



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

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

JOSEPH P. LASALA, Esq.
Chair

SUSANA E. GUERRERO, Esq.
Executive Director

*Tel: (609) 292-1892
(888) 223-1355 in NJ
Fax: (609) 633-9252
Email: ethics@ethics.nj.gov*

July 13, 2017

Heather Taylor
Ethics Liaison Officer
Office of the Governor
PO Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

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

Dear Ms. Taylor:

At its July 12, 2017 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Nate Wood, videographer, Office of the Governor, who is also currently employed by Harrah's Casino as an entertainment technician. 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:

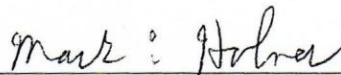
except that (1) a State officer or employee other than a State officer or employee included in the definition of person, and (2) a member of the immediate family of a State officer or employee, or of a person, may hold employment with the holder of, or applicant for, a casino license if, in the judgment 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. Wood's position at the Office of the Governor and his employment with the Harrah's Casino. Mr. Wood's position and his casino employment do not overlap, and there is no conflict of interest or a reasonable risk of the public perceiving any kind of conflict between his position at the Office of the Governor and his secondary 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 Nate Wood.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



For the Commission
Mark T. Holmes, Deputy Director

MTH/sc
Exit_Wood_CW_7-2017