

State of New Jersey STATE ETHICS COMMISSION PO Box 082 Trenton, NJ 08625-0082 www.nj.gov/ethics

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July 13, 2017

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

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

Dear Mr. Spearman:

At its July 12, 2017 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Timothy Marrotti, bus driver, South Jersey Transportation Authority ("SJTA"), who is currently employed in the food and beverage department for Harrah's Casino in Pennsylvania. Based on the facts and circumstances set forth below, the Commission granted a waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b).

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

except that (1) a State officer or employee other than a State officer or employee included in the definition of person, and (2) a member of the immediate family of a State officer or employee, or of a person, may hold employment with the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license if, in the 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 Mr. Marrotti's position at SJTA and his employment with Harrah's Casino. Mr. Marrotti's position and his casino employment do not overlap, and

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there is no conflict of interest or reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his State position and his casino employment.

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

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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For the Commission Mark T. Holmes, Deputy Director

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