

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Liz Haushalter <haushouse100@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 12:48 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to casINO

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

You don't often get email from haushouse100@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Let's reconsider this idea of allowing a casino. It is not what our community needs. Let's try to attract a business that would truly be beneficial.

Please request that the PGCB deny the license.

Thank you for your consideration,

Liz Haushalter  
712 Holmes Street  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Erin LaMotta <erinlamotta@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 2:52 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino Opposition

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

You don't often get email from erinlamotta@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

Thank you for considering my feedback expressing extreme concern for bringing a Casino to the Nittany Mall.

I am convinced a casino in our area would bring far greater harm than any good.

We need an impact study that is objective and thorough.

Please ask the PGCB to deny the casino license as we await these results.

Best regards,  
Erin LaMotta  
119 Sandy Ridge Rd.  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Pamala Zimmerman <calpam@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 8:50 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Opposition to the proposed casino

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

[You don't often get email from calpam@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

We appreciate that the Counsel was willing to hear the concerns of those of us opposed to the casino in College Township and we are encouraged by the large turnout at the meeting on September 1st. Council's impact study is very important not just for College Townships but for the surrounding area as well . It should be a comprehensive study looking at all aspects of the impact of the casino on our community and also Penn State. We also request that Council ask the PGCB to deny the casino's license even if the study is not completed before the hearings on October 19.

Thank you for being open to our concerns. We will be watching the future ongoing actions of the Council.

Sincerely,  
Pam Zimmerman

Sent from my iPhone

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Christine McDonald <mcdonaldchristinep@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 9:47 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino Impact study needed

You don't often get email from mcdonaldchristinep@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

My email may be past the deadline, but I felt it was still important to send and convey my appreciation for considering my feedback & others, expressing extreme concern for bringing a Casino to the Nittany Mall.

I am convinced a casino in our area would bring far greater harm than any good.

We certainly need an impact study that is objective and thorough.

Please ask the PGCB to deny the casino license as we way these results.

Thank you,  
Christine McDonald

1376 North Foxpointe Drive  
State College 16803

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 15, 2022 12:44 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** PGCB's rapid response to my RTKL request of 9/12/2022  
**Attachments:** 9.13.22.Materna III complete RTKL request.pdf; 9.15.2022.Materna III final response ltr.pdf

Good afternoon, College Township Council members, Mr. Brumbaugh, and Mr. Bloom,

Earlier this week I provided each of you with my ***Right to Know Law*** request dated September 12, 2022.

Attached is the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board's official reply sent within 48 hours after receiving my request.

The attachments may be useful as you discuss the casino-related Draft FAQs at tonight's Council meeting as well as the Council meeting on October 6, 2022.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 12, 2022 10:37 PM  
**To:** pgcbtrklrequests@pa.gov  
**Cc:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Right to Know Law (RTKL) request  
**Attachments:** Right to Know Law Request dated 09-12-2022.pdf

Dear Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board Open Records Office,

**Attached is my RTKL request dated September 12, 2022.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Barbara Furman <bes10.furman@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 13, 2022 6:23 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino Opposition

Dear Council Members:

I have emailed you several times previously about how opposed I am to the casino and pleading with you to do everything possible to see that this does not get approved.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the 9/15 meeting either in person or by ZOOM. However that should in NO WAY be interpreted that as a College Township resident I don't really care so more. That can't be further from the truth. I am opposed, without qualification.

Thank you.

Barbara Furman  
214 W. Whitehall Road  
16801

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022 12:44 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Proposed casino - The question that is unthinkable to ask

Dear members of College Township Council, Mr. Brumbaugh and Mr. Bloom,

As you prepare to discuss the proposed casino at your September 15 and October 6 Council meetings,

I am going on record here to ask the **unthinkable question** that most residents in Happy Valley have not yet considered asking of Council:

***Why is College Township unquestionably convinced that the legal opinion from your township solicitor is clearly and indisputably true?***

The solicitor's legal opinion is an opinion. Why is a second opinion out of the question? Why is there zero doubt that the solicitor's opinion is accurate?

Pasted below are two relevant indicators that Council never plans to question the accuracy of that legal opinion. Since Council obviously **agrees** with the solicitor's opinion in its entirety, your anticipated response to me would be *"Why would Council have any reason to even consider questioning the accuracy of that opinion?"*

Please consider all of the above at both of the September 15 and October 6 College Township Council meetings.

We are really counting on and hoping that Council will seriously consider what is outlined above. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County

***(The following are excerpts from the final agenda for the College Township Council meeting of 9/15/2022.)***

Solicitor Glantz,

At its meeting on September 1, 2022 College Township Council (Council) discussed the proposed Category 4 casino license now pending before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PAGCB). Specifically, Council reviewed your opinion letter dated August 26, 2022 pertaining to Council's ability at this stage of the PAGCB process to "opt-out" of receiving – allowing – the location of a Category 4 licensed gaming facility in College Township. Council was appreciative of your definitive opinion on that matter.

**Can College Township still “opt-out” of being a host municipality?**

No. Based upon the legal opinion of the Township Solicitor, College Township is no longer able to “opt-out” of being a host municipality.

Act 63 of 2019 amended Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, specific to the *Option to Prohibit the Location of an Establishment Licenses*. As noted in the Solicitor's opinion, within Title 53, Chapter 5, Section 502(a) (1) it is very clear that the township's right to opt out expired 60 days after the effective date of the act which was July 2, 2019. Additionally, Title 53, Chapter 5, Section 502(b) permits rescission of the prohibition of gaming but does not permit the subsequent prohibition of gaming.

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022 5:54 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall casino article just published at StateCollege.com

Good afternoon, members of the College Township Council, Mr. Brumbaugh, and Mr. Bloom,

This truly outstanding article by Bill Horlacher was just posted on StateCollege.com.

[Opinion: Nittany Mall Casino Is a Bad Bet for Our Community's Future | State College, PA](#)

**The article is by far the very best local article ever written about the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.**

Best regards,  
Dan Materna

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Andrew Cunningham <abkqd118@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022 9:18 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No to the Casino

You don't often get email from abkqd118@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Just read [the article on statecollege.com.](#)

Casino in a college town. Just feels slimy and wrong. I support blocking the casino at the Nittany Mall location as a Centre region resident. Got to be something better than a casino that could go there. I am a big believer in research, and if research shows this as a big negative in our town, I will follow that research. It's worse to regret a bad decision in the end.

Thank you!

-Andy  
Pine Grove Mills, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Andrew McKinnon <mckinnon118@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 15, 2022 3:24 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** opposition to casino  
**Attachments:** casino 9-15-22.pdf

You don't often get email from mckinnon118@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,  
Please see the attached letter.

College Township Council

September 15, 2022

Re: Proposed Casino

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly oppose the casino currently being considered for development at the Nittany Mall. I have previously written to the PA Gaming Control Board expressing opposition for a variety of reasons including the proposal's poor prioritization of our community's needs and values. It brings out the worst in our residents (potential gambling addiction instead of the nurturing of healthy habits) and community (a focus on consumerism instead of on the arts, science, and especially, its relationship to our surrounding ecosystem).

Please follow the lead of the vast majority of citizenry in the Centre Region by doing whatever is necessary to reject this harmful proposal.

Sincerely,

*Andrew McKinnon*

Andrew McKinnon  
Pa. Furnace, PA  
814-222-0101

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Ray Bilger <rayabilger@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 15, 2022 7:07 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Supporting the Proposed Casino

[You don't often get email from rayabilger@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to you as a property owner and neighbor who lives very near the proposed Nittany Mall casino. I have over 77 acres and two homes located within spitting distance of the Nittany Mall and I am in favor of the proposed casino. As a former member of the Armed Forces, I have lived in many countries where gambling machines are a part of everyday life. In none of these countries have I ever experienced any issues with gambling addiction nor crime associated with the gambling machines. I have frequently traveled to and worked in Las Vegas, NV, at Nellis Air Force Base and, once again, experienced no gambling addiction problems nor high crime related to the casinos and gambling establishments of those areas. As a retired Foreign Service Officer in the U.S. Department of State I have lived in countries around the world where gambling was an integral part of life and in none of those countries have I experienced gambling addictions nor high crime related to any of those establishments. This flies directly in the face of the many letters being directed toward you and the Pa. Gaming Commission. As the studies conducted here in Happy Valley have clearly stated, there is no indication that any of those outcomes are likely to manifest themselves here if the casino is built. Unlike many of your letter writers, I actually do live next to the proposed location and own property there. I am a fervent supporter of the casino, as I have seen the many positive effects such a venue can have on the region based upon my experiences in other cities and other countries. I wholeheartedly urge you to consider the facts in this case and refrain from giving in to emotional appeals from a very vocal minority claiming to have the best interests of the region at heart. It is my assessment that the proposed casino would have a very positive impact on the area from an entertainment and economic standpoint.

Thank you very much for your time.  
Best of luck.

Ray Bilger  
532 Decibel Rd.  
State College, PA  
16801

## Jennifer Snyder

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 18, 2022 9:00 PM  
**To:** Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** FINAL copy of the Draft FAQs about the proposed casino -- Possible ownership error regarding that "locally formed LLC"  
**Attachments:** Lubert, Kervandjian, Poole, Sokolov -- List of Officers.pdf

Dear Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Bloom, and College Township Council members,

I watched the September 15 College Township Council meeting with the same *laser-focused attention* you may have noticed from me in the past year.

I absolutely applaud Council's hard work in drafting and fine-tuning the casino-related FAQs now posted on the township website. Following a very detailed review of the **current ownership** of the former Macy's store, I am confident an *easily correctible error* may have taken place. First, let me describe what prompted my very detailed review.

My review of the current ownership information was immediately prompted by Mr. Brumbaugh's comments at the meeting where **he mentioned three times in less than one minute** the property is owned by a **"locally formed LLC."**

At the C-NET video recording below of the meeting, please begin watching at the **1:34:15** time marker as Mr. Brumbaugh describes the current ownership of the former Macy's store. For about three minutes, Mr. Brumbaugh provides some details about the previous owners of the mall and the Macy's store. Vice Chair Carla Stilson then clearly asks at the **1:37:40** time marker that the ownership details should be included in the Draft FAQs.

[College Township Council Meeting 9/15/22 | C-NET Live Stream - YouTube](#)

Here's a snapshot of those ownership details as they are posted on the township website as the FINAL copy of the FAQs:

### Who owns the building where the casino is proposed to be located?

The proposed location for the Category 4 casino is the former Macy's Department Store in the Nittany Mall at 2901 East College Avenue. It is important to note that despite the access to the interior of the Nittany Mall, this property is formally subdivided from the remainder of the Mall and owned separately.

Per the land development plan, the current owner of record is 2901 ECA Associates LLC, a Pennsylvania based Limited Liability Corporation, located at 2922 Walnut Street, Suite 1550, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

As possibly incorrectly listed above and on Page 2 the land development plan (dated July 12, 2021), the owner at that time is shown to be *2901 ECA Associates LLC*, located in Philadelphia. Was that the **"locally formed LLC"** Mr. Brumbaugh mentioned?

Here's a snapshot of the portion on Page 2 of 7/12/2021 land development plan cited as the source document to identify the current owner.

**Project Notes:**

1. General Site Information:
  - a. Owner of Record:

2901 ECA Associates LLC  
 2929 Walnut Street, Suite 1550 Philadelphia, PA 19104  
 Record Book 2269, Page 147

**The following are some publicly available references related to the current ownership not being 2901 ECA Associates LLC, but rather a different *"locally owned LLC."***

The following link describes the March 25, 2021 purchase of the former Macy's Store by the **HFL Corporation** based in State College.

[2901 East College Avenue \(Macy's Box at Nittany Mall\) | Traded](#)

Since the former Macy's store was publicly identified on 3/3/2021 as the planned site for the Nittany Mall casino, it made perfect sense for Mr. Lubert or one of his business partners (listed in the attachment) to be the buyer of the property three weeks later on 3/25/2021.

A quick look at the HFL Corporation website below lists **Mr. Ara Kervandjian** (listed in the attachment) as the Executive Vice President. However, the Township Manager had emphasized three times that the current owner is a *"locally formed LLC."* So, I checked further to see if HFL Corporation was associated with any locally formed LLCs. Here is the link where **PrimeCore, LLC** is mentioned as being directly associated to HFL Corporation:

[HFL Corporation - State College Commercial Listings & Brokers | LoopNet](#)

In order to determine if Mr. Ara Kervandjian was associated in any way with PrimeCore, LLC, I reviewed the company's website for that information:

[About — Primecore \(primecorefund.com\)](#)

**Mr. Lubert's business partner, Mr. Ara Kervandjian is listed on the PrimeCore, LLC website as *Chairman, CEO, Co-Founder & General Partner of PrimeCore, LLC.***

Based on everything referenced above, the *"locally formed LLC"* listed in the casino-related FAQs should be Mr. Ara Kervandjian's PrimeCore, LLC.

Those current owners of the former Macy's store would **probably not concur** with College Township asking for the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) to deny the casino's license.

Let's consider focusing on and discussing that rather than an *easy-to-predict* legal opinion that would strongly point out the very real likelihood of potential legal liability and potential significant financial impact if such a letter were to be sent. Long story short (*too late for that*), no lawyer in this country would advise any client to take an action like that without any need to worry or be concerned about any possible future negative legal consequences or severe financial impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of everything provided above. After all, the current owner really is a *"locally formed LLC."*

Sincerely,

Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA

CA-2.m.

**SC Gaming OpCo, LLC (“Applicant”)**  
**Category 4 Slot Machine Operator**  
**Application and Disclosure Form**

**Attachment to Schedule 5**

*Current Officers, Directors/Partners and Trusts*

Presently, the officers and directors of the Applicant and its affiliates are the individuals listed below. Please see each individual’s personal applications for all applicable address and contact information. **CONFIDENTIAL**

1. “LicenseCo”: SC Gaming, OpCo, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company

Sole Member and Manager: SC Gaming HoldCo, LLC

Officers	Ira Lubert	President
	Ara Kervandjian	Vice-President
	Robert E. Poole	Vice-President
	Richard S. Sokolov	Vice-President

2. “LandCo”: 2901 ECA Associates, LLC, a Pennsylvania Limited Liability Company

Sole Member and Manager: SC Gaming HoldCo, LLC

Officers	Ira Lubert	President
	Ara Kervandjian	Vice-President
	Robert E. Poole	Vice-President
	Richard S. Sokolov	Vice-President

3. “HoldCo”: SC Gaming HoldCo, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company

Managing Member: SC Gaming, LLC

Non-Managing Member: Ira Lubert

Officers	Ira Lubert	President
	Ara Kervandjian	Vice-President
	Robert E. Poole	Vice-President
	Richard S. Sokolov	Vice-President

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 19, 2022 8:35 AM  
**To:** Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Stadium Casino RE, LLC filed two new Answers on Friday 9/16 -- and the missing link  
**Attachments:** Attachment 1 - Lubert and SC Gaming OPCO.pdf; Attachment 2 - PGCB Office of Enforcement Counsel - OEC.pdf

Good morning, Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Bloom, and College Township Council members,

Further to the details provided in my earlier email of Sunday, September 18, I have already received feedback that because the link to **HFL Corporation** website was inadvertently not included in my original email, it may not be **easily found** unless I provide that missing link posted below:

[ABOUT | HFL Corporation \(hfl-corp.com\)](https://www.hfl-corp.com)

Now the buyer of the [former Macy's store on 3/25/2021](#) can be properly identified as well as the key members of the **HFL Corporation** team.

I have just learned that on Friday, September 16, Stadium Casino RE, LLC filed the two attached Answers with the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB).

Those documents are also posted on the PGCB website at the following link and are **easily found** by scrolling to the bottom of that page.

[Public Filings - Hearing and Appeals - Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board \(pa.gov\)](#)

Your continuing focus on our community's accelerating opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall casino is appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD**

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In Re: :  
: :  
: :  
: PGCB Docket No. 10577-2022  
: :  
Category 4 Casino License Application of SC :  
Gaming Op Co, LLC :  
: :  
: :  
: :

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**STADIUM CASINO RE, LLC'S ANSWER TO  
RESPONDENTS IRA LUBERT AND SC GAMING OPCO, LLC'S  
NEW MATTER REGARDING STADIUM'S PETITION TO INTERVENE**

Dated: September 16, 2022

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER  
Mark A. Aronchick (I.D. No. 20261)  
Jason A. Levine (I.D. No. 306446)  
Cary L. Rice (I.D. No. 325227)  
One Logan Square, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 568-6200

*Counsel for Stadium Casino RE, LLC*

Petitioner Stadium Casino RE, LLC (“Stadium Philly”) responds to the New Matter filed by Respondents Ira Lubert (“Lubert”) and SC Gaming OpCo, LLC (“SC Gaming,” and together with Lubert, “Respondents”), dated September 6, 2022, below. Stadium Philly will respond more fully to the allegations in Respondents’ pleading in a brief to be filed on or before September 23, 2022, consistent with the Scheduling Order issued in this licensing proceeding on July 12, 2022, docket no. 9923-2021. In response to the New Matter, Stadium Philly states as follows:

117. Paragraphs 1 through 116 of Stadium Philly’s Petition to Intervene (the “Petition”) filed on August 26, 2022, are incorporated herein by reference.

118. Admitted. As a further response, Stadium Casino, LLC (“Stadium Parent”) is not the ultimate parent entity of Stadium Philly, because it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Stadium Casino Baltimore Investors, LLC.

119. Admitted. As a further response, Stadium Casino, LLC (“Stadium Parent”) is not the ultimate parent entity of Stadium Casino Westmoreland RE, LLC (“Stadium Pittsburgh”), because it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Stadium Casino Baltimore Investors, LLC.

120. Admitted.

121. Admitted.

122. Admitted.

123. Admitted.

124. Admitted.

125. Admitted.

126. Admitted.

127. Admitted.

128. Admitted that this paragraph selectively quotes from Stadium Parent’s Petition to Re-Designate filed on February 14, 2019. Stadium Philly denies that the only reason for the internal reorganization was as stated by Respondents. The rationale for Stadium Parent’s internal reorganization, which included accommodation of PGCB staff’s preference that the two slot machine licenses be held by different entities under common ownership, is fully articulated in Stadium Parent’s Petition to Re-Designate, and Respondents’ characterization of that document is denied.

129. Admitted.

130. Admitted.

131. Admitted.

132. Admitted that this paragraph accurately excerpts from the transcript of the August 14, 2019 licensing hearing. To the extent Respondents’ use of emphasis is intended to characterize the transcript, such characterizations are denied.

133. Admitted in part. Stadium Philly admits that the references to “we” in the excerpt from the transcript quoted in paragraph 132 refer to the entire family of Stadium entities that all roll up to Stadium Casino Baltimore Investors, LLC, as identified on the Board’s Ownership Interests Report, dated June 30, 2022, available at [https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/licensure/reports/Ownership\\_Interests.pdf](https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/licensure/reports/Ownership_Interests.pdf), (last visited on Sept. 10, 2022) (hereinafter, the “Ownership Interests Report”), at p. 16. Stadium Philly denies Respondents’ narrow characterization of the testimony quoted in paragraph 132.

134. Denied. The allegation in paragraph 134 is vague and does not make sense. The excerpt from the testimony quoted in paragraph 132 does not disregard a more efficient corporate structure. Stadium Pittsburgh was, at the time of the August 14, 2019 hearing, and remains to

this day, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Stadium Parent.

135. Admitted.

136. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that this paragraph quotes selective excerpts from the Petition of Stadium Philly for a Certificate to Conduct Sports Wagering, dated July 26, 2019. Stadium Philly denies that the excerpts accurately restate the language in the Petition for a Certificate to Conduct Sports Wagering or that the excerpts are applicable to the matter at issue in this licensing proceeding. Moreover, to the extent Respondents' use of emphasis is intended to characterize the text selectively quoted from Stadium Philly's Petition, such characterizations are denied. As a further response, Stadium Philly makes three points.

*First*, Respondents omitted from the middle of the text it quoted several sentences including: (1) "Stadium Casino LLC was advised by staff from the Bureau of Licensing that administrative convenience [of the PGCB] favored the Category 2 and Category 4 licenses being held by different entities." and (2) "Stadium Casino LLC accommodated that administrative preference [of PGCB staff]" by having Stadium Parent become a holding company of two wholly-owned subsidiaries, Stadium Philly and Stadium Pittsburgh, which would hold the Category 2 and 4 slot machine licenses, respectively.

*Second*, the quoted language in this paragraph is devoid of context and not applicable to this licensing proceeding. Stadium Philly denies the characterization that it "recognized that the corporate formalities of separate entities within a single organization are 'immaterial.'" To the contrary, Stadium Philly recognized corporate formalities and stated that when two affiliated entities are substantively identical – *i.e.*, they are subsidiaries, ultimately owned by the exact same persons or entities – then, as provided under Section 13C21 of the Gaming Act, they should

be permitted to operate sports wagering at their primary and ancillary facilities without obtaining separate sports wagering certificates. The issue in this licensing proceeding, however, is whether the General Assembly's directive to the Board in the May 2020 amendment to the Fiscal Code, *see* 72 P.S. § 1724.1-E(e), including the restrictions on who may bid and apply for the Category 4 slot machine license, preclude the Board from considering SC Gaming's application for the license. This inquiry turns on whether the collection of ownership and control interests – broadly construed in a manner consistent with the Gaming Act and the cases interpreting the Act – in SC Gaming and its affiliated entities (*e.g.*, SC Gaming; 2901 ECA Associates, LLC; SC Gaming HoldCo, LLC; and SC Gaming, LLC) are substantively different to the winning bidder (Lubert). The allegations in this paragraph, as well as the other paragraphs in Respondents' New Matter about Stadium Philly and its affiliated entities, are wholly irrelevant to these issues.

*Third*, that SC Gaming and Lubert focus on ownership interests in Stadium Philly and its affiliated entities further shows that Stadium Philly is entitled to the discovery it seeks in the Petition to Intervene. Respondents cannot, on the one hand, raise issues about other licensees' ownership and control interests, while on the other hand block discovery into SC Gaming and its affiliated entities' own ownership and control interests.

137. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that there are differences between Stadium Philly and Stadium Pittsburgh, including without limitation their locations, managers, employees, and customer base. Stadium Philly denies that the two entities have different ownership; to the contrary, they have substantively identical ownership – both entities are wholly owned subsidiaries of Stadium Parent, which, in turn, is wholly owned by ultimate parent company, Stadium Casino Baltimore Investors, LLC – with the same individuals exerting ultimate ownership and control over both licensees.

