

State of New Jersey
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

March 18, 2015

Joseph P. Horan Ethics Liaison Officer New Jersey State Parole Board PO Box 862 Trenton, NJ 08625

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

Dear Mr. Horan:

At its March 17, 2015 meeting, the State Ethics Commission considered your request on behalf of Scott Pepe, Parole Officer Recruit, New Jersey State Parole Board, and his wife, Allyson Pepe, a Special Events Coordinator employed by Caesars Casino. Based on the facts and circumstances presented, 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. The statute, however, contains the following exception to this prohibition:

[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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Based on the facts presented, the Commission agrees that Mrs. Pepe's employment with Caesars Casino will not interfere with Mr. Pepe's responsibilities at the New Jersey State Parole Board nor will it create a conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict of interest.

The Commission, therefore, granted the waiver of the general prohibition of section 17.2(b) in the case of Scott Pepe.

Very truly yours,

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

For the Commission Susana E. Guerrero Executive Director

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