

State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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July 20, 2016

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

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

Dear Mr. Spearman:

CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

At its July 19, 2016 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Charlotte Woods, Tolls Administrative Manager, South Jersey Transportation Authority ("SJTA"), and her husband, Don Woods. Mr. Woods is currently employed by Harrah's Casino as a customer service representative. Based on the facts and circumstances set forth below, the Commission granted a waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b).

Generally, Section 17.2(b) of the Conflicts Law prohibits all State officers and employees and members of their immediate families from holding an interest in, holding employment with, representing, appearing for, or negotiating on behalf of the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license or any holding or intermediary company with respect thereto. However, the statute also contains the following exception language:

except that ... a member of the immediate family of a State officer or employee, or person, may hold employment with the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license if, in the judgment of the State Ethics Commission ... such employment will not interfere with the responsibilities of the State officer or employee, or person, and will not create a conflict of interest, or reasonable risk of the public perception of a conflict of interest, on the part of the State officer or employee, or person

The Commission agrees that there is no conflict between Mrs. Woods' position at SJTA and her husband's employment with Harrah's Casino. Mrs. Woods' position and her husband's casino employment

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do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between her position and her husband's casino employment.

Based on the facts and circumstances set forth above, the Commission granted the waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b) in the case of Charlotte Woods and her husband, Don Woods.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

For the Commission

Susana E. Guerrero, Executive Director

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