138. Admitted. As a further response, “principals” under the Gaming Act encompass more than just owners, officers, and directors of the slot machine licensee, but also include any “other person or employee of an applicant, slot machine licensee, manufacturer licensee or supplier licensee deemed to be a principal by the [Board].” 4 Pa.C.S. § 1103. In terms of ownership and control of Stadium Philly and Stadium Pittsburgh, however, the same individuals exert ultimate ownership and control over both licensees.

139. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that the CBL Principal Entities, as Respondents define that term, are identified as Principal Entities of Stadium Pittsburgh and not Principal Entities of Stadium Philly. Stadium Philly denies that the CBL Principal Entities are Principals, because they are in fact Principal Entities.

140. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that the CBL Principal Affiliates, as Respondents define that term, are identified as Affiliates of Stadium Pittsburgh and not Affiliates of Stadium Philly. Stadium Philly denies that the CBL Principal Affiliates are Principals, because they are in fact Principal Affiliates.

141. Admitted.

142. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that The Cordish Family II, LLC identified as a Principal Entity of Stadium Philly and not of Stadium Pittsburgh. Stadium Philly denies that The Cordish Family II, LLC is a Principal, because it is in fact a Principal Entity.

143. Denied. This paragraph characterizes the Petition and contains legal argument, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium Philly denies Respondents’ characterizations and that its allegations and claims “are without merit or good faith basis.”

144. Denied. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph regarding which entities submitted application and disclosure forms, and therefore denies them. Stadium Philly also denies that Lubert wholly and exclusively owns each of the identified entities. Respondents use an unduly narrow definition of “ownership” to include only common stock, ignoring every other ownership and control interest other than “common stock.” As detailed in the Petition, both the plain text of the Gaming Act and the cases that have interpreted the Gaming Act take a broad, functional approach to ownership that is inconsistent with Respondents’ position. The myriad of ways that Lubert may have structured such ownership and control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliates is exactly why discovery is necessary to fully assess whether SC Gaming and its affiliates are substantively identical to Lubert.

145. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly has in its possession a heavily redacted version of SC Gaming’s application that is 127 pages and contains 32 schedules and 52 appendices, as well as other forms, certifications and documents (many of which are entirely redacted). Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations in this paragraph, and therefore denies them.

146. Denied. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and therefore denies them.

147. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly admits that Messrs. Lubert, Poole and Sokolov are identified as Principals of SC Gaming on the Board’s Application Status Report. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations in this paragraph, and therefore denies them.

148. Denied. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the

allegations in this paragraph, and therefore denies them.

149. Admitted in part, denied in part. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations in the first half of this paragraph, and therefore denies them. Stadium Philly admits that the applications and disclosures filed by applicants for slot machine licensees are investigated by the Bureau of Investigations and Enforcement (“BIE”), the Financial Investigations Unit (“FIU”) of the BIE, and the Office of Enforcement Counsel (“OEC”) of the BIE, and that these entities are tasked with producing a report and filing recommendations and objections relating to the issuance of the license.

150. Admitted that the BIE has the power and responsibility described in this paragraph, but it does not have the responsibility to determine whether the Board has the statutory authority to even consider an applicant’s application for a Category 4 slot machine license under the May 2020 amendment to the Fiscal Code. *See* Act 23 of 2020, P.L. 158 (May 29, 2020), § 7, codified at 72 P.S. § 1724.1-E(e), which instructed the Board to hold an auction and consider an application for a Category 4 license pursuant to the General Assembly’s specific directives.

151. Admitted that the OEC has the power and responsibility described in this paragraph, but it does not have the responsibility to determine whether the Board has the statutory authority to even consider an applicant’s application for a Category 4 slot machine license under the May 2020 amendment to the Fiscal Code. *See* Act 23 of 2020, P.L. 158 (May 29, 2020), § 7, codified at 72 P.S. § 1724.1-E(e), which instructed the Board to hold an auction and consider an application for a Category 4 license pursuant to the General Assembly’s specific directives.

152. This paragraph contains conclusions of law to which no response is required. To

the extent a response is required, Stadium Philly admits that any entity or individual that submits an application to the Board submits to the Board's jurisdiction and has a duty to cooperate.

153. Denied. Stadium Philly is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations in this paragraph, and therefore denies them.

154. Admitted.

155. Paragraphs 1 through 154 of the Petition are incorporated herein by reference.

156. This paragraph contains conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium Philly denies that its interests in this licensing proceeding are fully and adequately represented for the reasons stated in the Petition.

157. This paragraph contains conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium Philly denies that its claims are time-barred.

**WHEREFORE**, Stadium Philly hereby requests:

- A. The right to intervene in the licensing and subsequent proceeding of SC Gaming;
- B. The Board deny Respondents' request to limit Stadium Philly's intervention status and deny Stadium Philly the discovery it seeks;
- C. To engage in discovery, including without limitation the discovery requested from SC Gaming and its affiliates in paragraph 114 of the Petition; and
- D. To present oral testimony (factual testimony and/or expert opinion) and evidence during the licensing proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER

By: 

Date: September 16, 2022

Mark A. Aronchick (I.D. No. 20261)  
Jason A. Levine (I.D. No. 306446)  
Cary L. Rice (I.D. No. 325227)  
One Logan Square, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 568-6200

*Counsel for Petitioner*

**VERIFICATION**

I, Joseph Weinberg, hereby state that the facts set forth in the foregoing Answer to SC Gaming OpCo, LLC and Ira Lubert's New Matter are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 P.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Weinberg", written in a cursive style.

Date: September 16, 2022

---

Joseph Weinberg

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Mark A. Aronchick, hereby certify that on this 16th day of September, 2022, true and correct copies of the foregoing Answer to SC Gaming OpCo, LLC and Ira Lubert's New Matter was served upon the following by e-mail and by USPS mail:

Office of Hearings and Appeals  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Linda S. Lloyd, Director  
PO Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[lilloyd@pa.gov](mailto:lilloyd@pa.gov)

Adrian R. King, Jr. Esquire  
Michael Fabius, Esquire  
Ballard Spahr  
1735 Market Street, 51st Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7599  
[KingA@ballardspahr.com](mailto:KingA@ballardspahr.com)  
[FabiusM@ballardspahr.com](mailto:FabiusM@ballardspahr.com)

Cyrus Pitre, Chief Enforcement Counsel  
Ashley Joanne Gabrielle, Senior Enforcement Counsel  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
303 Walnut Street, Strawberry Square  
Commonwealth Tower, 5th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[cpitre@pa.gov](mailto:cpitre@pa.gov)  
[agabrielle@pa.gov](mailto:agabrielle@pa.gov)



---

Mark A. Aronchick

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD**

---

In Re: :  
: PGCB Docket No. 10577-2022  
Category 4 Casino License Application of SC :  
Gaming Op Co, LLC :  
:  
:

---

**STADIUM CASINO RE, LLC'S ANSWER TO  
OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT COUNSEL'S NEW MATTER  
REGARDING STADIUM'S PETITION TO INTERVENE**

Dated: September 16, 2022

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER  
Mark A. Aronchick (I.D. No. 20261)  
Jason A. Levine (I.D. No. 306446)  
Cary L. Rice (I.D. No. 325227)  
One Logan Square, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 568-6200

*Counsel for Stadium Casino RE, LLC*

Petitioner Stadium Casino RE, LLC (“Stadium”) responds to the New Matter filed by the Office of Enforcement Counsel (“OEC”), dated September 6, 2022, below. Stadium will respond more fully to the allegations in the OEC’s pleading in a brief to be filed on or before September 23, 2022, consistent with the Scheduling Order issued in this licensing proceeding on July 12, 2022, docket no. 9923-2021. In response to the New Matter, Stadium states as follows:

117. Paragraphs 1 through 116 of Stadium’s Petition to Intervene (the “Petition”) filed on August 26, 2022, are incorporated herein by reference.

118. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

119. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

120. Admitted in part; denied in part. Stadium admits that it has a substantial, direct and immediate interest in these licensing proceedings and that those interests are not adequately represented by the existing parties. Stadium denies that its interest is substantial, direct and immediate simply because it filed a Commonwealth Court Action.

121. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

122. Admitted in part; denied in part. Stadium admits that it has set out facts demonstrating why it has the right to intervene in these licensing proceedings. Stadium denies that “the petition did not clearly and concisely set out facts which are relevant to the instant

intervention determination.” To the contrary, that’s exactly what the Petition does. Stadium admits that many of its allegations and evidence in the Petition are also allegations asserted and evidence presented in the Commonwealth Court Action, because the ultimate relief Stadium seeks in both proceedings is the same – namely, a declaration/decision that the Board lacks the authority to consider SC Gaming’s pending application for a Category 4 slot machine license. Although the issue before the Board is Stadium’s Petition, the Petition itself, which incorporates Stadium’s written statement under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z)(4), (6), sets forth the facts demonstrating Stadium’s right to relief in the licensing proceeding.

123. Denied. Stadium seeks to intervene in these proceedings to obtain the discovery set forth in paragraph 114 of the Petition from SC Gaming and its affiliates, to assess whether SC Gaming and Ira Lubert complied with the Gaming Act, and to challenge the Board’s statutory authority to consider SC Gaming’s application.

124. Denied. This paragraph states the OEC’s opinion and contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required.

125. Denied. This paragraph states the OEC’s opinion and contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required.

126. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

127. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph characterizes 58 Pa. Code. § 441a.7(z). That regulation is the best evidence of its contents, and the OEC’s characterization of it is denied.

128. Admitted.

129. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph characterizes 58 Pa. Code. § 443a.11. That regulation is the best evidence of its contents, and the OEC's characterization of it is denied. As a further response, after a person/entity is granted intervenor status, it is indeed a party to that proceeding.

130. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

131. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

132. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases the regulation to which it cites.

133. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases portions of the statute to which it cites. As a further response, information about the various ownership interests in an applicant for a slot machine license is not confidential; indeed, the Board publishes that information on its website. In this licensing proceeding and in the Commonwealth Court Action, the OEC and the Board, respectively, as well as Respondents SC Gaming and Lubert, are taking an unduly narrow view of ownership that is inconsistent with the plain text and history of the Gaming Act, as detailed in the Petition.

134. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To

the extent a response is required, the paragraph accurately paraphrases portions of the regulation to which it cites. As a further response, “[t]he Board may request that an applicant respond to inquiries related to confidential information during a licensing hearing to promote transparency in the regulation of gaming in this Commonwealth.” 58 Pa.C.S. § 441a.7(r).

135. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph characterizes 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f). That regulation is the best evidence of its contents, and the OEC’s characterization of it is denied.

136. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph characterizes 4 Pa.C.S. § 1517. That statute is the best evidence of its contents, and the OEC’s characterization of it is denied. As a further response, Stadium does not seek the “reports and any associated recommendations [] presently pending within BIE and OEC.” Rather, Stadium seeks only the information listed in paragraph 114 of its Petition about SC Gaming and its affiliates.

137. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, the paragraph characterizes the definition of “Licensing hearing” in 58 Pa. Code § 441a.1. That regulation is the best evidence of its contents, and the OEC’s characterization of it is denied.

138. Admitted but incomplete. Stadium filed the Petition in this licensing proceeding to obtain the discovery set forth in paragraph 114 of the Petition, to assess whether SC Gaming and Ira Lubert complied with the Gaming Act, and to challenge the Board’s statutory authority to consider SC Gaming’s application.

139. Denied. This paragraph states the OEC’s opinion, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium disagrees with the OEC’s opinion that

Stadium's intervention "should be limited."

140. Denied. As an initial matter, this paragraph characterizes the Petition, and any such characterization is denied. Moreover, contrary to the allegations in this paragraph, Stadium seeks "full participation" in the licensing hearing to assess whether SC Gaming and Ira Lubert complied with the Gaming Act and to challenge the Board's statutory authority to consider SC Gaming's application. To assess whether SC Gaming complied with the Gaming Act, Stadium seeks the discovery set forth in paragraph 114 of the Petition, which includes documents sufficient to establish the various ownership and control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliates (e.g., 2901 ECA Associates, LLC; SC Gaming HoldCo, LLC; and SC Gaming, LLC), including the persons and entities that will have economic interests in these entities.

141. Admitted. As a further response, Stadium seeks to intervene in these licensing proceedings to ensure its claims are considered on their merits, after SC Gaming discloses the persons or entities with any interest in it and/or its affiliates.

142. This paragraph states the OEC's opinion and contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium denies that its presentation of evidence should be limited to the Petition. As stated in Stadium's response to paragraph 140 above, Stadium and the Board need the information requested in paragraph 114 of the Petition to develop a comprehensive record in these licensing proceedings and fully assess whether SC Gaming and Ira Lubert complied with the Gaming Act and whether the Board has the statutory authority to consider SC Gaming's application.

143. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium denies that it "does not have standing for the discovery request," because if/when the Board grants the Petition, Stadium will be a party to these

proceedings and entitled to request discovery.

144. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium denies that the information requested in paragraph 114 of the Petition will make the hearing less efficient or expeditious, will unduly prejudice or burden SC Gaming or Lubert, or is not in the interests of justice. To the contrary, allowing for the requested discovery now will make the licensing process more efficient. The Board should address the issues Stadium has raised on a fully-developed record. In fact, in a prior licensing proceeding, the Supreme Court rejected the Board's narrow interpretation of the term "financial interest" in Section 1330 of the Gaming Act and remanded the matter to the Board to more "conclusively determine" whether a party has a "financial interest" as the Court broadly defined the term. *See SugarHouse HSP Gaming, LP v. Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board*, 640 Pa. 169, 208-09 (2017). As a further response, if there is information that the OEC claims should be "withheld from public disclosure" under 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f), Stadium will enter into a confidentiality agreement that prohibits it from publicly disclosing such information. However, as stated above, information about the various ownership interests in an applicant for a slot machine license is not confidential.

145. This paragraph contains conclusions of law, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Stadium denies that its intervention should be limited to "its petition filing only," without any discovery. The discovery Stadium seeks in paragraph 114 of its Petition is necessary to develop a comprehensive record in these licensing proceedings and fully vet and assess whether SC Gaming and Ira Lubert complied with the Gaming Act and whether the Board has the authority to consider SC Gaming's application. Allowing Stadium to intervene but denying it this discovery renders the intervention hollow.

**WHEREFORE**, Stadium hereby requests:

- A. The right to intervene in the licensing and subsequent proceeding of SC Gaming;
- B. The Board deny the OEC's request to limit Stadium's intervention status and deny Stadium the discovery it seeks;
- C. To engage in discovery, including without limitation the discovery requested from SC Gaming and its affiliates in paragraph 114 of the Petition; and
- D. To present oral testimony (factual testimony and/or expert opinion) and evidence during the licensing proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER

Date: September 16, 2022

By: 

Mark A. Aronchick (I.D. No. 20261)  
Jason A. Levine (I.D. No. 306446)  
Cary L. Rice (I.D. No. 325227)  
One Logan Square, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 568-6200

*Counsel for Petitioner*

**VERIFICATION**

I, Joseph Weinberg, hereby state that the facts set forth in the foregoing Answer to the Office of Enforcement Counsel's New Matter are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 P.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: September 16, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J-Weinberg' with a stylized flourish at the end. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Weinberg

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Mark A. Aronchick, hereby certify that on this 16th day of September, 2022, true and correct copies of the foregoing Answer to the Office of Enforcement Counsel's New Matter was served upon the following by e-mail and by USPS mail:

Office of Hearings and Appeals  
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Linda S. Lloyd, Director  
PO Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[lilloyd@pa.gov](mailto:lilloyd@pa.gov)

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Michael Fabius, Esquire  
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1735 Market Street, 51st Floor  
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Cyrus Pitre, Chief Enforcement Counsel  
Ashley Joanne Gabrielle, Senior Enforcement Counsel  
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Commonwealth Tower, 5th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[cpitre@pa.gov](mailto:cpitre@pa.gov)  
[agabrielle@pa.gov](mailto:agabrielle@pa.gov)



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Mark A. Aronchick

September 13, 2022

501 Hubler Rd.

State College, PA 16801

Michael Bloom

College Township

1481 E. College Ave.

State College, PA 16801

Mr. Bloom:

We would like to voice opposition to the proposed Casino planned for the Nittany Mall area. As long-time residents of the Centre region and landowners in College township, we believe that presence of a gambling casino in in the region would have significant negative impact on the safety, social fabric, and well-being of the entire area. We recognize that future utilization of the Nittany Mall facility is problematic, but transforming it into a gambling casino will create issues not currently plaguing the region.

We urge township supervisors to reject efforts to casino-ize our community.



Lawrence and Barbara Hutchinson

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 19, 2022 5:38 PM  
**To:** Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; CTCouncil  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Current owner of former Macy's store at Nittany Mall

Dear Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Bloom, and College Township Council members,

The following corrected details are provided as a follow-up to my earlier emails regarding the current owner of the former Macy's store at the Nittany Mall.

After reviewing the business entity details on the <https://www.corporations.pa.gov> website, the casino related Proposed FAQs on the township website correctly show that **2901 ECA Associates, LLC** is the current owner of the former's Macy's store at the mall.

**2901 ECA Associates, LLC** is also the **"locally formed LLC"** mentioned by Mr. Brumbaugh at the September 15 College Township Council meeting.

**As seen below, please note that both 2901 ECA Associates, LLC and HFL Corporation share the same mailing address of 1155 Benner Pike, Suite 100, State College, PA 16801.**

Sorry for any earlier confusion. Mr. Ara Kervandjian's business mailing address at **HFL Corporation** is actually located in College Township and not at the 2922 Walnut Street, Suite 1550, Philadelphia, PA 19104 address listed in the FAQs.

Business Name History	
Name	Name Type
2901 ECA Associates LLC	Current Name

  

Business Entity Details		Officers
Name	2901 ECA Associates LLC	
Entity Number	7010415	
Entity Type	Limited Liability Company	
Status	Active	
Citizenship	Domestic	
Entity Creation Date	02/06/2020	
Effective Date	02/06/2020	
State Of Inc	PA	
Address	1155 Benner Pike Suite 100 State College PA 16801 Centre	

**Business Name History**

Name	Name Type
H F L CORPORATION	Current Name

**Business Entity Details**

<b>Name</b>	H F L CORPORATION
<b>Entity Number</b>	606121
<b>Entity Type</b>	Business Corporation
<b>Status</b>	Active
<b>Citizenship</b>	Domestic
<b>Entity Creation Date</b>	11/20/1974
<b>Effective Date</b>	11/20/1974
<b>State Of Inc</b>	PA
<b>Address</b>	1155 Benner Pike Suite 100 State College PA 16801 Centre

**Officers**

<b>Name</b>	ARA M KERWANDJIAN
<b>Title</b>	VICEPRESIDENT
<b>Address</b>	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322
<b>Name</b>	FREDERICK I SAHAKIAN
<b>Title</b>	PRESIDENT
<b>Address</b>	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322
<b>Name</b>	LARA C SAGAJUAN
<b>Title</b>	SECRETARY
<b>Address</b>	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322
<b>Name</b>	LARA C SAGAJUAN
<b>Title</b>	TREASURER
<b>Address</b>	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna  
Centre County, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Mel Westerman <melwesterman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 20, 2022 12:00 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from melwesterman@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

A casino in Centre Region is bad for all except outside money interests.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022 9:45 AM  
**To:** Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom; CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Cc:** mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov  
**Subject:** PGCB responses to two of my casino-related RTKL requests  
**Attachments:** Final Determination -- Denial of appeal dated 9-20-2022.pdf; 9.15.2022.Materna III final response ltr (1).pdf

Good morning, Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Bloom, College Township Council members and Mr. Glantz,

The attachments are the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) official replies to two of the four casino-related RTKL requests I have filed with the PGCB. Included in the attachments are the specific details of my requests, the specific reasons for the denials of each, my appeal of that denial, and the Final Determination on my appeal from the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records. The first attachment above is that denial my appeal and is dated yesterday, **September 20, 2022**. You now have that for your review less than 24 hours after I received it.

**Persistence. Nonstop persistence.** That is most likely why the PGCB Open Records Officer finally replies in the second attachment above with the following as quoted verbatim below:

*You also stated that "if that specific PGCB regulation does not exist, I officially request the PGCB to advise me of that fact via email in your official reply".*

While we do not do legal research pursuant to RTKL requests, for the sake of expediency, I can tell you that the specific PGCB regulation you request does not exist. Therefore, there are no records responsive to your request. Pursuant to the Office of Open Records Final Decision in Jenkins vs. Pennsylvania Department of State, OOR Dkt. AP 2009-065, it should be noted that: "It is not a denial of access when an agency does not possess records and [there is no] legal obligation to obtain them (see, e.g. Section 67.506 (d)(1))."

**That said, please focus very closely on the entire content of the Final Determination denying my appeal. The actual reason they make abundantly and repetitively clear is "We do not conduct legal research, so please do not ask us to conduct legal research."**

Finally, please note that in my RTKL request I have specifically referenced the same statute cited by the College Township solicitor **as shown below**. If that legal opinion is accurate, why is that specific statute never mentioned by the PGCB?

#### Can College Township still "opt-out" of being a host municipality?

No. Based upon the legal opinion of the Township Solicitor, College Township is no longer able to "opt-out" of being a host municipality.

Act 63 of 2019 amended Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, specific to the *Option to Prohibit the Location of an Establishment Licenses*. As noted in the Solicitor's opinion, within Title 53, Chapter 5, Section 502(a) (1) it is very clear that the township's right to opt out expired 60 days after the effective date of the act which was July 2, 2019. At the time of this amendment there were no Category 4 casino licenses available.

Additionally, Title 53, Chapter 5, Section 502(b) permits rescission of the prohibition of gaming but does not permit the subsequent prohibition of gaming.

Thank you for taking the time to carefully review the attachments -- not many folks would immediately share them.

Sincerely,





# pennsylvania

OFFICE OF OPEN RECORDS

## FINAL DETERMINATION

<b>IN THE MATTER OF</b>	:	
	:	
<b>DANIEL MATERNA,</b>	:	
<b>Requester</b>	:	
	:	
<b>v.</b>	:	<b>Docket No.: AP 2022-1841</b>
	:	
<b>PENNSYLVANIA GAMING</b>	:	
<b>CONTROL BOARD,</b>	:	
<b>Respondent</b>	:	

On August 1, 2022, Daniel Materna (“Requester”) submitted a request (“Request”) to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (“Board”) pursuant to the Right-to-Know Law (“RTKL”), 65 P.S. §§ 67.101 *et seq.*,<sup>1</sup> stating, as follows:

Please provide a copy of the section of the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (“Act”) or any other applicable Pennsylvania regulation that specifically states that once a municipality has chosen to not opt-out of the siting of a Category 4 facility within that municipality, that decision is final and may not be later rescinded by the municipality.

