was difficult. It was difficult. I guess I wanted just to comment to let you know that I acknowledge your strength and your mental fortitude. I acknowledge the untold story that is reflected in your life through these pages, and I do hope that moving forward that you find success in your life.
MS. KIRKLAND:
Thank you.
MS. HENNIGAN:
Thank you.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Thank you, Ms. Hennigan.
Okay. Before we move to

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adjournment, I would like to acknowledge Senator Jeremy Stine who is in the audience with us, along with Staff Attorney, Allen Miller. Senator Stine is the new chair of Judiciary B Committee, which taking over for the Senator and now President Reese. I had the privilege of briefly meeting Senator Stine a couple of weeks ago in Lake Charles, but I wanted him to know that the Board stands willing and ready and for those of you who do not know, Judiciary B is the committee that handles all gaming bills, and the Board works closely along with the Attorney General's Office and State Police with Judiciary B to help ensure that gaming is protected from criminal and corrupt elements and is able to thrive in this state. So I wanted to let you know on behalf of the Board, Senator Stine, that we look forward to working with you.
SENATOR STINE:
Likewise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
CHAIRMAN HEBERT:
Before we adjourn, I would also like

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to announce that the October meeting will take place on Thursday, October 15th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. here at the capitol building.
At this time I would ask for a motion to adjourn, which is given by Vice-Chair Jackson.
Do I have a second?
Seconded by Ms. Hennigan.
All in favor say said aye.
(All said aye.)
Is there any opposition?
Hearing none, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

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I, BELINDA K. AMERSON, Certified Court Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or Article 1434 (B) of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, before whom this sworn testimony was taken, do hereby state on the record:

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That I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board;

That I am not related to counsel or the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

BELINDA K. AMERSON, CCR
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