

State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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

December 3, 2014

ANDREW S. BERNS, Esq. Chair

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William W. Spearman Ethics Liaison Officer South Jersey Transportation Authority Farley Service Plaza PO Box 351 Hammonton, NJ 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 December 2, 2014 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of David F. Forbes, South Jersey Transportation Authority ("SJTA"), Systems Analyst, who is employed part-time as a union stagehand at Boardwalk Hall. 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

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The Commission agrees that since Mr. Forbes' position does not interfere with the responsibilities as a State employee, there is no reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict of interest between Mr. Forbes' position and his part-time employment as a union stagehand at Boardwalk Hall. As you also indicated, the waiver would be subject to the condition that you notify the Commission if Mr. Forbes' job responsibilities or licensing requirements change.

Based on the facts and circumstances set forth above, the Commission then granted the waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b) in the case of David F. Forbes.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

For the Commission Susana E. Guerrero Executive Director

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