Additionally, please provide an official reference showing that when a municipality properly chose to not opt-out of the siting of Category 4 facility and did so prior to the 12/31/2017 deadline, that they may not later rescind that decision for any reason prior to the ... Board voting to approve a Category 4 casino license application for a casino within the municipality’s jurisdiction.

Section 1305.1(A.1) of the Act clearly states that a municipality that rescinds its prior prohibition according to this subsection may not subsequently prohibit the location of a Category 4 licensed facility in the municipality. The Act

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<sup>1</sup> The Request was transmitted July 31, 2022, a Sunday, and was received by the Board on the next business day, August 1, 2022.

does not specifically delineate the circumstances or criteria that would allow the municipality to rescind an initial decision to not opt-out from the siting of a Category 4 casino in their jurisdiction. Please advise via email if the municipality can later change their mind and reverse their earlier decision to not opt-out prior to approval of the Category 4 casino license application.

On August 8, 2022, the Board denied the Request, arguing that the Request seeks legal research as opposed to records of the Board. However, the Board provided links to both the Gaming Act and the Board's regulations.

On August 9, 2022, the Requester appealed to the Office of Open Records ("OOR"), challenging the denial and arguing that the Request did not ask questions or seek legal research.<sup>2</sup> The OOR invited both parties to supplement the record and directed the Board to notify any third parties of their ability to participate in this appeal. 65 P.S. § 67.1101(c).

On August 18, 2022, the Board submitted a position statement that reiterated its reasons for denial and noted that it provided "links on the Board's website where [the Requester] can conduct his own research in order to answer questions that he may have about the licensing of casinos in the Commonwealth."

On August 22, 2022, the Requester submitted a response, also reiterating that the Request did not seek legal research or ask questions.

The Commonwealth Court has found that "a request that explicitly or implicitly obliges legal research is not a request for a specific document; rather, it is a request for someone to conduct legal research with the hopes that the legal research will unearth a specific document that fits the description of the request." *Askew v. Pa. Office of the Gov.*, 65 A.3d 989, 994 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2013). Thus, a request for legal research lacks the necessary specificity required by Section 703 of the RTKL. *Id.*; *see also* 65 P.S. § 67.703 ("A written request should identify or describe records

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<sup>2</sup> The Requester provided the OOR with additional time to issue its Final Determination. 65 P.S. § 67.1101(b)(1).

sought with sufficient specificity to enable the agency to ascertain which records are being requested...”). Although the Requester claims that the Request does not seek legal research, the Request clearly seeks statutory or regulatory support for a proposition, as well as an advisory opinion from the Board about a section of the Act. This constitutes “traditional legal research and analysis” as discussed in *Askew*. While the Requester is free to conduct his own legal research using the links provided by the Board, there is nothing in the RTKL that obligates the Board to conduct legal research for the Requester. Instead, as set forth in *Askew*, such a request is insufficiently specific.

For the foregoing reasons, the appeal is **denied**, and the Board is not required to take any further action. This Final Determination is binding on all parties. Within thirty days of the mailing date of this Final Determination, any party may appeal or petition for review to the Commonwealth Court. 65 P.S. § 67.1301(a). All parties must be served with notice of the appeal. The OOR also shall be served notice and have an opportunity to respond according to court rules as per Section 1303 of the RTKL. 65 P.S. § 67.1303. However, as the quasi-judicial tribunal adjudicating this matter, the OOR is not a proper party to any appeal and should not be named as a party.<sup>3</sup> This Final Determination shall be placed on the website at: <http://openrecords.pa.gov>.

**FINAL DETERMINATION ISSUED AND MAILED: September 20, 2022**

/s/ Kyle Applegate

---

CHIEF COUNSEL  
KYLE APPLGATE, ESQ.

Sent to: Daniel Materna (via online portal);  
Denise Miller-Tshudy, Esq. (via online portal);  
Deborah Joyce (via online portal)

---

<sup>3</sup> *Padgett v. Pa. State Police*, 73 A.3d 644, 648 n.5 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2013).



PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD  
 303 Walnut Street  
 Commonwealth Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Harrisburg PA 17101  
[www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov](http://www.gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov)

*Deborah C. Joyce*  
*Open Records Officer*  
 Phone: (717)346-8300  
 Fax: (717)346-8350  
 Email: [pgcbrtklrequests@pa.gov](mailto:pgcbrtklrequests@pa.gov)

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 C. DANIEL HASSELL  
 RUSSELL C. REDDING

September 15, 2022

**Via email**

Daniel Materna  
 948 Two Mile Road  
 Howard, PA 16841  
 Email: [sailordan76@verizon.net](mailto:sailordan76@verizon.net)

Re: Right to Know Law Request 2022-026

Dear Mr. Materna:

On September 13, 2022, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (“PGCB” or “Board”) received your request for documents pursuant to the Pennsylvania Right-To-Know Law (“RTKL”) 65 P.S. §67.101 *et seq.* A copy of your request is attached for reference.

Specifically, you requested: *“a copy of the specific PGCB regulation that describes the process for a municipality to request the reversal of that municipality's initial decision in 2017 to not opt-out from the siting of a Category 4 casino within that municipality's jurisdiction.”*

You also stated that *“if that specific PGCB regulation does not exist, I officially request the PGCB to advise me of that fact via email in your official reply”*.

While we do not do legal research pursuant to RTKL requests, for the sake of expediency, I can tell you that the specific PGCB regulation you request does not exist. Therefore, there are no records responsive to your request. Pursuant to the Office of Open Records Final Decision in Jenkins vs. Pennsylvania Department of State, OOR Dkt. AP 2009-065, it should be noted that: *“It is not a denial of access when an agency does not possess records and [there is no] legal obligation to obtain them (see, e.g. Section 67.506 (d)(1)).”*

I'm providing again the links to the Gaming Act and the Board's Regulations, which provide all requirements of licensure in the Commonwealth, which should help you conduct your research.

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/04/04.HTM>

[https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final\\_Regulations\\_Master.pdf](https://gamingcontrolboard.pa.gov/files/regulations/Final_Regulations_Master.pdf)

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah C. Joyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "D" and "J".

Deborah C. Joyce  
Agency Open Records Officer

Attachment

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** MacDonald Heebner III <mheebner3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022 2:16 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** ... Casino ...

You don't often get email from mheebner3@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

No casino !!!!!

311 Nimitz Ave, State College, PA 16801

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Andrew Shaffer <andrewshaffer148@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 11:19 AM  
**To:** Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** Please help stop the development of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall!

Dear Community Leaders,

Please do everything in your power to stop the development of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.

The best available research clearly shows that casinos [nearly double the rate of gambling addiction in their host communities](#), and research also shows that [young adults](#) are about [6x more likely to become addicted to gambling](#) than those over the age of 25. Allowing a casino to be developed less than 5 miles from the 48,000 students at Penn State University Park should therefore be expected to significantly increase the rates of gambling addiction among Penn State's student population, leading to substantially increased rates of student poverty, student mental health problems, and academic failure.

Penn State and the surrounding community are already struggling with these issues as a result of COVID and its associated lockdowns during the past several years, and even current needs in these areas already outstrip the available local resources. Allowing a casino to be developed nearby and allowing the Penn State student population to be bombarded with advertisements designed to distract them from their problems through gambling will only exacerbate these challenges. A local casino would create a "perfect storm" scenario in which the community's available support mechanisms would be overwhelmed, and hundreds or even thousands of Penn State students in each year's class will likely be harmed by untreated gambling addiction.

The local State College community is overwhelmingly opposed to the casino (with available polling showing opposition to the casino running between [80%-90%](#)), and we have already requested on multiple occasions that local leaders [send the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board \(PGCB\) a message](#) indicating that [hosting a local casino would not be in the interests of Penn State or its surrounding community](#). The PGCB will be holding its hearings regarding this proposed casino on 10/19/2022, and it will likely make a decision to grant or deny the license for this casino shortly thereafter. Please show leadership by speaking out in opposition to the casino while there is still time to make a difference!

If you need more information about the community's strong opposition to the proposed casino or why the casino would be harmful to Penn State and the surrounding community, please visit <https://www.saynocasino.org>. Thank you for being responsive to the community's concerns and showing leadership on this issue!

Sincerely,

Andrew Shaffer  
State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** John Asbury <johnandbrea@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please oppose the casino

You don't often get email from johnandbrea@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am writing to ask you to please listen to our community and oppose the introduction of a casino in our area.

There is nothing good that can come from such a resource readily available to Penn State students and members of our community. I am asking you to do the right thing.

Thank you.  
Brea Asbury

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Bridget Donnelly <delas115@imsooverwhelmed.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 1:28 PM  
**To:** president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** opposition to the proposed casino

You don't often get email from delas115@imsooverwhelmed.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am a Centre County resident for over 26 years, a local small business owner, a PSU alum and a parent of 4 young adults who study at PSU, live and/or work in Centre County. I am vehemently opposed to having a casino in my backyard. Any potential positive that this project might bring to our community is **grossly** outweighed by the negative impacts this will have and the potential for harm, particularly for our younger population. I also don't want the additional drug traffic this might bring into our area.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Bridget Donnelly

*Bridget Donnelly*

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**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Bonnie Dripps <drippsbk@dm.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 1:35 PM  
**To:** bot@psu.edu  
**Cc:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino at the Nittany Mall

You don't often get email from drippsbk@dm.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Penn State Trustees and College Township Council,

Thank you for your service to our community. Based on the research, I am convinced that a casino in our community will not serve us but will instead threaten the community. I am very opposed to the plan to put a casino at the Nittany Mall. The effect on students at PSU and in our community will be negative. Students will be distracted from their studies and money that could be used for their tuition will be gambled away. Voting for a casino will make you culpable to the enablement of the development of addiction. We want our students and our community members to be responsible citizens. And we want our town to be a place that's safe and low in crime. Please do everything you can to oppose this casino.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Dripps

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Chuprinski, Mariah <mrc5548@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 12:37 PM  
**Subject:** Casino opposition feedback

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mrc5548@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon Penn State Trustees,  
I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed College Township casino and to ask, humbly, for you to do all you can to oppose the casino from opening in our community. I can imagine nothing but negative effects that such an establishment would cause for our community.

Thanks for your leadership and I appreciate your consideration of our community's feedback.

Sincerely,  
Mariah Chuprinski

--

**Mariah Chuprinski****News Content Specialist**

Communications and Marketing

Penn State College of Engineering

101B Hammond (M/TH)

University Park, PA 16802

(o) 814-867-1525 | (m) 570-916-9099

[mrc5548@psu.edu](mailto:mrc5548@psu.edu)

[enr.psu.edu/communications](http://enr.psu.edu/communications)



**PennState**  
College of Engineering

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Michelle Rodino-Colocino <rocofem@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 2:19 PM  
**To:** president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino at Nittany Mall

Some people who received this message don't often get email from rocofem@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Colleagues, Neighbors, and Friends:

I would like to share with you a message about why I oppose the casino at the Nittany mall. I share these comments with President Bendapudi and the Board of Trustees in time for them to be included in the public comments at the trustees meeting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle  
Sent from Earth

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Michelle Rodino-Colocino <rocofem@gmail.com>  
**Date:** September 21, 2022 at 8:26:46 AM EDT  
**To:** <president@psu.edu>  
**Subject:** Stop the Casino at Nittany Mall

Dear President Bendapudi:

I have shared the following public comments on the Board of Trustees website, ahead of the meetings later this week:

I oppose plans to put a casino in the Nittany Mall. The Nittany Mall should be safe for kids and teenagers to walk freely, unaccompanied by their parents or guardians, and having a casino there will compromise this safety because casinos can attract robbery and violent crime as well as drug dealing to the parking lots and areas near the casino. There is also the problem of addicting college students, many of whom are already deep in debt and already work multiple jobs to attend Penn State. There's also the problem of desperate seniors and folks with disabilities spending their money at the slots until they run out. Do not bring this horrible form of exploitation into the retail desert of the Nittany Mall. How about opening games spaces? Or indoor community spaces that allow for movement or

socializing when the weather cools? A place to hand out food and supplies to our poor residents? A Penn State town and gown space? Get creative, but stop this casino.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rodino-Colocino

Michelle Rodino-Colocino, Ph.D. (she/they)  
Associate Professor, Film Production and Media Studies; Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies; Rock Ethics Institute  
Penn State

[Penn State is located on the ancestral lands](#) of the Erie, Haudenosaunee, Lenape, Shawnee, Susquehannock, and Wahzhazhe Nations. Penn State's land grant was funded by the sale of land expropriated from 112 tribal nations in 50 land cessions across 16 states.

Co-editor, [The Gig Economy: Workers and Media in the Age of Convergence](#) (2021)



[@rocofem](#) (Twitter); [michelle@psu.edu](mailto:michelle@psu.edu)

"Enjoy the process," my mother; "Mangia," my grandmother; "Say it," my daughter

**The Gig Economy**  
Workers and Media in the Age of Convergence

Edited by Brian Dolber, Michelle Rodino-Colocino, Chenjerai Kumanyika and Todd Wolfson

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**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Linda Bonness <lrbonness@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier  
**Subject:** Please oppose the Casino at the Nittany Mall

Some people who received this message don't often get email from lrbonness@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council,

I am writing to ask you to do everything in your power to oppose the casino in State College at the Nittany Mall. We have a very special community with a world-class university of over 40,000 college students where people are connected and thriving. I understand there are monetary considerations, but the value of such a special community and the people who live here are worth protecting. I personally can't think of any positive outcomes for our area in having a casino. Many local businesses are already having trouble filling job openings, college students don't need an additional distraction outside of their studies and have lots of opportunities for sports and entertainment, and the folks who come into our community to gamble are likely not the demographic that will benefit the businesses that are struggling to survive. Based on the research I have read, having a casino nearby will also encourage negative behaviors including gambling addiction, and will affect many who are struggling financially. For these reasons and many more, please strongly oppose bringing a Casino into our community.

Regards,  
Linda Bonness

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Rose, Bill <bmr1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:47 PM  
**To:** Rose, Bill  
**Subject:** Please oppose the casino!

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bmr1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

To all College Township Council members, Centre County Commissioners, and Penn State Trustees:

I am writing today to ask for your support in opposing the proposed Nittany Mall casino. Whatever slight benefits our community would obtain are **vastly** outweighed by the negative impacts we will experience. Broadly, as a community:

- Should we enable and even actively foster gambling and gambling addiction, an enterprise that at its core preys upon the desperate (and foolish) by deceiving them and taking their money? NO.
- Should we attract a stream of strangers to our area, who care nothing for us or our quality of life, who may increase local crime, drug and alcohol abuse, etc.? NO.
- Do we want to move in any direction that begins to turn Happy Valley into Seedy Valley? NO.
- Are we really so desperate to revitalize the mall that we would unthinkingly welcome a casino instead of actively considering better options without all these downsides? I hope not.
- Would we be PROUD of a casino? I know I wouldn't.
- Not to mention the billboards, the advertising, the traffic impacts.

Additionally, from a University perspective, I cannot reconcile claiming to safeguard the young adults entrusted to us with knowingly acceding to a gambling casino in our backyard. As Andrew Shaffer as noted elsewhere, research has shown that college students are about **six times** more susceptible to gambling addiction than adults over the age of 25. Penn State should join the opposition and protect highly vulnerable students in this regard just as surely as we would protect them from any other threat to their wellbeing. If the casino comes, there **WILL** be victims.

Please lend your considerable weight to help us forestall tragedy.

Thank you,

Bill Rose  
Spring Township resident of 26 years and Penn State employee of 28

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Kristen Boccumini <kristenbocc@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 7:06 PM  
**To:** kristenbocc@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Sharing an important article on the proposed Nittany Mall casino

Dear Community Leaders,

An important news article about the State College community's opposition to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall was published earlier today:

[Opposition Mounting Against Proposed State College PA Casino](#)



**Opposition Mounting Against Proposed State College PA Casino**

Happy Valley residents speaking out against Nittany Mall Casino and want the College Township Council to send a ...

Please stand with your constituents who are already fighting to protect our community by doing everything that you can to stop the development of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Kristen Boccumini

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Susan Streit <susankaystreit@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 9:17 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino opposition

Dear College Township Council members,

I am a resident of State College and have lived in College Township for almost 30 years. I am exceedingly troubled and distressed over the proposed plans for a casino in State College. Instead of a business that brings vitality and life to a community, casinos bring a host of social ills... lawlessness, family breakup, fiscal irresponsibility, addiction, abuse of alcohol, violent behavior and more. These consequences will further over-burden our local law enforcement officers.

Furthermore, the addiction rate for college-aged students is reported to be six times the rate of the general public. The proposed casino would be a dangerous enterprise for any community, but especially one that is host to over 40,000 students!

Please do ALL that you can to oppose this casino in our area. I will greatly appreciate all of your efforts toward that goal.

Sincerely,

Susan Streit

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Marie Hamilton <gmfhamilton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 8:48 AM  
**To:** Marie Hamilton  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from gmfhamilton@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Dear Leader,**

**I have dedicated most of my life to what we now call Restorative Justice. I am the founder of CentrePeace and many other alternative to incarceration programs. I have taught decision making and Problem Solving in most of our state prisons, to staff and inmates. I have also taught it to church leaders, social workers and school teachers. One simple rule: When you do not have consensus\*, you do not do it. If you are not absolutely sure it is the right thing to do, DO NOT DO IT. A casino will bring more problems and end up costing more money than the money it will give to a few. Those who get caught up in the love of money, usually end up in our Criminal Justice System. That is a fee we cannot afford or should be imposing on our community. Let us not bring this magnificent temptation to Centre County.**

**Respectfully, (Grace) Marie Hamilton**

**\*Consensus: Everyone agrees.**

--

Founder, CentrePeace 814 238-8735

**"Grace Goes to Prison"**

**TedX Talk: "Breaking Out of Prison Thinking"**

**Toward a More Restorative Justice System**

## Jennifer Snyder

---

**From:** Joanna Haushalter <jlhaushalter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 9:48 AM  
**To:** Joanna Haushalter  
**Subject:** Please do not allow the casino to come to our area!

You don't often get email from jlhaushalter@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Board of Trustees, College Township Council, and County Commissioner members,

I have lived here in State College my entire life and have seen many changes over the past 40 years. My family and I feel that disregarding the changes that a casino would bring to our town is simply not worth the high potential of increased crime, drugs, poverty, and addiction. The cost this will bring to people's lives is not worth the economic boost. We have a responsibility to maintain an environment that encourages a healthy lifestyle not only for our own benefit but also for the thousands of students that come to study here.

Respectfully,  
Joanna Haushalter  
Boalsburg, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** ayşe erkan <aerkan@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 10:46 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino objection

[Bu kullanıcıdan çok sık e-posta aerkan@outlook.com. Bunun neden önemli olduğunu öğrenmek için <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Hello,

My name is Ayse Erkan.I am living in State College and I am raising two kids.I choose this city because it is a safe and good city for raising kids and I don't want that casino to be opened here.Casino can cause a lot of safety problems.Please don't let them open this casino.

Best Regards

iPad'imden gönderildi

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Merlin Ritz <fritzritz@att.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 10:52 AM  
**To:** president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from fritzritz@att.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Much has been spoken and written about the negative consequences to be expected as a result of the establishment of a casino in our community. I am confident that you have been exposed to all of this information, and I need not repeat it here. As persons in positions of responsibility it behooves you to consider the well-being of your fellow-citizens, and to do everything in your power to forestall this tragedy. Time is growing short.

Merlin Ritz  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** pris shea <prishome@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 11:41 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino

You don't often get email from prishome@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I wish to reiterate my strong opposition to the proposed casino in Centre County. Need I list all the ways it is not healthy for our community? I'm sure you have seen the negatives regarding this issue and I just wish to add my voice to the 'nays' who believe a casino will become a black-eye for our community.

Thank you.

Pris Shea

Bristol Ave, State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Uhl, Christopher <cfu1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 11:11 AM  
**To:** Office of the President; Wolf, Thomas Westerman; Dunn, Cynthia A; Hagarty, Eric; Redding, Russell Charles; Amoros, Abraham; Delligatti, Daniel J.; Hartzler, J Alex; Kleppinger, David Morris; Pegula, Terrence Michael; Rapp, Stanley I; Brown, Edward Bayly; de Levie, Alvin Frank; fenchak, Barry joseph; Hasenkopf, Christa A; Lubrano, Anthony Paul; Paterno, Joseph Vincent; Pope, Alice Wild; Short, Brandon Darnell; Wagman, Steven B; Black, Randall E; Cairns, Donald; Detwiler, Valerie Lyn; Dietrich, Lynn Allen; Harpster, M. Abraham; Hoffman, Chris R; Dambly, Mark; Fenza, Robert Edward; Gursahaney, Naren; Rakowich, Walter Carl; Schneider, Mary Lee; Sokolov, Richard Saul; Riegel, Tracy; Potts, Julie Anna; Schuyler, Matthew Wayne; Davis, Janiyah; Rowland, Nicholas James; Houston Jr., Randolph B; Shipley, William Stewart; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Nittany Mall Casino

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cfu1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: Happy Valley Community Members and Penn State Colleagues and Students  
 From: Christopher Uhl, Professor Emeritus, Penn State

I moved to Centre County in 1982 when I accepted a faculty position at Penn State.

As a faculty member in the Department of Biology, over a forty-year span, I endeavored to promote the common good by making contributions in the realms of i-**RESEARCH**, ii-**TEACHING**, and iii-**OUTREACH**.

In the realm of **RESEARCH**, I worked with PSU faculty, staff and students to promote sustainable practices through the creation of the Penn State Sustainability Indicators Project (<https://p2infohouse.org/ref/17/16964.pdf>).

In the realm of **TEACHING**, I developed a General Education Environmental Science course that I dubbed AWAKEN 101. Here is a link that highlights the contents of the Awaken 101 curriculum: <https://www.awaken101.us/>

Finally, in the realm of **OUTREACH**, I had the good fortune to be able to write three books for the Penn State/Happy Valley community, as follows: i-Developing Ecological Consciousness; Becoming Fully Human; ii-Teaching as if Life Matters: The Promise of a New Education Culture; and iii-Awaken 101: Discovering Meaning and Purpose in Uncertain Times.

**You might be wondering what all of this has to do with the proposal to create a CASINO in the middle of our community!?** If you are not sure, please take a moment to consider these three questions: **1-What impacts do you suppose a casino have on the 46,000 students on the University Park campus!?** **2-Will the presence of a casino in our community help PSU students awaken to their life's meaning and purpose?** **3-Will it provide them with opportunities to contribute to the common good?**

**Sincerely,  
Christopher Uhl**

## Home-V2 - Awaken 101

Whether you arrived here through a tip from a social media post, or a recommendation from a friend or family member, or because you have read our book, Awaken 101: Finding Meaning and Purpose in Uncertain Times, we welcome you to the journey of a lifetime—your lifetime—as you explore opportunities for awakening!

[www.awaken101.us](http://www.awaken101.us)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Barry Kroeker <bkroeker1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2022 3:54 PM  
**To:** 'Barry Kroeker'  
**Subject:** Is a local gambling casino REALLY a good idea for College Township and Penn State University?

To Whom it May Concern:

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the opening of a gambling casino in College Township within minutes of Penn State University.

The only problem is – I can't stop it. But you CAN.

Utilitarian philosopher John Stuart Mill delivered an 1867 inaugural address at the University of St. Andrews and stated: "Let not any one pacify his conscience by the delusion that he can do no harm if he takes no part, and forms no opinion. Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends, than that good men should look on and do nothing."

Barry Kroeker  
[Bkroeker1@comcast.net](mailto:bkroeker1@comcast.net)  
814-359-8597

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Kay Shirk <kays816@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2022 2:09 PM  
**To:** tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** Please oppose the proposed casino at Nittany Mall

As a resident of College Township for more than 39 years and residing near the Nittany Mall, we are *strongly* opposed to having the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall.

A casino in Centre County, which has a high number of lower income, elderly, and rural residents, along with **47,000+ Penn State college students**, would create the potential for a dramatic increase in crime. In fact, studies already show that casinos cause crimes of various kinds to increase nearby. It could also cause a huge increase in both gambling addiction and alcohol abuse, more illegal drugs, and would result in many additional problems in the State College community and outlying areas. And a casino would most likely *not* generate the positive economic impact projected.

An article that appeared on *the front page* of the New York Times on Sunday, June 5, 2022, presented information that you should bear in mind:

I quote verbatim from the article:

**“Evidence from other urban areas suggests that the tax revenue protections of casino companies often prove to be overstated, and that the economic benefits of casinos fade over time.”**

**“A 2004 study by University of Buffalo researchers found that people who lived within 10 miles of a casino were twice as likely to have a gambling problem as those who lived far away.”**

**“Economic research has shown that gambling attracts poorer populations.”**

**“Casino companies also rarely meet the revenue targets they present to state regulators when competing for licenses.”**

The fact that there are so many young, impressionable college students residing in State College should be reason enough to oppose this casino, which would encourage them to consume even more alcohol--already a problem in State College and surrounding areas.

***Please do not allow the proposed casino to be added to the Nittany Mall.***

Vaughn and Kathryn Shirk  
College Township, State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Andrew Shaffer <andrewshaffer148@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov  
**Subject:** Penn State Community Feedback Opposing Nittany Mall Casino  
**Attachments:** Public-Comment-2022-September-WEB.pdf

Dear College Township Council,

The Penn State Board of Trustees has published the public feedback that it received prior to its meetings last week. This feedback contains 213 messages from people in the community opposing the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall, 8 messages addressing other topics, and 0 messages supporting the casino.

I respectfully request that the Council review this feedback and incorporate it into your decision-making regarding the community's appeals for the Council to ask the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to deny the proposed casino's license. The community's appeals for Penn State's Trustees to speak out in opposition to the casino are equally applicable to every leader in our community, especially including the College Township Council.

The published feedback is available on the Trustees' webpage:

<https://trustees.psu.edu/board-and-committee-meetings-2022-23/>

A direct link to the feedback for last week's Board meeting is available at:

<https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/sites.psu.edu/dist/7/64540/files/2022/09/Public-Comment-2022-September-WEB.pdf>

I am also attaching a copy of the PDF file that is downloadable at this link for your convenience. Please include the full text of this feedback in the consent agenda for the next upcoming Council meeting on 10/6/2022.

Thank you for all of your hard work in managing the Township's affairs. I believe I speak for all of the community members who want to stop the development of the proposed casino when I say that we want College Township to be safe and prosperous, and also that we want you to be successful in your leadership on the Council.

Please stand with us in opposing the casino so we can work together in common pursuit of these goals!

Best regards,

Andrew Shaffer  
State College, PA



## Public Comment September 23, 2022

1	<p><b>Julie Gittings</b> Casino? My family and many friends and neighs oppose a “local” casino. We find the “people are going to gamble anyway, we might as well tax them here” argument to be flawed and shallow and VERY SELF DEALI G. The only ONLY profit a casino brings us to the owners. Gambling is tempting, addicting, destructive and despite being defined as “fun”, imposes great costs to social services and the individuals it attracts.</p>
2	<p><b>Margaret Ellis</b> I am in complete opposition to a casino opening up in State College. The hard it will bring to our community far outweighs any good it may bring. I am a health care worker with Mount Nittany Physician Group. We need a preventative approach to addiction. There is enough struggle with insufficient mental health resources to treat the problems we currently have.</p>
3	<p><b>Paul Clark</b> A Casino Operator wants to open a Casino in the Nittany Mall in State College. There is strong opposition to the casino among those of us who live in the community here. From a cost/benefit perspective, the casino will add little to our community, while bringing many problems with it, including compulsive gambling. There is a particular danger of this given the casino’s proximity to 48,000 Penn State students. Many of the students living in our community have had no experience with organized gambling. Irresponsible behavior related to gambling could result in severe consequences for them just as they are beginning their adult lives. I believe the casino also will increase traffic and reduce property values.</p> <p>Many State College residents oppose the proposed casino because we believe it will have a detrimental impact on our community. I believe the University should express its opposition because of the potentially detrimental impact on our students.</p> <p>I would particularly point to the compulsive or problem gambling plan include in the casino’s application. The plan is inadequate and clearly shows by its boilerplate language that it has no serious concern about this issue and the damage it will do to our community. and our students.</p>
4	<p><b>Margaret Terry</b> I can think of nothing that provides such potential harm to the university as a casino. Undergraduate students especially are experiencing a huge degree of freedom compared to their high school years and the temptation of a casino is truly insane to add to our community. Thank you, Margaret Terry</p>
5	<p><b>Loretta Jeffreys</b> I believe the Penn State Board of Trustees should do everything in its power to protect the students who come to this area for an education. I believe the positioning of a gaming casino three miles from the University is a threat to student safety, education and mental health. The overwhelming majority of people who enter gaming casinos lose money, and the more frequently they try to win money, the more money they lose. That is the purpose of gaming casinos wherever they exist—to take money from the public and give it to investors, including former members of the Board of Trustees with whom you may have a personal relationship. Casinos do not improve the quality of life for their environments. Casinos breed mental anguish and despair which can exacerbate student mental health problems, which the University would have to deal with. I urge you to oppose the casino planned for the Nittany Mall as part of your care for student health and your concern for town gown relationships.</p>

6	<p><b>Paul Clark</b></p> <p>I am a 40+ year faculty member and former academic administrator at Penn State. I have long question the University policy/practice, as I understand it, that the Athletic Department is a separate financial entity from the University. I have been told that the AD is permitted to keep whatever revenue it makes and spend that revenue as it sees fit. The result is that we have money for world class athletic facilities when we do not have money to replace faculty who have left, pay decent salaries to staff, and fund new academic initiatives. And our tuition is one of the highest in the country for public universities.</p> <p>I understand that an AD that generates millions of dollars each year cannot solve our financial problems, but I do not understand why it cannot contribute in a significant way to the academic side of the university rather than spending its excess funds on non-essential projects. Would the \$12.5 million the AD is spending to remodel its Field Hockey Stadium be better used to fund scholarships for needy students?</p> <p>The new Big Ten TV contract and the addition of USC and UCLA will increase the revenue of our AD beyond the sizable revenue it already generates. Wouldn't it be to the University's credit if the public saw our AD contributing to the academic improvement of the University. That would show true leadership at a time when college athletics is increasing becoming a for-profit enterprise only loosely connected to the primary mission of higher education?</p>
7	<p><b>Frank Ritter</b></p> <p>Casino's bring misery to the town they are in. the math that we teach does not suggest but proves that people lose money at them. We do not need the problems that they bring in State College.</p>
8	<p><b>Richard Sargo</b></p> <p>Selling alcohol is a very bad decision. The university talks about doing things to encourage less drinking, then wants to sell more alcohol. Don't be hypocritical. Be a leader not a follower. Just because 10 other Big Ten schools do something, doesn't make it a good idea.</p> <p>Casino is also a very bad idea. This is a great place for retirees. I would like to keep it that way.</p> <p>Although if Mastriano gets in as governor, we will be moving anyway.</p>
9	<p><b>Sarah Schwartz</b></p> <p>As a State College community member, Penn State alum, parent, and educator, I am urging the university to do everything in your power to oppose the proposed casino to protect our community and our students. Many parents are concerned about the real risks of sending their children to a university where a nearby casino is present. There are also serious student mental health concerns, and a lack of Penn State resources to adequately address even the current student mental health needs, and as research on casinos indicates, these mental health issues will grow should there be a local casino. Students are a vulnerable population financially, and with the addition of a casino, the concern around student poverty and financial distress will be a growing issue. Lastly, the local quality of life and relationship with the surrounding community (for example, Town &amp; Gown issues) should be taken into consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.</p>
10	<p><b>Lisa Bolton</b></p> <p>I am writing to encourage the board and the university to oppose the proposed casino development for the Nittany Mall. I believe the net impact of the casino will be negative, with any (dubious) economic benefit readily offset by numerous negative consequences. No one 'wins' (except the casino) when it comes to gambling! It is addictive, it is costly, and ultimately it will harm college students and families in our community. The university will bear this burden directly due to gambling's effects on our students' mental and financial health. I urge you to oppose the casino – for the benefit of our community.</p>

11	<p><b>Robin Guillard</b></p> <p>As a resident of the Clover Highlands development I am vehemently opposed to the proposed gambling casino at the Nittany Mall by a member of the Penn State Board of Trustees! The Clover Highlands neighborhood is accessible from College Avenue and centered between the university and the Nittany Mall. Neighbors include Penn State Faculty, Department Heads and a Dean. Town &amp; Gown relations stand to be irreparably harmed by this irresponsible decision to bring a casino to our community. We firmly believe that the casino will increase crime and pose significant financial hardships to the student population and to our community. Students face considerable financial without adding more. As a parent of former students who earned multiple undergraduate and graduate degrees from Penn State, I am alarmed by the adverse potential this proposed casino presents. I firmly believe it may further challenge the mental and emotional stresses facing our students. With online gambling operations readily available in alarming numbers, the addition of an alcohol-serving gambling facility is a disaster waiting to happen. The effort is irresponsible at best and criminal at worst and a total disregard for Town &amp; Gown relations.</p> <p>Presently, a new community of student housing is under construction at the intersection of College Avenue &amp; Squirrel Drive that will add hundreds more student apartments. The complex is located adjacent to CATA Bus stops which run between downtown State College and the Nittany Mall and within a short distance to a major highway (Routes 322 N/S) which will further entice students and outsiders with quick, and easy access to the casino. I believe this will only increase the detrimental affect the casino may bring to the welfare of the State College &amp; Penn State community. I strongly implore the Board of Trustees to condemn the proposed casino.</p> <p>Respectfully yours, Robin Guillard</p>
12	<p><b>Hollis Zelinsky</b></p> <p>Dear Board Members:</p> <p>I urge you to submit a statement to the state licensing board voicing your strong OPPOSITION to the proposed mini-casino at the Nittany Mall. As a major educational institution within just a few miles of the proposed site, Penn State will, if it's approved, find that a casino would constitute a serious danger to the health and well-being of Penn State students, faculty, staff, and their families. Inevitably, it would bring increased levels of addiction, financial hardship, and related crime. That's the last thing this community needs--which is why there is so much opposition. You are not some innocent bystander in this process and need to take a stand. Please do the right thing for students and the entire community (as opposed to one individual in your ranks who's in a position to profit mightily from such an establishment) and reflect the will of the people by weighing in AGAINST this ill-conceived business venture. Thank you.</p>
13	<p><b>Jeanne Houston</b></p> <p>Hello Trustees, please consider making your opposition known to the PA Gaming Control Board by Oct 19th regarding the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall. I am a resident of College Township and an alumna of PSU (along with the other 5 members of my family.) There is a statistical link to increased addiction to gambling among college students (6x more than the general population). Along with alcohol consumption that we know is a problem in our University environment this should raise a red flag! This will overburden already strained resources for mental health providers. I am friends with many parents of current and future University students who would not want their child to have this to deal with in their college years. Not only is mental health and addiction a problem, but the financial burden this brings to students and families who are least likely to be able to manage this behavior and will very likely become more impoverished as a result in this time of inflation and other economic uncertainty is alarming. Please don't remain silent on this issue and become informed on the negative impacts to a community that such will bring to our Happy Valley, with increased need for police presence because of the potential for criminal activity, along with ruin to students' and families' lives. The supposed economic benefit is dubious at best with other businesses in the area to suffer. See the many studies and statistics done from other locations. You have an important voice; please use it for good! Regards, JH</p>
14	<p><b>Heather Ricker-Gilbert</b></p> <p>Even though the final decision for the proposed Casino lies with College Township I think the Board should take a stand against the Casino due to the impact it will have on students and the high rate of gambling addiction which will occur once such a facility is open. Traffic, debt, and crime are additional byproducts of casinos and even though a Penn State donor is behind this project I think the Board of Trustees should speak out against it. How many parents will want to send their children to a university right near a Casino?</p>
15	<p><b>Barb Saxton</b></p> <p>I am writing to the board of trustees to ask that you would please do everything possible and quickly so as to stop the proposed casino from coming to State College. College students are particularly vulnerable to addictive type problems and we do not need to make a casino accessible to further tempt them. I hope that the revenue this would generate would not color this opposition. There have been petitions and meetings from many of the people in this area, many with sad stories of loved ones</p>

	<p>gambling addiction and family destruction from it. Please do all in your power to help stop the casino from coming. We need to be accountable for things we have power to influence for these students and their parents. Thank you for reading this and hope you will make a good decision for PSU and our community also.</p>
16	<p><b>Elizabeth McGraw</b></p> <p>I am writing to communicate my opposition to the proposed Casino at Nittany Mall in State College, Pennsylvania. I am a resident of College Township and a Professor and Dept Head in Biology at PSU. First, Penn State students already have a problem with alcohol addiction. The brain of young people does not fully mature until their early to mid 20's, making it harder for them to evaluate risk accurately and making them more susceptible to addiction. Offering up a casino 10 minutes drive from the Penn State campus will introduce another opportunity for addiction. With rising tuition rates, we already have a huge number of students who are food insecure and who live in their cars or couch surf. I would argue that MOST of our students cannot handle a gambling habit or addiction. If Penn State becomes the university of drinking and gambling, we will fall even further in the big ten rankings, risking our reputation as an educational and research institution nationally and internationally. Second, the people who can least afford to gamble are often the most frequent customers. This casino, to be located in central PA, is a region hit heavily by opioid addiction and a range of diseases of despair. We know that the pandemic has only worsened these impacts. Adding easy access to gambling will further break these already battered communities. Development should not make social and economic problems worse – it should be used to improve communities. This casino will be preying on Appalachia. Providing tacit support or failing to speak out, is fundamentally in conflict with our land grant mission and will reflect poorly on the institution. With low unemployment in our community, the argument that this will bring jobs does not make it worth the risks. I hope that PSU as a powerful member of this community will use its influence to prevent this development.</p>
17	<p><b>Betty Harper</b></p> <p>Please do everything you can to oppose the proposed Casino development at the Nittany Valley Mall in State College. A casino will be detrimental to student and employee recruitment, the mental health of University Park community members, and the quality of life in State College. In particular, a casino could negatively impact student life and exacerbate Penn State's inability to meet the growing mental health needs of its student population. It will also further contribute to student financial distress.</p>
18	<p><b>Mary Jane Stout</b></p> <p>Please Trustees, do everything you can to protect our Penn State Community from the ill-advised local casino. This area has been a fairly safe environment for students, families and visitors. Our University should oppose this; it will not benefit students, faculty or staff. Looking at other casino communities should be a warning about the increased crime, gambling addicts, the decay of a welcoming environment for families who come to Penn State sports and cultural events. Please show leadership in protecting our students and town against this clear threat to our quality of life.</p>
19	<p><b>Leann Diederich</b></p> <p>I am writing as a very concerned member of the community. I live in Bellefonte, work in Boalsburg and State College, and drive past the Nittany Mall daily. There are a number of reasons the proposed casino would be harmful to our community. Specifically, as a psychologist, I have concerns regarding the mental health impact it would have on our community members. Please consider the following: 1) The new American casino is primarily a facility filled with modern slot machines. 2) A modern slot machine is a sophisticated computer, engineered to create fast, continuous, and repeat betting. 3) Modern slot machines are carefully designed to ensure that the longer you play, the more you lose. 4) Modern slot machines are highly addictive. 5) Modern slot machines are engineered to make players lose track of time and money (Institute for American Values, 2013). All of those factors would be a detriment to the mental health and well being of our community members. The availability of mental health support in this community is already taxed (private practices are full or have waitlists of months long, CAPS already restricts students to short-term therapy and refers out a high number of students). A casino would add an additional mental health burden to a community already struggling to meet the mental health needs of its students and residents. Thus, I respectfully request that the Penn State Board of Trustees do everything in their power (through Penn State and otherwise) to protect the Penn State Community from the harms the casino would cause. Sincerely- Leann Diederich, PhD, Licensed Psychologist.</p>
20	<p><b>Dorothy Sandusky</b></p> <p>I am writing asking you to contact college Township and the PA gaming Commission telling them that you do not wish for a casino to be opened in the State College area. Thank you.</p>
21	<p><b>Mary Gage</b></p> <p>A casino would have a i=negative impact on Penn State students. It would encourage them to waste their grant money and their time. Please oppose the idea.</p>

22	<p><b>Martha Micuda</b></p> <p>As the widow of a late retired PSU Librarian and the proud mother of two Penn State alumni, I question whether parents of Penn State students will want their children exposed to closely located casino gambling while in the care of the University, its administrators, and esteemed trustees. Why would any university, in this case a major, respected land-grant one, want that legacy for its students and community. WE ARE PENN STATE! We are better than this!</p>
23	<p><b>Debbie Harrison</b></p> <p>Having been a resident of State College since the early 80's, I have seen a lot of changes take place that have not been favorable to our little community. High rise buildings, farm land being developed, etc. Please help to keep our community from becoming even more undesirable for those who have lived here for 40+ years by speaking out against the proposal of building a casino in our area. I feel this will hurt the quality of life in this area and will make the Penn State community a less than desirable area to reside. Thank you.</p>
24	<p><b>Rebecca John</b></p> <p>I am writing to express my opposition to bringing a casino to our area. I am a Penn State alumna and a parent of five children who are only a few years away from attending college. The presence of a casino so close to campus is a large deterrent to sending our children there for my husband and I. In addition, I believe the relatively small economic improvement brought by new casino jobs is far outweighed by the negative effects: increased financial distress and poverty for those addicted to gambling, lower quality of life, and the myriad adverse effects that a casino will bring to our community, and the negative impact on student health (which is already straining the university's mental health resources). Please work to stop this this casino from marring Happy Valley.</p>
25	<p><b>Phyllis Garnder</b></p> <p>Please take a public stand against the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall. Casinos direct their revenue to their headquarters, offering only low-paying jobs to locals. Crime goes up around casinos. Those who gamble are usually least able to afford their losses. Above all, university students are adversely affected at a high percentage than the general public (gambling addiction). Say no to a harmful influence in our community.</p>
26	<p><b>Elizabeth Pula</b></p> <p>The Casino license being considered in College Township would create totally negative community outcomes for the entire County, if not region of Pennsylvania. This business is the antithesis of the systems for education and reasonable, civil, and positive business activities that have supported citizens of this region of the state to prosper, and survive for generations peacefully. Just a quick scan of the thumbnails of the PDF file of the September 15,2022 College Township Regular Meeting Agenda Packet reveals a business application with ONLY blacked-out boxes of any pertinent business information of the applicant for the business. At the get-go would you accept that type of application for any bid for any type of contract? The Pennsylvania Gaming Board needs to protect Tax revenues so that a civil public and a state can have an opportunity to continue to exist. Channeling money through a business with the necessity of total secrecy is NOT the foundation for any reasonable business especially a Gaming license application. Dark Money and money laundering is the epitome of a totally shaky and shady foundation for any type of business and definitely indicates a totally questionable and dishonest business application for anywhere in Pennsylvania, and definitely not in the State College region.</p> <p>I am advising the Penn State Board of Trustees to do absolutely everything in your power to not take a first step to destroy everything that College Township, State College, the Penn State University, Pennsylvania, and the United States as a Nation was founded on. Take the critical step in the only right direction to stop this worst type of a Ponzi scheme.</p> <p>Do everything in your power to stop the awarding of this license in the State College region. There are better business models worth pursuing in the real world of the real citizens in the Happy Valley. Keep it Happy!</p>
27	<p><b>Evan Mascitti</b></p> <p>Please oppose the proposed casino project at the Nittany Mall. I believe (along with many others in the community) that this development will only bring negative impact to Centre County. Although it may create new jobs, these are low-level service positions with poor pay and benefits. Furthermore, I do not think having this type of institution near Penn State is a good thing for student well-being. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
28	<p><b>Marie Hamilton</b></p> <p>I foresee many problems for our PSU students if there is a Casino in Centre County.</p> <p>Many years ago there was a riot in downtown State College. Many students were involved. Many of them (caught on camera) were sent to jail. I got to know them, as I was the Director of CentrePeace and they came there each day from the jail for social</p>

	<p>and job skill opportunities. These were very bright and personable gentlemen. They expressed the lure of all the yelling and students running around and all said they were tempted to join. They wanted to be part of whatever was happening. That temptation led them to dismissal from schooling and job opportunities down the line.</p> <p>A Casino would be one of the most magnificent temptations we could imagine. Just as happened during the "Riot," the lure would be disastrous.</p> <p>I do not believe in gambling. I have never bought lottery tickets. It is against my religion. However, I would probably go there out of curiosity. The lure would be great.</p> <p>Let's have a grand contest to see who can come up with the best, wholesome use of the Nittany Mall.</p> <p>Thank you. Marie Hamilton</p>
29	<p><b>Ashley M</b></p> <p>As a State College resident and PSU Alumni, I strongly encourage you to oppose the casino, keeping the following in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Parental concerns about the risks of sending their children to a University where a nearby casino is present</li> <li>-Student poverty and financial distress</li> <li>-Local quality of life and relationship with the surrounding community</li> </ul> <p>We want to attract and retain the professionals that make our community and economy a thriving one. A low crime rate is one essential piece to this. You can find many articles linking increases in crime and other illegal activity to these types of facilities. Please do anything in your power to oppose this casino.</p>
30	<p><b>Nancy Chiswick</b></p> <p>Dear Authorities:</p> <p>I have lived and worked in our community for almost 50 years. I raised my family here, and I had a career as a psychologist both at Penn State and in the community. I'm writing to express my very strong concern about having a casino in our community. While not everyone who goes to a casino is addicted to gambling, a significant number of gamblers do develop an addiction, which is known to cause great harm to individuals, families, and communities. This is especially true during the adolescent years, when it is normal to try new things including things that are harmful.</p> <p>While my psychology practice did not focus on addiction, several of my colleagues over the years treated addicted patients and taught courses about addiction. I learned and saw enough to know that having a facility like the one that is planned for the Nittany Mall is a very unwise decision for our community. It may generate financial gain, but the cost in individual, family, and community suffering will not be worth it. And ultimately, the cost of remediating the bad effects of having such a facility in a university town will far outweigh the immediate economic benefits.</p> <p>Our community is known and held in high esteem because we take care of one another, and because we encourage and promote having a healthy and productive life. That will be seriously damaged and diminished if you go forward with this plan.</p> <p>Nancy R. Chiswick, Ph. D.</p>
31	<p><b>Andrew Shaffer</b></p> <p>Please do everything in your power, both through Penn State and otherwise, to stop the development of the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. The best available research clearly shows that casinos nearly double the rate of gambling addiction in their host communities, and research also shows that young adults are about 6x more likely to become addicted to gambling than those over the age of 25. Allowing a casino to be developed less than 5 miles from the 48,000 students at Penn State University Park should therefore be expected to significantly increase the rates of gambling addiction among Penn State's student population, leading to substantially increased rates of student poverty, student mental health problems, and academic failure. Penn State and the surrounding community are already struggling with these issues as a result of COVID and its associated lockdowns during the past several years, and even current needs in these areas already outstrip the available local resources. Allowing a casino to be developed nearby and allowing the Penn State student population to be bombarded with advertisements designed to distract them from their problems through gambling will only exacerbate these challenges. A local casino would create a "perfect storm" scenario in which the community's available support mechanisms would be overwhelmed, and hundreds or even thousands of Penn State students in each year's class will likely be harmed by untreated gambling addiction. The local State College community is overwhelmingly opposed to the casino (with available polling showing opposition to the casino running between 80%-90%), and we have already requested on multiple occasions that Penn State's leaders send the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) a message indicating that hosting a local casino would not be in the interests of Penn State or its surrounding community. If Penn State truly values its Town &amp; Gown relationship, we ask that</p>

	<p>you acknowledge and act upon these strong community concerns. The PGCB will be holding its hearings regarding this proposed casino on 10/19/2022, and it will likely make a decision to grant or deny the license for this casino shortly thereafter. Please show leadership by speaking out in opposition to the casino while there is still time to make a difference! Penn State's leaders would send the strongest message if they spoke corporately in opposition to the casino, but if this is not possible each of you still has your own voice and your own personal connections that can be leveraged to help protect our community from this looming threat. If you need more information about the community's strong opposition to the proposed casino or why the casino would be harmful to Penn State and the surrounding community, please visit <a href="https://www.saynocasino.org">https://www.saynocasino.org</a>. Thank you for showing Penn State leadership on this issue!</p>
32	<p><b>Daniel Shields</b> Dear Trustees: I hope you will join me in opposing the proposed casino to be located in College Township. In my opinion, the gambling industry is not a productive industry. It doesn't create wealth, it transfers it..</p> <p>The gambling industry tends to concentrate wealth into a relatively small number of people. This wealth is gathered from a much larger segment of the community. Many members of this larger segment are those who can ill afford to transfer money to someone else without having a tangible benefit to show for it.</p> <p>There are numerous health care concerns that attend gambling. Gambling has been recognized as an addiction and the addiction as an illness. The illness has psychological and physical complications. Like other forms of addiction, negative aspects of the addiction are not limited to the addicted. Families bear the brunt of the consequences of addiction. Frequently, people outside of the addicted person's family also suffer the deleterious effects of the illness. Studies have shown that gambling addicts have a higher incidence of violent behavior than non-addicts.</p> <p>Addiction problems end up in health care sooner or later. As a nurse who works locally, I can assure you that we do not need more reasons for hospitalization for psychiatric disorders and physical maladies. It would be irresponsible for local authorities to add to the health care burden we face.</p> <p>I have included links to two health care references for gambling addiction. I urge you to read them before making any decision to invite a casino into our region. Please note that the first is from the Mayo Clinic, an internationally recognized medical institution. The second is an abstract for a meta-analysis of gambling violence. Interesting to note that this abstract alludes to frequent relationships between gambling addiction and other societal and psychiatric problems. If this is the case, why add to the problem by making gambling more readily available?</p> <p><a href="https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/compulsive-gambling/symptoms-causes/syc-20355178">https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/compulsive-gambling/symptoms-causes/syc-20355178</a> <a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25477014/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25477014/</a></p> <p>I hope that you will do the right thing for our community by opposing the proposed casino. The people you help by doing so are likely some of the most vulnerable neighbors that we have. Sincerely, Daniel L. Shields, RN</p>
33	<p><b>David Kolasa</b> Please oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. They are going to feature sports betting and PSU athletes will be tempted by certain unsavory bettors to throw games. I have experience working in casinos in Reno, NV and it will happen. College sports are bet on much more now than ever before. Penn State students will also become addicted as a certain portion of our population is not able to resist that feeling of adrenaline of having gambling action. Don't let Ira Lubert run Penn State. He has already purchased a seat on the board and a building. Thank you.</p>
34	<p><b>Joanna Haushalter</b> Dear Board of Trustees, I have lived in State College my entire life and most of my immediate and extended family are Penn State alumni. My family and I have seen many changes over the past 50 years regarding Penn State and the surrounding area. We ask that you do all you can to prevent the casino from coming to the Nittany Mall. The changes that a casino would bring to the area, and how it would affect Penn State students would be marked with not only devastating consequences to Penn State's reputation (that is already known to be a party school) but also for the individual lives of these students that at their vulnerable age are undoubtedly prone to insensibility. When I picture a casino in this town, I see it as similar to our community allowing a company to build an amazingly attractive and fun playground for preschoolers on the berm of a major highway. It is attractive, fun for the kids, and</p>

	<p>will bring in money, but at what cost? Disregarding the potential of increased crime, drugs, poverty, and addiction is not worth the economic boost. My family, friends, and I believe putting money ahead of the well-being of the students and community would be irresponsible.</p> <p>Sincerely, Joanna Haushalter</p>
35	<p><b>Helen Love</b></p> <p>I am in opposition to the opening of a casino in Centre County as I feel it would be a real temptation to PSU students and take them away from their studies. I hope the Board will use their influence to prevent a casino from opening here. Thank you.</p>
36	<p><b>Valerie Silecchia</b></p> <p>As an alumni, parent of a current Penn State student, and long time resident of the State College community, I am opposed to the Board supporting the opening of a casino anywhere near our main campus. I have serious concerns about sending my children to a University where a nearby casino is present. We already have significant issues with student mental health and lack of resources to adequately address even current student mental health needs (both at Penn State and in the local community). Adding a casino and opening doors to gambling addiction, depression, and anxiety will place further burdens on the already overtaxed system. Students are already struggling with balancing academics with social life, and trying to hold down jobs to live within their means while the economy is awful. Financial distress is challenging enough without adding gambling opportunities mere miles down the road to their already immature and undeveloped minds. Actively oppose this casino, I implore you--for all their sakes.</p>
37	<p><b>Don Cistaro</b></p> <p>Please consider a strenuous response opposing the location of a gambling casino in our community. Introducing such a venue here can only have negative effects on the student body and the University as a whole. It will also reduce the revenue of our downtown merchants who are still recovering from the economic effects of the pandemic. It is truly a lose-lose proposition for Penn State.</p>
38	<p><b>Cheryl George</b></p> <p>Please consider opposing the proposed casino. Most compelling reasons: increased gambling addictions, increased crime, conflicts of interest regarding governance, impacts on sports and academics, incentivization of self-destructive behaviors in Penn State students and the surrounding communities! Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Cheryl George</p>
39	<p><b>Pamela Short</b></p> <p>The opening of a casino in close proximity to a revolving community of 30,000 undergraduates promises to be a public health disaster. It's also a mistake that probably can't be reversed. Please don't stand by idly while state and local governments and casino investors exploit Penn State's students and alumni for the money that can realized by encouraging addictive and irresponsible behavior.</p>
40	<p>Speak out in opposition to a casino.</p> <p>I urge the Board to voice in the strongest possible terms opposition to the establishment of a casino in the State College area. I oppose a casino as an alumni and as a resident just three miles from Old Main. Opposition to a casino is a clear demonstration of the University's claim to care for the welfare of students. Opposition would also reflect concern for the greater community. The negative influence of a casino is reported in multiple studies and I will not take your time repeating them here. Speak out for the good of students, the university, and the community.</p>
41	<p><b>Robert Hohn</b></p> <p>As an alum and citizen of Centre County, I am vehemently opposed to the proposed casino, for many reasons. As a PSU Trustee, you should consider the negative effect on potentially introducing gambling to students, especially at such a vulnerable age. In addition, the proximity to PSU sports teams is troubling. Finally, prospective students' parents will likely take pause when considering PSU with a casino less than 5 miles away. Please go on record as opposing this proposed casino.</p>
42	<p><b>Daniel Materna</b></p> <p>Dear members of the Penn State University Board of Trustees,</p> <p>The entire community in Happy Valley needs and asks for your help. We sincerely ask the Board to please speak out very soon against the proposed casino in State College.</p>

	<p>As rarely mentioned, but unfortunately true, Penn State is already known for high rates of serious problems with alcohol and related issues. If the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall is approved by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board in the very near future, those rates of serious problems could foreseeably increase even further as gambling addiction is added to the equation. There is also concern that the surrounding areas, which are much more in need of economic support, are unlikely to directly benefit from a casino. In the United States, casinos have never led to the large increases in funding for schools, employment, industry, and other economic benefits that were promised. There is no acceptable justification for an establishment that potentially exacerbates those problems, certainly there are alternative means of boosting the economy in State College that do not have potentially severe and adverse residual impacts.</p> <p>Earlier this year, I have expressed concern about the development of a casino in State College directly to President Bendapudi, her predecessor and Penn State’s Board of Trustees. Hundreds of community members have also spoken out vigorously, presenting strong arguments and making clear the will of residents. Their voices are consistent with the bulk of the evidence which suggests that casinos built in the vicinity of college campuses have little positive effect on per capita income and job growth, but they do bring an accelerating effect of gambling behaviors and addiction, alcohol use, and other risky behaviors. WE ARE the "Town" portion of "Town &amp; Gown", and WE ARE asking for your help!</p> <p>I hope you will consider the evidence and the implications for our students. Please provide that help to us by using the powerful voice of Penn State University to speak out publicly against the casino proposed for our bucolic college town. Thank you, we really do need your help. Most importantly, we really need that help right now!</p>
<p><b>43</b></p>	<p><b>Janet Nelson</b> Dear President Bendapudi,</p> <p>My husband and I are residents of College Township, graduates of PSU, and retirees. We live in a middle class neighborhood within two miles of the proposed casino site at the Nittany Mall. Our neighborhood is populated by retirees, young working couples, and young families with small children. Our son lives in another middle class neighborhood two miles from us.</p> <p>Our dreams for our children were that they above all else be able to go to college and learn to support themselves financially through a profession that they really enjoy. They have done exactly that at PSU. Our son is a middle school band director at MNMS and our daughter is a clinical pharmacist. They both worked hard in this wonderful school district to be able to pursue higher education even though they might not have had all the advantages of an upper middle class family with more resources. The temptation to use drugs and drink back in the nineties was real yet they were able to avoid it because of our hopes and dreams for them and our hard work to provide the essential support for extracurricular music lessons and tennis lessons for our daughter which kept them very busy and away from temptation.</p> <p>The financial struggles of middle class families and young couples with families today are much greater than when we raised our children in this neighborhood. A casino nearby would be a tempting vessel for eventual financial demise for people in our situation in the nineties. The illusion that gambling can help alleviate financial struggles is real for many as is evident with lottery ticket sales. Just imagine the allure of a casino to those struggling with finances. These neighborhoods were built as starter homes. Some of us have not been able to move but have at least been able to improve the lives of our children. Our fear is this casino would further marginalize the people who live in these communities now with those same hopes and dreams by being so physically close and tempting them to participate in a vice that we know does not do anything to improve the lives of the majority of people who gamble.</p> <p>As president of PSU, I know you believe education to be the vessel to improve the lives of our children and also benefit society as a whole. Our grandchildren live so close to the site of this proposed casino and we do not want it near them at all. Casinos are best located in an isolated area so that people need to think twice before making the trip. Not in a community of families and children struggling to make ends meet. It’s a recipe for disaster for these people. Please help them keep their minds focused on what is really important which is hard work and education.</p> <p>Thank you. Janet Nelson. Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p><b>44</b></p>	<p><b>Jun Luo</b> Dear PSU Trustees,</p> <p>Turning the old Macys in Nittany Mall into a Casino is an extremely harmful ideal for State College. It will ruin the reputation of this family orientated small city. Even more, it will damage the reputation of the highly ranked, world renowned PSU, not even</p>

	<p>mention bad impression it will give to prospective students and their parents. Imaging that you are a high school student or his/her parent before you make the decision. How many parents would like to send their kids to a casino city and how badly it can dim the enthusiasm of a prospective student when he/she get know their campus is just 3 mills away to a huge casino.</p> <p>Putting a Casino in State College is also not a responsible decision to the seniors retired and living in the city. It may raise health and driving safety concerns and make some of seniors more vulnerable to addiction to gambling.</p> <p>I definitely could not see the benefit of a Casino to the surrounding companies and offices either.</p> <p>Thanks and good luck to this lovely city! Jun</p>
45	<p><b>John Pitterle</b></p> <p>I ask the question, why would anyone who genuinely cares about other people want a casino to come to Centre region and close to Penn State?!? &lt;CR&gt; All of the other major State College townships and the State College Borough, except for College Township, opposed and prohibited a casino in their region! These townships saw how obvious this decision should be and they decided to do what is clearly the best thing for the people living in their region. &lt;CR&gt; Gambling is not a good, healthy, desirable thing that we want our children or anybody to do on a regular basis. It is inherently unhealthy and there are way too many potential problems and risks. &lt;CR&gt; Having legalized gambling at the Nittany Mall, just minutes away from Penn State, could be detrimental to some Penn State students. Some PSU students could become addicted to gambling. Gambling could lead to financial problems for some PSU students along with increased stress and other difficulties. It is likely that crime would increase in this area if a casino opened here. Many parents could become concerned about even having their child to go to Penn State in the future if gambling becomes legal just a few miles away from Penn State. &lt;CR&gt; Gambling is not a virtuous activity. The majority clearly do not want it at the Nittany Mall in Centre County. &lt;CR&gt; I hope that the leaders of the Board of Trustees will learn from the Borough and Patton and Ferguson Townships who banned a casino in their townships. A casino is not good and is not desirable! Surely something can be done to prevent this from happening! &lt;CR&gt; My wife and I graduated from PSU. I started working at Penn State in 1985. I have a child who graduated from Penn State and another child currently attends PSU. I have lived just minutes away from the Mall since 1994. Please do whatever you can to help make sure that a casino does not open in State College at the Mall. It would not be in the best interests of Penn State and the students.</p>
46	<p><b>Geoffrey Godbey</b></p> <p>The vast majority of people in Centre County oppose a gambling casino. It will bring gambling addiction, crime and a lower quality of life. It will also cost more in government spending and support for recovering addicts. Say "no" to the casino.</p>
47	<p><b>Avis Jones</b></p> <p>Please work to oppose the casino in college township. This casino is risk for Penn State students who are vulnerable to negative influences at this crucial stage in their development. It would be in their best interests and the communities best interests to keep this detrimental form of "entertainment" out of our community.</p>
48	<p><b>Donald Schneider</b></p> <p>Dear Penn State Board,</p> <p>My family and I are opposed to the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall in Centre County. As a physician in the community, I am well aware of the negative effect casinos with their associated gambling have on both psychological and physical health. Casinos will increase the burden of smoking and alcohol related diseases in our community. The addictive nature of gambling will also add to the burden of psychological disease in the area. With so many students in the community allowing a casino under the guise of development and financial gain would be reckless.</p> <p>Donald Schneider, M.D.</p>
49	<p><b>Jennifer Money</b></p> <p>Please issue a statement in opposition to the proposed casino in State College. A casino is a bad addition to a university town with students who already have a tremendous amount of student debt.</p>
50	<p><b>Christy LaForce</b></p> <p>Please do what you can to stop the casino from becoming a reality. The students and citizens of Happy Valley do not need this kind of business. Knowing first hand, the heartbreak of gambling addiction with my brother-in-law, I do not want to see others in my community suffer as his wife and daughter did.</p> <p>Thank you, Christy LaForce, Former teacher</p>

51	<p><b>Carolyn Wilhelm</b> Penn State is a world-class university. A casino would not be a positive factor to recruit new faculty or other potential job candidates. Centre County should not become Las Vegas or Atlantic City. Why should Penn State be at a hiring disadvantage in order to make a wealthy non-resident even wealthier? Please oppose the casino with all your power. And please don't act like you don't have influence in this matter. If you don't have it, get it. The College Township Board is already acting like the township authorities do not have power to stop this project.... that is nonsense. Penn State and College Township can stop this project if they combine forces. You just need to find the will.</p>
52	<p><b>Dorothy Delafield</b> I am opposed to the sale of alcohol at athletic events. This change in policy seems to fly in the face of all the university's efforts to foster healthy living and responsible drinking. There already is a significant strain on local medical and law enforcement resources, especially on game weekends. The risk of adding to that strain far outweighs any financial benefits.</p>
53	<p><b>Pam Zimmerman</b> Please do all you can to oppose the proposed Nittany Mall casino. It would be a detriment not only to the State College community but to the University community as well and could affect the decision of students to attend Penn State.</p>
54	<p><b>Susan Natter</b> Dear Penn State Board of Trustees, Please do everything in your power to protect our community from all the harm that a gambling casino would bring.</p> <p>When we moved here, Centre County was considered one of the BEST and SAFEST towns to retire to. That's why we chose to move here. We've enjoyed a safe 20 years here without any fear.</p> <p>With all the increase in crime occurring on a daily basis all around us, we are deeply concerned. Thank you. Sincerely, Susan Natter</p>
55	<p><b>Angela Moore</b> Please oppose the casino in the Nittany mall, having a casino would be detrimental to the students and the community as a whole. Thank you</p>
56	<p><b>Pris Shea</b> I am adamantly opposed to having a casino in our county. There is no value to having one but many circumstances which mean we do not need one: 1. most who gamble cannot afford to...poor population 2. no students from kindergarten to college need the influence of a casino in their lives - some may think because it is there, the population approves of it so it must be ok to gamble 3. do we really want the type of customer the casino might attract 4. the area proposed is a commercial and housing area where a casino is inappropriate I have many more but will keep this short; call and I will talk your ear off!!!!</p>
57	<p><b>Melinda Ohlson</b> As a proud alumni and varsity student-athlete (Women's Swimming) at Penn State, I have been so fortunate to have been able to make State College my home. My husband and I have lived here since our graduation &amp; marriage in 2001. We both love PSU and the community and believe the proposed Casino will have irreparable damage to the atmosphere and thus the reputation of the town and university, as well as the culture of the football/ event weekends, not to mention the financial drain this will invite or impose on individual and community levels. As your friend and partner in seeking the glory of Old State, for Her founders, strong and great, please stand with me and our community now to leverage any pressure you can and oppose a casino from intruding our valley. We'd like to keep it as Happy as possible. Thank you!</p>
58	<p><b>Carol Camargo</b> I am deeply troubled that the college has not opposed having a casino in our backyard. A casino would change the whole atmosphere of the town, and not for the better. Many lives are ruined by gambling. Many student lives would be ruined by gambling. Please consider speaking out against this!</p>

59	<p><b>Jo Anne Mengle</b> I do not believe a casino so close to Penn State sends a good message to parents of students or prospective students. Parents have a right to expect the university to do all it can to ensure a safe environment for the students they send to Penn State for an education.</p>
60	<p><b>Benjamin Hagerup</b> I am a PSU alumnus (Civil Eng 1998) and have lived in State College with my family for 19 years (not including my years at PSU-University Park). I have 7 kids and am aware of the negative effects that research has demonstrated that gambling/casinos can have on communities and young, naive minds. I'm writing to request that the PSU Board of Trustees take an official stand against plans for a proposed casino at Mt. Nittany mall. This casino is not in the interest of Penn State students! Parents will be concerned about the risks of sending their children to a University where a nearby casino is present. This casino is likely to lead to student poverty and financial distress and to increase demand for mental health services at Penn State (which are already strained). Thank you for your consideration.</p>
61	<p><b>George Harrigan</b> It is inconceivable to me that a group responsible for the status, reputation and future of likely one of the most respected educational institutions in the country would not be taking advantage of the opportunity to express concerns over the Proposal for the opening of a casino within walking distance of the University's flagship campus. Please make an official statement to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board opposing the application without further delay. G J Harrigan</p>
62	<p><b>Brea Asbury</b> I am writing to ask you to oppose the proposed casino in our area. Such a place would surely wreak havoc on our students and their families for generations to come. I am shocked that the idea was even entertained in a college town. It is a shameful idea with no positive outcomes for our community.</p>
63	<p><b>Lydia Vandenberg</b> As a long-time staff person at Penn State, I ask that the University do all in its power to oppose the casino that is being planned for the former Macy's location by Trustee Lubert and his partners. It is unthinkable that in his role as a trustee, he would consider an action that would harm students. Alcohol is addictive and we have policies around that at the university, which are also being modified in the effort to raise money. When are we going to put student lives first ahead of dollars? The casino proponents advocate that this will bring jobs and taxes to our community. As we have seen in other places, the cost of the problems outweighs the few jobs it creates.</p>
64	<p><b>Philip Cartey</b> I care about the quality of students as well as residents of the centre region. With this in mind I oppose the establishing a casino in our community.</p>
65	<p><b>Paul Shaffer</b> Dear PSU Trustees: For a few weeks this summer my wife and I gathered signatures of those opposed to the casino at the Nittany Mall. While it is not statistical, we estimate that we received 8 or 9 responses in opposition for every 1 in favor. What is of particular note is that those who were most adamantly opposed were those who had previously lived in communities where there were casinos. They spoke of how it changed the character of those communities and had numerous horror stories of how the casinos preyed upon their patrons and destroyed lives and families. The one I found most poignant was in speaking with a man who had worked for a casino in the Midwest. He told of how following his military service, he went to work as security in a casino. One night there was a disturbance on the gaming floor, and he was called upon to intervene. What he found was a man trying to get his wife to stop gambling and leave the casino. The man pleaded that his wife had emptied their bank account, and then their checking account, and was now maxing out their credit cards. The individual recounting this story, then said with considerable sadness in his voice, "and I had to remove the husband from the floor because she was a 'paying customer'." Please protect our students! Please contact the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to their meeting on October 19th. Do all that you can to prevent their approval of a license for a casino at the Nittany Mall. Thank you. Very truly yours, Paul G Shaffer, AIA, PSU Alumnus, State College Resident</p>

66	<p><b>Don and Irmi Snowden</b></p> <p>Please oppose the proposed casino in Centre County. This is totally inappropriate for our college town (or any other really). The negatives are too numerous to list here (addiction, alcohol, accidents, crime, etc.) All this is about someone making money at the expense of vulnerable folks.</p>
67	<p><b>Mina Yindra</b></p> <p>To the Board of Trustees, we ask you to do everything you can to fight against the proposed casino in the Nittany Mall. As a former highly-placed security member of a casino in another city, I have firsthand knowledge of how the industry comes in offering so much and then takes everything instead. While the crime rate always rises, there is also an influx of garbage, pollution, homelessness, drug addiction and the senseless destruction of lives of the most vulnerable, usually the very young and the very old. The corporation that is attempting to build here has been involved in many negative and exploitative activities in the past. The university staff and student body you serve, and have promised to protect during their time in your care, needs your support before the casino tentacles reach so deep that State College can no longer extract itself. I ask that you will remember these facts and prevent the certain degradation that will follow the casino's entry into this community.</p>
68	<p><b>Gina Leon</b></p> <p>I would like to state in the strongest possible terms the inadvisability of building a casino in the Centre Region. As an incredible amount of power resides with the Penn State Board of Trustees, my hope is that you will not continue to stay silent. The proposed casino would be a huge blight on the family-friendly spirit of the community. Please use your influence to prevail upon the PGCB to deny a license to the Bally group's request -- and to deny the license even before an impact study may have been completed by October 19. As long-time residents of State College (we moved here 43 years ago) my husband and I need answers to some urgent questions: Just how much revenue will the community derive versus how much is leaving the area? Will the revenue come from visitors or the local community? And what about the students and the University? What will the impact on possible student addiction and to the reputation of the University? Do you really think there will be a salutary effect on 40,000 students living within four miles of a gambling casino? And, of great concern to many of us -- particularly with deep roots in this community -- what will the impact on crime and property values be?</p> <p>Of course, many of the negatives are intangible. And I don't expect Bally to give a hoot about the quality of life in Centre County. But, to quote the esteemed head of the Women's Resource Center Anne Ard, a local activist who "picks up the pieces" after sexual crimes are committed -- in an article she wrote for the Centre Daily Times about her opposition to selling alcohol at football games -- "It may be legal and profitable, but is it wise?"</p>
69	<p><b>Marsha Haack</b></p> <p>I strongly oppose a casino coming to State College. It is too close to Penn State and is unhealthy for both the campus and the community. There are not enough addiction counselors to care for people addicted now. The numbers will increase.</p>
70	<p><b>Nestor Handzy</b></p> <p>One of the best selling pints of Univ. Park is the happy and Safe atmosphere the campus provides. It is prudent to assume the Casio would lead to an increase in crime, and who would be the target? Rich kids from out of state/foreign students with more money than the local population would be an easy target for people who just lost their week's wages at the Casino. If a Casino increases the number of sexual assault cases, how likely will parents be to send to their kids to Penn State? Will Penn State be in the news yet again garnering more negative press for some Incredibly Poor Decisions and policies? Do more students have to get hurt or die before Penn State regrets having a Casino right down the road from Beaver Stadium?</p>
71	<p><b>Joyce Hanscom</b></p> <p>I would like to express my concern about the proposed casino. Nothing good comes from gambling. It, in fact, destroys families and lives. My first husband was addicted to gambling, and he gave me an allowance to buy food and other necessities then gambled the rest. He would disappear for days, and I never knew why until we were separated, and I saw all the gambling slips. Our marriage ended. This casino will cause many hardships. Please oppose it.</p>
72	<p><b>Walter Filmann</b></p> <p>Please, I wish the trustees would oppose a casino opening up at the Nittany Mall. Nothing good ever comes from gambling establishments in communities. They create no new wealth and only enrich those at the top of the pyramid by robbing what wealth already exists from those stuck at the bottom. Don't let this come in and destroy all that is good, truthful, and beautiful about living in Happy Valley. Thank you.</p>

73	<p><b>Dawn Maguire</b></p> <p>As an alumni, staff of 10+ years, local resident of State College for over 17 years, and parent of 2 current Penn State students I am writing express my strong opposition to having a casino in my town. Those of us who call Happy Valley home and have raised our children here do not want a casino. The negative impacts of a casino on the community will far outweigh any limited economic gain for a few. University leaders have a responsibility to speak out against this proposed casino, which will bring nothing positive to our hometown or our students and children.</p>
74	<p><b>Susan Jackson</b></p> <p>I and my family have been residents in Ferguson and Patton Townships for thirty (30) years and our whole family is strongly opposed to the planned casino. Our opposition has a lot of company, as I don't know a friend or acquaintance who is in favor of bringing a casino to our town. All are sad, disappointed, even angry about the harm that will come to many by living or working in proximity to this venture. What harm, you may ask?</p> <p>First, it will hurt the poor. Those who are least able to gamble without doing harm to themselves or their households are the very ones who are tempted to give it a try. The people I have known or personally heard about who have gambled to their detriment were all folks who 'couldn't afford to lose' at gambling, including one mature woman who filed for bankruptcy several times. Who ends up paying for the losses of the poor when they gamble? The community they live in pays, taxpayers pay.</p> <p>Second, with a large college campus in town who else will be hurt by gambling? It will be students who already are carrying debt they may never be able to repay, or more likely in many cases it will be their parents who pay. Is this the type of 'opportunity' in town that will help build them into honest, hard-working, self-supporting citizens? If a bar establishment will be connected to the casino is this not another negative drawing point for students?</p> <p>Third, it hurts the entire community because they will pay for the broad negative consequences. Gambling is not a wholesome endeavor. But this is a free country, to each his own. Yes. Does that mean it belongs here? Does that mean those desiring to bring it here should hold sway? Truly, I don't know of a person who wants a casino here.</p> <p>I recently learned that The Lycoming Mall has been turned into a casino. A drive of one hour and twenty-three minutes will supply a gambling opportunity there for any who desire it and can - hopefully - afford to gamble. Further, in the Centre County Gazette where an article about the casino appears on the front page for May 26-June 1, it is interesting to also read an article that appears on page 5 entitled, "New bus route to connect State College and Atlantic City". In the article it specifies that "Service will end in Atlantic City at three casino locations...."</p> <p>Could we not do better for our small town than to try to make it another casino destination? How sad. With I-80 in close proximity what-or-whom will we be attracting? Not all investments in a community are good. Some put money in the pockets of the investors or developers to the harm of the people that end up having to live with it. I believe that is true in this case. I plead with you to use your powerful influence to protect those connected to Penn State University and others in Centre County from this harm.</p>
75	<p><b>Elizabeth Betts</b></p> <p>I am a College Township resident who stands with my community in opposing the development of a casino at the Nittany Mall. As the parent of two PSU graduates, my concern over this development is its impact on our already debt-laden college students. Thank you for providing a means for me to state my opposition to the casino at the Nittany Mall.</p>
76	<p><b>Daniel Faiella</b></p> <p>I heartily oppose the introduction of a casino to Happy Valley. Gambling is something larger cities are better prepped to handle. But over the years to come, this development would put a stain on Penn State as a safe environment for faculty to raise families and students to let their guard down. It would bring to town a new set of challenges that would not be countered by the extra tax income.</p> <p>I live in college township close to the mall, and have enjoyed leaving doors unlocked and allowing our kids to roam the neighborhood without fear. This area has ranked one of the highest in the country as one of the happiest places to live based on safety, diversity, school district, proximity to parks and outdoor venues etc. This has increased the prestige and attractiveness of the university.</p> <p>Building this casino puts all that in jeopardy, largely on the backs of the poor. Gambling is simple fun for many, but a debilitating addiction to others. It nearly ruined the life of one of my family members. It would be a very negative addition to our</p>

	<p>community. Investing in education and healthy recreational activities builds a stronger, more attractive community - a casino works against those benefits.</p> <p>Please do all within your power to oppose this. Thank you! Daniel Faiella</p>
77	<p><b>Kirsten McTernan</b></p> <p>I'd like to bring to attention and urgent matter that will affect Penn State faculty, staff, students, and community members. A decision will be made soon on whether or not to allow a casino to be built very close to Penn State University. It is a fact that trouble surrounds areas that have a casino. In my opinion, if our community does not oppose this casino, we are headed to a very different and disastrous future for the currently safe, family-centered Happy Valley. My husband is an alumni and current professor of Penn State, and we have chosen this area to be our home as we love the community, low crime, cleanliness, and natural beauty. It's a wonderful place to raise a family and also retire. I fear what having a casino would do to our community as we know it. Please help to voice your opposition to this casino ASAP.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this and for helping to protect our lovely home.</p>
78	<p><b>Sharon Guenot</b></p> <p>I'm a PSU Alumni, '94 and have lived in Centre County all my life. It's been a good place to grow up and raise a family. We enjoy the benefits of a first class university yet retain that small town/rural vibe. I'm proud to call Happy Valley my home so I am writing to ask you to oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall in College Township. Yes, it could bring some jobs and maybe some tourism but at what cost? In the end, the county and municipalities will have to find more funding to combat the problems (drugs, trafficking, prostitution, alcoholism, etc.) that statistically follow these types of businesses. The potential for these types of problems could have a negative effect on the university as well. We've already lived through the Sandusky scandal. We once again hear the roar of 100,000+ fans in Beaver Stadium on a home game Saturday. Optimism and hope have returned in the aftermath of Covid uncertainties. So instead of bringing tourists to the area to gamble their money away, bring them for the amazing things the University offers - football, arts/music, ice cream, and a diverse world class education to name a few. As the alma mater lyrics say "May no act of ours bring shame, to one heart that loves thy name. May our lives but swell thy fame, dear old State, dear old State". Please oppose the casino at the Nittany Mall.</p>
79	<p><b>Mardi Frye</b></p> <p>I understand that the Penn State Board of Trustees can be involved in the decision to allow a casino to be built in the Nittany Mall. I believe the addition of a casino would have many negative impacts on the university, Centre County and beyond. I ask that you do everything you can to oppose the proposed casino.</p>
80	<p><b>Veronica Hay</b></p> <p>The proposed casino, in my opinion, is not in the best interests of the University or the State College area in general. The potential for addiction and loss of income for families regarding their actual living expenses is real.</p> <p>Please consider more than just how much money it will bring into the area. Please consider children and families who could be impacted by it being there. Also, young students who might not have the discipline to walk away from the temptations that will exist. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
81	<p><b>David Hatfield</b></p> <p>I am respectfully asking as the Board of Trustees at Penn State that you do everything in your power to oppose the College Township casino. As an affiliate advisor of a spiritual org on campus, I'm well aware of the high levels of addictive and self-destructive behaviors and emotional struggles in the student body. As a parent of teen-agers (and future Penn-Staters) I do not like the idea that they'll be sharing the roads with many people frequenting the casino who have had too much to drink, and I believe many parents who send and are considering sending their children to PSU share the same concerns. I'm also well aware that the University lacks the capacity to adequately address even the current student mental health needs, and allowing this casino could lead to a vast increase in cases due to addiction, greater poverty and financial distress amongst students, and the anxiety and depression that would result from this. My own father almost took his life due to battles with gambling before he found freedom, so I understand how destructive this can be. Finally, I know the University takes pride in the town and the feeling is mutual, and that it is quite influential in town affairs. This casino will undoubtedly cause damage to both. I'm asking you now to use your considerable influence to oppose this casino before it gets started. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
82	<p><b>Daniel Kiehl</b></p> <p>I am the Senior Pastor of Oakwood Presbyterian Church, a congregation of about 400 people in State College. I am appealing to you, as the Penn State Board of Trustees, to do whatever is in your power to oppose the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I hear influential people make promises about the possible financial gains that can come to a community with the presence of a</p>

	<p>casino, but whatever extra money comes with the casino would not be remotely worth the negative impact of the casino on the emotional, psychological, moral, spiritual, and relational health of our community. Our community cannot afford that cost. Penn State students, who have been entrusted to your oversight, will be especially vulnerable to the negative effects of the Casino's presence. Please add your collective voice to the majority of citizens in this community as we oppose this casino. Rev. Daniel Kiehl</p>
83	<p><b>Richard Sargo</b> Selling alcohol is a very bad decision. The university talks about doing things to encourage less drinking, then wants to sell more alcohol. Don't be hypocritical. Be a leader not a follower. Just because 10 other Big Ten schools do something, doesn't make it a good idea. Casino is also a very bad idea. This is a great place for retirees. I would like to keep it that way. Although if Mastriano gets in as governor, we will be moving anyway.</p>
84	<p><b>Gerneylee Carter</b> Please oppose the application to open a casino in Centre County. Communities located within 10 miles of a casino exhibit double the rate of problem gambling. Communities also suffer higher rates of home foreclosure and other forms of economic distress and domestic violence.</p>
85	<p><b>Stewart Combs</b> I'm sure the local township that will 'house' the proposed casino is focused on potential revenue. However, I have major concerns with any gambling business and how it affects our community and students long term. Things I'm not sure have been fully considered: Can be a gateway to increase criminal activity (organized and random); following that - potential effects on student and community safety; potential harm for students and community members who may have compulsion issues with risk-taking; influx of visitors whose reason for travel is not related to Penn State or the community - but is gambling. Truly hope the board will consider these factors and what actions may be done to forestall or stop this proposition. Thank you.</p>
86	<p><b>Jeff Davidson</b> I appreciate the work Penn State does on behalf of the community. Thank you for your time and effort. We have lived and worked in this area for 35 years, my wife has been a faculty member for 35 years, and we value the contribution Penn State makes to the region. We are strongly against creating a new and unhealthy casino business in our area. Adding a business designed to deplete the money of visitors and our citizens is a pretty-striking change from the community we are and have been. Further this business is especially designed to prey upon the vulnerable and the addicted. I think the community and the University would regret pursuing this path. Our region is known for education and healthy tourism. Let's not disregard that for the sake of a short-term Nittany Mall tenant. I hope Penn State will join in the community of effort opposing the introduction of a casino to our region.</p>
87	<p><b>Alicia Hughes</b> Please oppose the casino coming into State College at the Nittany Mall! I am a member of this community and a parent of a PSU graduate. The idea of bringing a casino into a college town is unconscionable!! This is a family town that values its community and the health of this community will be greatly affected by allowing this casino to come into this town!! I have personal family experience with the hardships and devastation gambling brings and would not want here!! Please do not let that casino come here to wonderful State College!!</p>
88	<p><b>John Cimbala</b> I am opposed to the casino at the Nittany Mall. I encourage PSU and the PSU BOT to take a stand against the casino. Why? Casinos bring in money, but at the expense of more crime. The vast majority of the money goes to the casino owners, who are not even residents of our county. Gambling has also been shown to be highly addictive and has ruined many lives. Thank you.</p>
89	<p><b>Candace Kent</b> I am deeply concerned about the negative impact the proposed casino would have on the Centre Region. I do not believe it will enhance our area in any way. Having a large population of college students would be a strong reason to not have a casino. Students should be focused on their studies and life at Penn State. A casino would be a serious distraction both in time and money. Please join your voices in opposing the casino and protect the students and residents from its negative influence. Sincerely, Candace D. Kent</p>
90	<p><b>Sherrie Borden</b> I find it reprehensible that the university will not oppose the proposed casino in College Township. As we all know, and has been validated, casinos are bad for the community in every way possible. So, why would the university condone this type of</p>

	business! Do the right thing for the State College, Centre County, and PSU community (even though a PSU alum is behind the casino license).....oppose the casino! Thank you.
91	<p><b>Kathleen Postle</b></p> <p>I want to express my strenuous opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino in the strongest terms possible. As a PSU professor charged with overseeing the health and welfare of our student population and as a resident of State College, I say that infestation by a casino will only bring out the worst in our community—gambling addiction, poverty, increased crime, and increased student alcohol consumption. There is no other reason to inflict this on our community other than greed. It will not be a positive addition, and there are many better things to do with that space that would enhance our community. Please lobby against the proposed Nittany Mall Casino.</p>
92	<p><b>John Asbury</b></p> <p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I wish to express my opposition to the proposed development plans to establish a casino in our area. The negative effects are well-established of such a casino on the lives and well-being of those who are most vulnerable in our community, both financially and socially.</p> <p>If those in governance are considering the proposal to develop a casino because of the need to raise additional funds to address budget shortfalls, then they should clearly communicate to the voting public what those needs are that would be met by the casino project and invite discussion of alternate ways to raise those funds. The suggestion of developing a casino to raise such funds would be counter to current efforts to increase the diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI) of our community. This is because statistically, individuals from more diverse and often more vulnerable backgrounds are those most likely to engage in gambling behavior at a casino.</p> <p>Instead, the budgetary needs that would be met by the proposed casino project should be brought before the voting public with an invitation to identify alternate and more equitable means to raise those funds. This process would allow those with more robust financial means to bear the costs while protecting the more vulnerable in our community. It would be important to frame the discussion in this context so everyone involved understands the need and what is being avoided by agreeing to pay more in taxes (the likely result of such a discussion).</p> <p>Thank-you for protecting the most vulnerable in our community by opposing the casino project.</p>
93	<p><b>Bonnie Dripps</b></p> <p>I would like to ask you to research and consider the effects that the proposed casino to be built in the State College area will have on the interests of the University and its students. Will this be helpful to the success of the University's goals or will it be harmful? Will the students be distracted from their studies and perhaps even addicted to gambling? What effect will that have on crime on campus, not to mention money available for student tuition as well as the credibility of the University? Please research these things and make your findings known so that any and all harmful effects to the University and its students can be prevented before the casino invades our community.</p>
94	<p><b>Judith Swisher</b></p> <p>This community does not need nor want a casino! This will only bring crime and other unwanted participants to this area. Please do not support this use of the mall!</p>
95	<p><b>Joyce Hall</b></p> <p>I am asking the Penn State Board of Trustees to do all you can to oppose the opening of a casino in our community. I believe that a casino would bring greater problems to our area than it would bring benefits. I'm concerned about the addictive nature of gambling and the effect on our Penn State college students, as well as the negative behavior brought on by attenders which often accompanies casinos. I believe having a casino here would make our community less safe, and it could negatively affect parents wanting to send their children to Penn State. Please oppose the Nittany Mall Casino. Thank you, Joyce Hall</p>
96	<p><b>Andrew McKinnon</b></p> <p>I strongly oppose the casino currently being considered for development at the Nittany Mall. Polls have shown that at least 80% of the residents in the Centre Region also oppose this development.</p> <p>Our community urges the trustees to join us in rejecting this misguided proposal. The reasons for keeping a casino out of our community are manifold, including one that pertains to the central role of Penn State: The education of students in this area and throughout the world. Quality education is the bedrock of any healthy community regardless of scale. We rise or fall depending on our level of awareness of relevant issues as well as the areas we choose to prioritize. As a long time resident of</p>

	<p>the Centre Region, I am aligned with many others who prioritize healthy individual development, healthy bonds across all community levels from neighborhoods to townships to the region at large, and a healthy relationship between people and the natural environment in which we live and depend upon.</p> <p>A casino nurtures none of these areas. Instead of promoting health and contributing to a rich organic society, it speaks to our lowest and least healthy desires, including a “get rich quick” mentality, an urge to consume and compete rather than contribute and cooperate, and a narrow focus on synthetic experience to the exclusion of an immersive relationship with the land, which is in critical need of our awareness and protection.</p> <p>If education is the bedrock of a healthy community, consideration of health in all areas of life is, or certainly should be, the bedrock of our educational institutions. Please join our community in rejecting the proposed casino.</p>
97	<p><b>Susan Buda</b></p> <p>I am an alumni and resident of State College. I have deep concerns about the prospect of a casino in State College due to the proximity of the university. A casino could negatively impact graduation rates and might also deter serious academic students and their families. Addictive and destructive gambling is present in all casino atmospheres and as a university who cares about their students would not want it near their campus. Also, in-person gambling at casinos is much more destructive than online gambling, as the exchange of money and alcohol among groups of people can result in physical violence and crime. The fact that every casino needs security guards is indicative of the violence and crime that is associated with this activity. Other colleges and universities have successfully fought casinos in their towns as the college-age demographic is particularly susceptible to the negative aspects of this activity. Please oppose the creation of a casino in State College. Thank you.</p>
98	<p><b>Joan Bouchard</b></p> <p>I am a resident of The Village at Penn State in Patton Township, and I am writing to you, the Penn State Board of Trustees, because I am the parent of a 43-year-old gambling addict. His addiction has broken up his marriage, affected his health, and ruined his financial life - which means that my financial stability has been in jeopardy as well. And I know many stories regarding gambling addicts that are much worse than this, leading to early death and even suicide.</p> <p>I am shocked that a Penn State Alumnus and Trustee is willing to expose our students to the dangers of gambling, for his own personal financial gain. His decision is his decision, but it does not have to be yours. Maybe he is willing to live with the responsibility for the number of students that begin a life of gambling at his casino and ruin their lives - but are you? And are you willing to bear the responsibility for the local businesses, such as movie theaters, restaurants, and bars, that will close because the students choose to go out to the casino instead of patronizing their establishments? And for the crime and prostitution, and children (and pets) left in locked cars while their parents gambled, and for the impoverishment of Senior Citizens that inevitably follows the opening of a casino? For 20 years I lived near Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun in Connecticut, and I know what I'm talking about, I've seen it with my own eyes.</p> <p>Please think carefully and well about what you are doing. I can foresee a whole generation of PSU students whose futures will be jeopardized - an addict is born with a propensity for addiction, but it lies dormant until first exposure - by then the bug has bitten, and it's too late to stop without help, the spiral down has begun.</p> <p>Gambling addicts will not reflect well on their Alma Mater. Their careers will be less successful, they will be less likely to become leaders in their chosen professions, and they will be less able to support the University financially over lives that may be shortened due to the alcohol abuse which usually accompanies a gambling addiction.</p> <p>The Board of Trustees must take a stand on this issue and state its opposition to siting a casino here. If you do, it will be much more likely that College Township will decide to ask the PGCB not to approve this application. Most of the residents in the area think that the family atmosphere of our community would be permanently harmed if that happened. And in the long run, the financial health of the University would be harmed as well. Parents will send their students elsewhere - according to the latest Newsweek study, Penn State is now the worst value among the Big Ten schools - do we want to be known as the Gambling Capital of the Big Ten as well?</p> <p>JUST SAY NO TO THE CASINO!</p> <p>Respectfully, Joan Bouchard</p>
99	<p><b>Sheryl Groner</b></p> <p>I lived near a casino in Tucson AZ; We moved two years after building our house near it because of the crime in the area. In another incident (at the same house) a good friend came to me and told me that her husband almost gambled their mortgage away. I do not want this for "Happy Valley."</p>

100	<p><b>James Bennett</b></p> <p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I am a concerned resident of Ferguson Twp with regard to the proposed construction of a casino in the mall. I have lived in Maryland near a casino and have seen the changes it brings to the surrounding areas. There are many negatives such as traffic issues with the area, increased crime due to the type of clientele that casinos attract. I have experienced the affects that creating gambling addicts causes, it leads to desperation, lies, deceit, and stealing, all in an effort to feed the addiction. The lie that you can become rich by gambling will only lead to people losing money and despair. Casinos don't produce winners, they produce losers and profit by their naivety and lack of discipline. Putting a casino this close to a major university would be irresponsible and wreckless. Do we really want to create new problems in the Centre County region all in the name of making money? How will the casino benefit the student who tries to gamble and ends up losing money they need to live on, or even worse, money intended for tuition, it will happen, i have seen it firsthand! I would implore the board of trustees to write that letter to ask that the casino NOT come to this area, after all, are they not TRUSTees? We trust that you will do what is best for people of our region!</p>
101	<p><b>Jesse McTernan</b></p> <p>Dear Trustees. I'm joining with the others who are expressing a deep concern for the construction of a casino in the mall. As physics, scientists, and engineers trained in mathematics and statistics we understand that casinos thrive because more people lose than win. Sadly, those who lose are often the most vulnerable in our society, that is, those addicted, those who are statistically illiterate, the immature, those who are financially down on their luck, and those who are deceived by the false hope of getting rich quick. There are better ways to enrich our community (financially), then by bringing a casino, which will cause great harm to the most vulnerable and be a stain on the safe and peaceful lifestyle of Happy Valley. We must do everything within our ability to protect our students. Ironically, in a Penn State Today email I read, "Community members urged to do their part to help keep Penn State's campuses safe ". Will the trustees keep our community safe and oppose the casino? If not, more people will lose than win (literally and metaphorically).</p>
102	<p><b>Roy and Mary McKinney</b></p> <p>There is no good thing that comes from excess alcohol and sports. Sports can be enjoyed without alcohol at the game. We also feel that a casino will only cause loss of money to those who already pay tuition, our students' parents. There is enough to entertain students without a casino. We are very concerned since our granddaughter may go to Penn State.</p>
103	<p><b>Tisha Edor</b></p> <p>Please consider discussing the university's stance on the proposed casino at the nittany mall and what the university can do to stop it. This will not be a wise venue to bring to this community. Please do all you can to protect the students, faculty, and staff as well as alumni and community members that love and support Penn State from this venture that has the potential to negatively impact all. Surely the university can make use of the space to further education, community or other projects that would make the region better and not subject it to increased crime, alcohol and drug use, addiction.</p>
104	<p><b>Richard Kipp</b></p> <p>This email is to record my opposition to the proposed casino in State College. My family and I feel there is little to no economic or community value to such an enterprise. Additionally, the central location and size of the mall space would be far more useful and constructive if dedicated to a health, technology, or educational resource for our community.</p>
105	<p><b>Joan Nessler</b></p> <p>As a retired faculty member and alumna living at The Village, I believe the proposed Casino would create more problems than the financial benefits to the area.</p> <p>I am concerned immature college students may become addicted leading to multiple problems. .Numerous people opposed to the casino spoke at the College Township Council meeting of despicable effects of their incurring a gambling addiction. I'm sure many people will succumb to this disease.</p> <p>In addition, people in the poverty classification may wrongly spend hard earned money hoping to win. Others will do this also. We do not know who from outside Centre County might come into the area; we do not know if criminals or other undesirable people will come to "Happy Valley."</p> <p>No remuneration is worth the risk. Please do everything in your power to prevent a licensing license here.</p>
106	<p><b>Judy Bourne</b></p> <p>I'm writing in regards to the possible opening of a casino at the Nittany Mall. It would be a bad situation for college students who are already struggling with addiction issues, for students who are already in financial weakness, and for students who are already in compromised time management. I hope Penn State will be a leader in opposing this casino.</p>

107	<p><b>Benjamin Waldecker</b> Hello, I wanted to write in order to convey strong opposition to the development of a casino within mere miles of the Penn State Campus. I urge you to take every action to push back on this project by putting pressure on college township and the casino developers to take their project elsewhere. Allowing this to be built near your campus is openly putting your students at risk. You will be endangering the students you strive to educate. The very idea of a casino near a major college campus is negligent through and through. I strongly encourage you to oppose this. If you don't, you will directly play a part in inviting addiction, dropouts, and broken futures into your campus. Do not allow this project to go forward. Benjamin Waldecker</p>
108	<p><b>Linda Morrow</b> In addition to my personal hope that a casino is not going to be permitted in the area, I think it is unwise for PSU to not take a public stand against it. Families may be apprehensive about sending their children to a university in a small city they previously considered "safe," but change their mind if they learn there is a casino on the CATA bus route. A casino will not add anything valuable to the ambience and culture of our beloved college town.</p>
109	<p><b>Chris Paveglio</b> Hello board, I am a Borough resident working at the local weather company for over 8 years. I would like to express my concern and object at the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. Casinos and PSU students won't be a good mix and it would be easy for students to lose a lot of money there. Casinos are businesses that exist to drain money from their customers, and I worry about the likely low wages paid to the employees there while addiction to gambling and carry on effects of poverty, alcoholism, or drug use could seriously impact the entire Centre region. The University has a lot of clout in the area, so I urge you to take what steps you can to dissuade the planners from building the casino in this wonderful community. Thanks.</p>
110	<p><b>Sandra Duverneuil</b> To Whom It May Concern: I am a resident of State College in Centre County and vehemently oppose the proposed casino at Nittany Mall. I am also a Penn State employee and parent of two Penn State students--one former and one current.  I moved to State College from the Washington, DC area in search of a healthier lifestyle. I would not have moved here with two children if there had been a casino. (If I wanted to live near a casino, I would have relocated to NJ--no thank you.)  Opening a casino in State College is tantamount to opening Pandora's Box. It will result in increased crime and is highly inappropriate in a college town where underage drinking is already a problem. I am also concerned with potential problems that may arise if a casino is situated in State College such as human and/ or drug trafficking.  Penn State has a responsibility to be a community leader and advocate for its students. If the university truly cares about its students, faculty, and staff, it would encourage local and state government representatives to change course and approach IKEA or a family-friendly venue such as Dave &amp; Busters to come to State College.  Penn State has had a lot of staff turnover recently. Changing the character of State College by opening a casino will not help Penn State attract a talented workforce.  I hereby request the members of the board use its clout in the community to voice opposition to the proposed casino. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Sandra M. Duverneuil</p>
111	<p><b>David Werner</b> I am David Werner, a retired ophthalmologist, living in State College with my wife, Susan Werner, since 1978. We both have held elected positions in State College. I was a two term Ferguson Township Supervisor. Sue was on the school board for 12 years and president for 7 years. I was also chief of staff at the hospital for 3 years. We both have held many other volunteer positions in the community. The casino is a very bad idea. Our primary opposition is that it will be financially disadvantageous to the people in our community who are most vulnerable. As well the environment that it creates is antithetical to life style of a college community which is what brought us and many others to this community. We hope that Penn State will oppose this offensive addition to our community. Thank you, David Werner</p>

112	<p><b>Melissa Deines</b></p> <p>As a clinical psychologist for decades, I am opposed to increasing gambling in Centre County. Negative impacts such as increases in gambling addiction, crime, depression seem a high human cost for the revenue that a casino could bring. The economic benefit would be largely to the owners, not the community, and the jobs directly created would not be substantial. Centre County and central Pennsylvania afford a quality of life for individuals and families and communities that is uncommonly high. Please oppose bringing casino gambling here.</p>
113	<p><b>Arthur Goldschmidt</b></p> <p>As a professor who has had contact with students since 1965, I am deeply worried about the effects on having a gambling casino so close to impressionable young people who can readily become addicted to gambling while they are studying at Penn State.</p>
114	<p><b>Jill Zeruth</b></p> <p>I oppose the casino being built in State College.</p>
115	<p><b>Shannon Frey</b></p> <p>Dear Board of Trustees, I would like to note my opposition to the proposed casino in College Township. I would like to request that the board investigate options for stopping the casino's creation. A casino would bring a multitude of concerns for UP students, as well as potentially harm university and community relationships. Thank you for your consideration. Shannon Frey, College Township resident and Penn State faculty and alumna</p>
116	<p><b>Sharon Howell</b></p> <p>To Whom it May Concern,</p> <p>I recently relocated to Pleasant Gap Pennsylvania from Tampa Bay Florida. I am in absolute Awww of Pleasant Gap and its surrounding cities. Honestly my first reaction relocating in my new community "So incredibly family oriented" I find my community to be very friendly, helpful, kind, laid back, minimal traffic, no road rage &amp; low crime so my question is: Why would you feel putting in a casino would benefit our family oriented community and especially in todays economy?</p> <p>You may say the casino will provide job opportunities. However the number of residence loosing their Pay checks, Social Security checks, Minimum wage checks &amp; Savings will certainly out weigh the number of employed The casino (house) does Not want gamblers to win!</p> <p>I have traveled to Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Reno and many trips to the Hard Rock Cafe in Tampa. What I learned from my experience in these casino's.....drugs, robberies, prostitution, suicides, crime, ended marriages, gambling addiction.....</p> <p>-I heard the casino will increase the value of my property. Having a casino is not worth any amount of increase on my property -I heard from a neighbor papers have all ready submitted to go further with the casino so my thoughts would not make a difference. My thoughts are Nothing good comes from going forward with this casino anywhere in Centre County! Please Reconsider! Do not ruin this beautiful town!</p> <p>Sincerely, I Love My City</p>
117	<p><b>Jack Quick</b></p> <p>Please oppose bringing alcohol to campus. You already know the effects that alcohol has on crime and other major issues it causes.</p> <p>I would also ask you to voice your opposition to bringing a casino to our country. Knowing the major problems that it will bring to campus as statistics already verify. Choose to protect your students from further life altering issues caused by these two addictive things.</p>
118	<p><b>Skip Dreibelbis</b></p> <p>Please demonstrate that there actually are people of good character with wisdom who have the courage to oppose the building of a casino in Centre County. Nothing good has ever come from gambling.</p>
119	<p><b>Stephen Smith</b></p> <p>Please oppose the Casino.</p>

120	<p><b>Nicole Zembower</b> Please OPPOSE the casino proposed for the Nittany Mall. We live within walking distance of the proposed casino site and are very concerned about gambling addiction and the negative impacts on our community and PSU students. Thank you, The Zembowers</p>
121	<p><b>Kara Dixon</b> As trustees of the university, please take a stand against the development of a casino to be located at the Nittany Mall in State College, just a few miles from the main campus. The majority of our Penn State undergraduate students are in a vulnerable age group to developing a gambling or gambling-related addiction and a casino so close-by may prove too tempting to pass up. The university has a lot of power in this area and the trustees input would be an important voice for our students.</p>
122	<p><b>Susan F. Smith</b> PSU students are here to learn, not to drink alcohol or gamble. Twenty percent of college students are already addicted to gambling, why make it easier? Communities that have allowed casinos have serious doubts about the decision to allow them, seeing an increase in crime, alcohol arrests, increased policing costs. Don't do this to College Township!! Thank you.</p>
123	<p><b>Meira Minard</b> I have been a resident of State College for 49 years. I have seen a lot of changes and growth during that time. I am not opposed to either change or growth, however, I am opposed to the casino. We are a small town with a big school. Our residents value our small town feel and our sense of community. Our focus is on quality of living and we choose to live here ("the middle of nowhere") because we do not want the stresses of a city (traffic and crime). Our residents do not support this casino, so why is it being brought here? The obvious answer is profit to a very few. And why have a casino so near a university with a susceptible student body who should be focusing on their education and development and not "get rich quick" schemes? In what way does that support Penn State University's mission of fostering student development for the ultimate "benefit of our communities, society, and the environment"? And how can a Penn State alumni, in good conscience, be the one responsible for such an anti-educational establishment?</p>
124	<p><b>Ling Rothrock</b> I am opposed to bringing legalized gambling in the form of a casino into State College. As a faculty member and a resident of the State College Borough, I think enticing students with yet another form of addictive behavior is detrimental to the student body and disruptive to the university community.</p>
125	<p><b>Jeanne Cocolin</b> We DO NOT WANT A CASINO IN OUR COMMUNITY!</p>
126	<p><b>Tapas Mal</b> It is a bad idea to have a casino (gambling place) close to our great university. The university will lose its pristine identity and State College will lose its place as a college town. Enrollment in the university would decrease over time as parents would be concerned about sending their children to a place where there is a casino nearby. The place would lose its tranquility due to incoming traffic from other places for gambling. It would be a nightmare for local and university law enforcement. The city might have a short-term financial gain, but the long-term effect would be far worse than we can foresee now.</p>
127	<p><b>Merlin Ritz</b> I am joining with concerned citizens in recommend that you publicly oppose the oppose the proposed casino to be located in Pen State's backyard. There are many reasons to oppose such an enterprise, but the one that should most concern overseers of a major university is the lure of a nearby attractive nuisance to impressionable, naïve young students.</p>
128	<p><b>J. James Wager</b> The Penn State Board of Trustees exercises significant influence on the communities surrounding Penn State campuses. I am writing to request your rejection of the proposed Casino in the State College Nittany Mall.</p> <p>I have been privileged to complete both may undergraduate degree and graduate degree from PSU and to retire from the University after 35 years of service. In my administrative role (University Registrar) and as a part-time instructor I encountered many students. These encounters often highlighted the importance of a supporting community to our students both on and off campus. The potential presence of a Casino will not be in the best interest of Penn State students, nor the interests of the State College/Centre Region community.</p> <p>Please use you voice to soundly oppose the Casio plans for the State College Community.</p>

129	<p><b>Nathan Tack</b></p> <p>I am writing to indicate my strong opposition to the development of the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. Gambling among college students nationwide is on the rise and bringing a casino to State College would negatively impact the ambience of the town. Some studies (<a href="https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17882602/">https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17882602/</a>) indicate that 23% of college students already gamble online. Applying those statistics to the Penn State University Park student body (~40k students), the Nittany Mall Casino could produce 9,345 college gamblers in the town of State College. For that calculation, statistics from the Penn State academic year 2019-2020 were used. Scroll to the section titled "Penn State Student Body Statistics": <a href="https://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/">https://admissions.psu.edu/apply/statistics/</a>. Please understand that student gamblers do not make reputable college students. I speak for myself and the hundreds of students I have met on campus: college education is a time sink purposed to invest in the future. Gambling is also a time sink, but not a way to prepare for the future. A college student cannot sustain multiple, purposefully contradictory time sinks in the years they spend here. My opposition to this proposed casino license represents the State College community and the University Park student community. I urge you to oppose any development of a casino in State College and the college township.</p>
130	<p><b>Barbara Furman</b></p> <p>As an Alumnae ('66) and State College (College Township) resident I am asking that the Board take all measures within its purview to support the efforts to stop the establishment of a casino. It would only be a detriment to our community. But even more significantly to the detriment of our students, rather than to positively impact their success. Such cost would far exceed any monetary rewards, the largest percentage of which will benefit the operating entities and not our community. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.</p>
131	<p><b>Jane Lee Childs</b></p> <p>Please consider carefully the deleterious effect a casino will have on PSU students and area young people. Gambling is an addiction. Casinos are notorious for bringing crime to an area. Please stand up against the pressures from Gaming companies and politicians who see this as an easy way to put money in their own coffers. Vote NO to allowing a casino in Centre County.</p>
132	<p><b>Glen Coates</b></p> <p>There is nothing good that comes to an area from a new casino; a few well-positioned people will profit handsomely and local businesses will suffer loss. All you have to do is look at the history of new casinos. A new casino will overshadow local businesses and bring crime to our area. Keep the casino out! Glen Coates</p>
133	<p><b>Carol Winkler</b></p> <p>Please actively oppose the proposed establishment of a casino in State College. In addition to being a 48 yr resident in State College and former faculty at Drexel, my perspective is that Penn State should foster and maintain the highest standards to provide responsible stewardship regarding quality educational and research opportunities while promoting the health and emotional wellbeing of its students and residents. Establishing a commercial gambling facility in State College risks damage to both Penn State's reputation, and our community. Together we take pride and have flourished for commitment to quality educational opportunities in a safe, nurturing environment. A Gambling facility will reflect negatively on how we are perceived and valued.</p>
134	<p><b>Mahmut Kandemir</b></p> <p>Hi, I request Penn State's trustees to do everything in their capacity to prevent the planned casino. Thank you.</p>
135	<p><b>Austin Heller</b></p> <p>I have been vocal about my opposition to the construction of a Casino in the Mount Nittany Mall and have written several Letters to the Editor of the Centre Daily Times detailing the specifics of my concerns. This now is my official written request to the Penn State board of Trustees to do everything they can to oppose the casino.</p>
136	<p><b>Jadine Reese</b></p> <p>Please, as Penn State's Trustees, do everything you can to oppose the casino, being proposed in Centre County. Gambling and the gaming industry is an addictive habit not conducive to the Happy Valley's culture.</p>
137	<p><b>Stacy Karchner</b></p> <p>I disagree with the plans for a casino. I feel it will have a negative affect on the community including Penn State. Casinos bring families apart, cause financial troubles, increase crime, prey on those with addiction and/or can manifest addictions. There are plenty of other healthier things to use money for. Thanks</p>

138	<p><b>Russ Johns</b> I am opposed to alcohol sales at football games. Some spectators will overdrink resulting in problems between people. Regarding the casino, I am also opposed as this is not a positive for society.</p>
139	<p><b>Melvin Westerman</b> A casino in Centre Region is bad.</p>
140	<p><b>Bill Rose</b> Please oppose the Nittany Mall casino. Whatever slight benefits obtained are vastly outweighed by the negatives. Broadly, as a community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should we enable and even actively foster gambling and gambling addiction, an enterprise that at its core preys upon the desperate (and foolish) by deceiving them and taking their money? NO.</li> <li>• Should we attract a stream of strangers to our area, who care nothing for us or our quality of life, who may increase local crime, drug and alcohol abuse, etc.? NO.</li> <li>• Do we want to move in any direction that begins to turn Happy Valley into Seedy Valley? NO.</li> <li>• Are we really so desperate to revitalize the mall that we would unthinkingly welcome a casino instead of actively considering better options without all these downsides? I hope not.</li> <li>• Would we be PROUD of a casino? I know I wouldn't.</li> <li>• Not to mention the billboards, the advertising, the traffic impacts.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, from a University perspective, I cannot reconcile claiming to safeguard the young adults entrusted to us with knowingly acceding to a gambling casino in our backyard. As Andrew Shaffer as noted elsewhere, research has shown that college students are about six times more susceptible to gambling addiction than adults over the age of 25. Penn State should join the opposition and protect highly vulnerable students in this regard just as surely as we would any other similar threat to their wellbeing. If the casino comes, there WILL be victims. Please lend your considerable weight to help us forestall tragedy.</p>
141	<p><b>Robert Booz</b> I am a Penn State Alumnus twice (BS, Acctg-'68; PhD, Comm Arts &amp; Sci-'99); and have retired from Penn State in 2008 serving as the Development Dir. in the Office of the Senior VP &amp; Dean of the Graduate School. I and my wife STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed Nittany Mall Casino! We have returned to Happy Valley in 1977 and have seen many amazing improvements both on the Penn State campus and in the State College surrounding community. Growth for both the university and the community has been exemplary, thus attracting more and more families to move back to Happy Valley. Unfortunately, the latest proposal to build a casino at the Nittany Mall is not an improvement! We are asking the Penn State Board of Trustees to strongly express their opposition to this casino. Not only am I a proud Penn State Alumnus, but so are my deceased parents ('40 &amp; '42) and brother ('78), my daughter ('94) and son ('98), and one grandson ('20), with a 2nd grandson graduating in 2023. I can speak for all of our family members as PSU graduates that we oppose this casino. Having spent my last 20 years employed at Penn State, University Park campus, I have interacted with literally hundreds and hundreds of Penn State alumni on the east coast from New England down to Florida. I am certain that the vast majority of them would oppose a casino that is literally "next to campus." If the Board thought that fraternities around the University Park campus have caused much concern over the years, wait until the Board members see the horrible activities affecting students' lives when a casino is in the area. Dealing with past fraternity issues would be like a cake-walk compared to enormous problems with a casino next door! My wife and I have been to Las Vegas a few years ago to experience the glitz and glamour, etc. I must also confess that we are not gamblers and do not intend to become one should a casino come to the Nittany Mall. What we saw in Las Vegas was nothing short of appalling to say the least. We all know how Penn State home football games turn Happy Valley into one huge tail gate party with thousands of alumni and friends returning to Happy Valley. Again, wait until you see what will happen on those weekends if a casino was "next door" to Beaver Stadium. It is sad to even think of the crime and the associated riff raff that would infiltrate this community. My wife and I and our family alumni beg the Penn State Board of Trustees to take a public stand to OPPOSE the Nittany Mall Casino. We thank all the board members and we will pray for the Board as they deliberate what action they will take. Sincerely, Bob Booz, PhD</p>
142	<p><b>Lorraine Ritter</b> A casino, being a form of entertainment, has nothing positive to offer the community and can impact the community in a very negative way. This form of entertainment produces many, many, losers who return to the casino thinking they can recover what they lost, only to lose more. It doesn't take long for them to become addicted. I feel fortunate to have raised my three children</p>

	<p>in a safe and healthy environment. With the large student population here, a casino will attract many of them. When crime and health issues surface, it will reflect poorly on the University. I would not allow my child to enroll at a school in that type of environment.</p> <p>Surely, there can be other uses for space at the Nittany Mall that don't put our youth and community at risk. Let's not gamble, there's too much to lose.</p>
<b>143</b>	<p><b>Mark Jackson</b></p> <p>I am requesting that the Penn State Board of Trustees make a public statement opposing the opening of any casino in Centre County. I have lived in State College with my family for the past 30 years and am a proud Penn State grad, and I don't want to see my town damaged by the opening of a gambling center. Casinos prey on society's most vulnerable, and are damaging to young adults like the 40,000 undergrads at Penn State that we as a community have a duty to protect. A casino in the area would increase gambling addiction and financial distress, both reasons that will cause parents to be disinclined to pay to send their children to Penn State. Please speak out against the opening of a casino in the Nittany Mall, or anywhere in College township, State College, or Centre County.</p>
<b>144</b>	<p><b>Kurt Haushalter</b></p> <p>As a lifelong resident of State College, as well as a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University, I'm contacting you to voice my concerns over the proposed casino project at the Nittany Mall. As the largest employer in State College, and an entity that makes up a substantial portion of the population in our "happy valley," I implore you to do whatever is in your power to stop this project from coming to State College. Although there may be some legitimate financial incentive in bringing a casino to our community I believe the risks involved far outweigh the possible positives. With so many students already struggling to find positive ways to entertain themselves without misusing or abusing vices like alcohol, do we really need to add another temptation to their plate? Even if a casino wouldn't cause substantial issues for a large portion of the students you serve, is it something we want to pursue, knowing that it will certainly have a negative effect on at least a portion of the students, especially as it would pertain to providing resources for supporting the mental health issues that could be exacerbated by bringing a casino to town?</p>
<b>145</b>	<p><b>Patricia Dolan</b></p> <p>As a Centre Co. resident, mother, grand-mother, and great grandmother, I strongly oppose a casino in our community for numerous reasons. However, as an EDUCATIONAL institution, Penn State should be totally aware of the potential harm to their students of such a "business" so close to campus, let alone in the County! Penn State is already "known" as a party school, a place to purchase illegal drugs, and sexual promiscuity. And yet you now appear to approve of adding another obvious negative distraction for your students to deter many from studying what they've come to you to learn.</p> <p>Please reconsider giving any sort of approval to the plans for a casino in Centre County. For your students as well as our community members - for the above and many more reasons as noted by other members of society.</p> <p>Sincerely, Patricia Dolan, Bellefonte, PA</p>
<b>146</b>	<p><b>Laurie Ciolkosz</b></p> <p>To the Penn State Board of Trustees,</p> <p>As a Penn State faculty spouse and a parent of an up-and-coming Penn State student, I want to urge you to help protect our University from the negative effects of a casino being built at the Nittany Mall. We do not want a casino here because not only is gambling especially addictive for college-aged students, but it invites more crime, lowers real estate values, and requires more policing. Penn State has successfully fought the 'State Paddy' trend toward alcoholic partying, and I am confident the university will be able to join our local community in fighting this new threat of negative influences. Please act quickly to oppose the casino conversion of the Nittany Mall and help our community to pursue healthier solutions for that out-dated retail space. Thank you.</p>
<b>147</b>	<p><b>Zachary Simmons</b></p> <p>Penn State should protect its students and community by opposing the proposed Nittany Mall Casino with College Township and the PA Gaming Control Board. Proponents of this casino claim that it is a desirable form of entertainment that would provide harmless fun for our area. The reality is that thousands of Penn State students in their formative years would now have a convenient opportunity to experience the addictive high of casino life, teeing up another generation for problem gambling and a lifetime of financial hardship and personal tragedy. Besides this direct impact on students, this casino would more generally gain its profits primarily at the expense of those in State College who can afford it the least, increasing the economic inequality gap in our area by holding out the false hope of fast wealth to people who can't afford what they will certainly lose. What's more, children in Centre County like mine (I have five young kids) would grow up with the casino's marketing messages all around town teaching them that looking for wealth from slot machines is normal, shaping their imaginations and</p>

	<p>expectations about life and making them more susceptible to problem gambling later in life. In the course of my work I am responsible to help and give counsel to people who are poor and struggling to build a financially secure and personally independent life. A while back I was talking with a young man in precarious financial circumstances describing to me his habit of putting part of every paycheck towards the “skill games” at a nearby convenience store. Imagine how destructive the draw of this casino could be for him and other young people like him, especially Penn State students—offering them the prospect of quick money, but much more likely draining their fragile economic means and removing yet another barrier for them to sliding into addiction and other life problems. This young man is just one example of the thousands of Centre County’s most vulnerable whose lives could be seriously harmed if this casino opens, and Penn State's students are at the top of the list. I'm sure some people think the casino would be a harmless and fun addition of local color or have been wrongly persuaded that it will be good for the local economy. Please know that I and many others like me in Centre County do not agree. We are profoundly concerned because the opening of this casino would be a turning point in our community with severe economic and community consequences for generations and disastrous implications for Penn State's student body. Let’s stop these problems before they start. Please do all you can to convince College Township and the PA Gaming Control Board to say NO to the Nittany Mall Casino.</p>
148	<p><b>Paul Waldecker</b>          Good afternoon,          I trust that the University will oppose instituting casinos in the State College area. With the lack of control displayed by the Greek organizations (evident by frequent corrective action) and the heavy financial burden on students (through student loans), the presence of a casino would further draw students to make poor decisions with lasting implications. In addition, while promoting an EQUIVALENT of 400 full time jobs, I expect it will more likely be 800 part time jobs with low wages, no health care, and create more community issues than anticipated.</p> <p>Penn State should be dedicated to improving the lives of the students that have been entrusted to their care. I understand that the surrounding community can make the decisions they feel are best. However, Penn State has been given a gift - to provide their input to this situation. To suggest the casino issue will not impact the students of Penn State would be equivalent to sticking one's head in the sand.</p> <p>Please note that these opinions are my own and are not intended to represent any other group or organization. And, they are submitted respectfully - Thank you for inviting community input.</p>
150	<p><b>Susanne Groenendaal</b>          Please show your disapproval for the casino. It will hurt us.</p>
151	<p><b>John Lacort</b>          PSU should be a good community neighbor and come down hard against the proposed casino. Besides the strong potential to bring undesirable elements to our community, what students do not need is another entity competing for their attention and money. A casino would be a huge distraction as well as a negative influence on young people who should be here for their higher education, and little else.</p>
152	<p><b>Rosemary Hagen</b>          September 20,2022          Dear Penn State Board of Trustees,          We know that allowing a casino to be built in our area will bring in additional money because of its draw for more tourism dollars. Tourism is a very good thing. I understand that people are expecting hotels, stores and restaurants to benefit from the gambling industry. Tax dollars are a draw, too. However, it seems to us that adding a casino is a demonstrated negative draw compared with all the positive reasons people come here now.          As decades-long residents, yearly scholarship providers and fans of all the positive effects that PSU has on the expanded Centre County area is the presence of an activity that desires addiction for profit. Gambling enriches the owners of the property and business.          Research shows casinos bring with them people with addictive personalities and the troubles that addiction itself creates. Gambling has a high correlation to other addictions, along with job loss, failed relationships, broken families, and very serious debt which could require jail time. Why would we want to add another addiction to our growing drug and alcohol problems that already lead to failing college classes, codependencies, robberies, and even murders? Gambling problems are also heavily related to mental health problems, depression, anxiety and mood disorders. In addition, having a place to formally gamble adds yet another diversion from one's studies and being able to afford to remain in school financially as well as scholastically.          We know that this area does not have enough counselors for students who need them in order to navigate the stresses of life as young people in transition from the known to the unknown world, being away from family and all that gave them a sense of</p>

	<p>security they need to have for success. And, canvassing student groups will show you know that a good number of students come to us with family or other relational and mental health problems that need to be addressed while living here. Therefore, we ask you why we would do anything to enhance that scenario?</p> <p>Have you ever watched a loved one unintentionally starve his/her family due to enormous debt to a casino instead of buying groceries, paying rent, etc.? A wife or husband being battered when objecting to their spouse's irresponsibly? A break in for valuables, credit cards, or cash to continue an addiction? All that and more would escalate with the availability of a casino in our area.</p> <p>Please join us concerned citizens who do not want a casino built here and who love this area because of the successful PSU family and uplifting atmosphere our university town has had.</p> <p>Sincerely yours, Mrs. Daniel Hagen</p>
153	<p><b>Noah Waldecker</b> Penn State, I've lived in the area for over six-and-a-half years, and I've seen the way the students and Penn State are influenced by the environment they're placed in. I'm heavily involved in Penn State activities, and a number of my friends are Penn State students. Putting a casino anywhere near the university would encourage the formation of destructive habits among the college students and directly contradict your college's mission to prepare it's students for adult life. It would also damage the families that make up the community that supports your campus and create an unhealthy atmosphere in this region. As the largest organization in the area, you have a responsibility to positively impact the people around you, and having anything to do with the casino--either by permissive action or passive affirmation--will violate that responsibility. As both a participant in Penn State activities and a member of this community, I ask you to oppose this casino effort and everything involved with it. Thank you for your time. -Noah Waldecker</p>
154	<p><b>Ellen Coffman</b> I hope PSU will use its clout to oppose the casino at the mall. I think it would have adverse effect on the college population.</p>
155	<p><b>Amy White</b> Please oppose the mini-casino at the Nittany Mall.</p>
156	<p><b>Diana Malcom</b> The students at our campus living in our community would be negatively impacted in many ways if this casino were approved. Please oppose this development as a board.</p>
157	<p><b>Christina Taheri</b> I am writing to request that Penn State's Board of Trustees oppose the casino in the Nittany Mall.</p>
158	<p><b>Jessica March</b> Please do everything you can to oppose the casino. I am concerned that the casino will put much negative stress on the university and the lives of its students. If you choose to do nothing in this critical time, the relationship between the university and its surrounding community will undoubtedly be weakened. Please act promptly, boldly, and clearly against the casino.</p>
159	<p><b>Amber Miller</b> This letter is to voice my strong opposition to the proposed casino at Nittany Mall. Our family is a Penn State family. Both my husband and I went to school here, we work here, and our kids go to school here. We love the vibrant optimism of Happy Valley.</p> <p>Having a casino nearby goes against what we love about State College. Casinos represent greed and addiction for many and a negative element for our local townships. As an academic adviser, I am constantly helping students navigate the difficulties of moving into adulthood. There are many temptations and dangers that are amplified in our area due to our large student population, these include underage drinking, drugs, hazing, sexual assault, etc. Adding another negative pressure to their lives is not needed and Penn State does not have the resources to deal with the gambling addiction among the student population.</p> <p>My main worry, however, is that the culture of Happy Valley will change, lowering the value of getting a degree from Penn State. I read a recent article showing that the value of a Penn State education is one of the lowest among the Big 10 schools and the lowest value in Pennsylvania. The higher education landscape is changing, and people are concerned more and more about spending the amount of money needed for a college degree at an expensive institution like Penn State. What we have in our</p>

	<p>favor is the intangibles – the spirit and culture of Happy Valley, the fond memories of parents and alumni. We cannot afford to let our reputation as Happy Valley be tarnished by having a gambling casino nearby. We need the continued, unwavering support of parents and alumni so that we can keep having the privilege of educating their kids. We need to do everything we can to push back against anything that will potentially wear away at the reputation we have as Happy Valley.</p>
160	<p><b>John Dziak</b> I am writing as an alumnus to urge the council to please oppose the impending establishment of a casino at the Nittany Mall location. I think that it would harm the academic and general well-being of many Penn State students and risk damaging the character of the Penn State experience. Thank you very much!</p>
161	<p><b>Henriette Schneider</b> Please stop going forward with the plans for a proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. A casino will attract and create gambling addicts, which in turn will cause a rise in crime, drugs, alcohol abuse, drunken drivers and the arrival of pawn shops and the like. The current stores in the Nittany Mall cater mostly to the people living in the rural (poor) areas around State College, and they should definitely not be tempted to make some quick extra money by seeing a casino with slot machines every time they shop there. Also having a casino (and all that comes with it) in close proximity to PSU doesn't seem advisable, with many vulnerable young people there living on their own for the first time in their lives. Do we want State College to turn into Atlantic City? The answer is emphatically "NO"!</p>
162	<p><b>Keith Maurer</b> I want to express my strong opposition to approving a casino near Penn State's campus. The potential for addiction and other negative influences makes it an unwanted part of our great community. Keith Maurer Class of 1980 business management</p>
163	<p><b>Sally McAneny</b> I am opposed to the establishment of a casino in the region for the following reasons: 1. The state has reneged on its promise to use casino proceeds to offset local taxes and there is no reason to believe that this will change with the addition of another casino. I don't think the area will profit one bit from the opening of a casino. The profits would most certainly not benefit the university or the Centre region as a whole. 2. The location, in an area with retail businesses that attract families, is totally wrong. There is no good reason for this and I would hate to be a parent trying to explain the allure of flashing lights, bells, and whistles to a young child. Or an adolescent. Or a college student. 3. As a corollary to #2, I don't think a casino would contribute wholesome entertainment to the region. We certainly don't need another distraction. 4. I honestly think a casino would place undue demands on an already overtaxed police system. Thank you for your attention to this.</p>
164	<p><b>Laurie Mulvey</b> I'd like to register my opposition to the proposed casino. If there are good reasons for it in terms of the well-being of our community, I could be convinced to support it. But I've observed an ongoing "development" of this region in ways that appear to maximize profit for people who don't live here. The proposed casino looks like another one of those endeavors. If this is not the case, please help the community to understand how this benefits us and our quality of life.</p>
165	<p><b>Andre Yablonsky</b> It is unconscionable that not a peep has been heard from the PSU BOT, decrying the proposed Nittany Mall Casino, which, if approved, will be located a short 3.1 miles from Penn State's flagship campus! Is your silence due to your "blind loyalty," to Mr. Ira Lubert, an ex-BOT member, a 2017 \$5,000,000 donor and, egregiously, the primary, private financier, partnering with Bally's to install/operate the casino? Each of you must set aside your allegiance to Mr. Lubert, &amp; send a crystal, clear message, to him, the present &amp; future PSU UPark student body and their parents, and the Happy Valley public @ large, by coming out unanimously, denouncing the proposed casino, and calling for the Pa. Gaming Board to deny its license. Do the right thing! What are you waiting for? Otherwise, each and every one of you will be remembered throughout history, as selling out the high moral standards which Penn State stands for!</p>
166	<p><b>Randolph Hudson</b> To the Trustees of Penn State University: Please do everything in your power to stop the proposed development of a casino in the Nittany Mall.</p>

	<p>The costs to our quality of life in the Centre Region, and the damage to Penn State's reputation, are not worth it. Casinos bring crime, addiction, low-paying jobs, and a sleaze factor. The benefits accrue to absentee owners—appallingly, in this case, a Penn State trustee.</p> <p>As a three-generation Penn State family who have built our lives here, we ask that you honor the words of the Alma Mater: "May no act of ours bring shame".</p> <p>Sincerely, G. Randolph Hudson and Cynthia Nixon Hudson Penn State class of 1973</p>
167	<p><b>Kathryn Shirk</b></p> <p>As a long-time resident (39+ years) of College Township, State College, and a Penn State graduate, I am strongly against the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. With so many college students nearby (as well as lower-income and elderly populations), this establishment would only encourage more alcohol and drug abuse, as well as gambling addictions. Many studies also affirm that a casino attracts more crime and lowers local housing values. Please join us in opposing this casino at the mall.</p>
168	<p><b>Kristi Wormhoudt</b></p> <p>My husband and I are opposed to the casino that might be built in the former Macy's department store building. We hope that the Board will support the opposition to the Casino since it would be a real detriment to our community-- both the town and the university. Casinos prey on the vulnerable which can include students. Please consider issuing a statement in support of those of us in the community who would never want to see a casino here. A strong statement from the Board might help to dissuade the sponsors of the casino from operating here.</p>
169	<p><b>Heather Ross</b></p> <p>Please support the opposition of a casino in our area. It will a serious distraction to our students, especially the ones who could develop life long gambling addictions. Our students are worth more than a few extra dollars or a few jobs. Please voice your opposition to a casino in Centre County.</p>
170	<p><b>Susan Strauss</b></p> <p>Dear Trustees, thank you for inviting these public comments and please consider carefully the positions of the thousands of PSU faculty and staff and parents of PSU students who have been actively striving to stop the casino from being built just 4 short miles from the PSU campus, and 2 miles from the 651-bed student housing facility currently being constructed on Squirrel Drive. I am and have been faculty at Penn State since 1998. I have been a resident of College Township since then as well. I am now also the parent of 4 PSU students, with two more who plan to apply for the next academic year. A casino does not fit the environment of State College. WE ARE better than that. WE ARE stronger than that. WE ARE smarter than that. It is imperative that the Board do everything in its power to voice a strong opposition to the casino being proposed here. The research is clear. It is chilling. There are literally no advantages to visitors of a casino beyond the entertainment value that a casino can provide. The true advantages, i.e., the economic ones, affect the developers, the Township, and the state. But the risks are many, and they are serious. And, sadly, the absolute most vulnerable members of our society to the risks of gambling and alcohol addiction are the very people who occupy the seats in our classrooms, our auditoriums, the very people who visit us during office hours, sharing their challenges and struggles, looking to us for support and confidence. How is it even possible that a casino might be built right here in our university town? We must do everything within our power to stop that casino and devise a more useful and versatile space that could inject life into the now nearly empty Nittany Mall, and one that will be equally if not more profitable than a casino. We have the brightest and most creative minds right here in our midst. Surely we can find a better, safer, more economically fruitful business to take over the former Macy's space, and one that does not create such a serious risk or threat to our very own students?</p>
171	<p><b>Tori Alex</b></p> <p>There are 19 casinos already open in PA, how many more do we need? Not a good message to send our students or young people in the community. Penn State has already dropped down in popularity as the best university for value in the U.S. I'm pretty sure that even more parents would hesitate sending their kids to Penn State if a casino is built so close-by.</p>
172	<p><b>Ellen Jankowski</b></p> <p>My husband and I have lived in State College for 35 years. We are distressed to learn of the proposed opening of a casino here. I believe that a casino will have a detrimental effect on the quality of life in State College. I also believe that parents will be concerned about sending their child to a university where a casino is present in the community. This concern of parents would</p>

	<p>have a direct effect on enrollment at Penn State. I am aware that some Penn State students have severe financial struggles. Having a casino opens the possibility of gambling addiction, which is not going to help any student's financial situation.</p>
173	<p><b>Taran Samarth</b></p> <p>The apparent removal of oral public comment for this meeting is disheartening. Since public comment began more than a decade ago, the Board has slowly introduced structural changes that have discouraged participation -- bumping the public comment time earlier and earlier, sending the public into a separate room, and now ending oral comment -- without announcement -- at a meeting with items that have attracted substantial public attention (the budget and alcohol sales). Changes to the scheduled times and available modes of public comment confound any conclusion that declining comments given per meeting is equivalent to declining interest in giving public comment itself.</p> <p>Amidst rumors made public in a Collegian op-ed that the administration has quietly suspended the search for the director of the Center for Racial Justice, frustrations voiced during Faculty Senate academic unit visits (especially at Commonwealth campuses) over low morale and disrespect for shared governance, and anxieties over unknown ramifications from the budget, now is not the time for the Board to continue its years-long effort to draw the curtains on public comment. It's the perfect time to the exact opposite, really, by holding oral public comment regularly (at a time when students are able to attend!) and, when possible, engaging with faculty, staff, and students face-to-face through open and public discussions. Rumor and discontent spread when the public is feels voiceless and in the dark. But honest public engagement and expansive transparency are potent antidotes, and the Board should opt to administer them.</p>
174	<p><b>Adrienne Waterston</b></p> <p>I am disappointed and concerned about losing access and transparency to the workings of the Board of Trustees for PSU. I understand that public comment can only now be submitted by writing. This form you have for submitting comments seems to be designed to be intimidating. Especially with budget cuts in the works, transparency in how the university is doing operating and allocating these cuts will be critical to making sure that the public can assess whether the university's decisions align with its educational objectives.</p>
175	<p><b>Kristen Osborne Carroll</b></p> <p>I'm writing to express my opposition to a casino opening in our beautiful area. I understand the financial appeal such a business may have, and I know it must be difficult to turn down the promise of jobs and revenue. However, I also understand that a casino may also bring with it some highly undesirable effects. I won't list those effects here, as I am certain you're already aware of them. I will, however, echo what I know so many others in this community have already said — the potential negatives outweigh potential positives. As a Penn State faculty member who cares an awful lot for her students, and as a mother of two young children, I fully support any effort by our local leadership to prevent a casino from opening anywhere in the Centre Region.</p> <p>Thank you for your time! Sincerely, Kristen L. Osborne Carroll</p>
176	<p><b>Karen Johnson</b></p> <p>I oppose the proposed Casino for our County suggested to be located at the Mall. It may bring money to the area, BUT it encourages patrons to gamble money away from their families (see publication of Nat'l Academies Press, 1999, by the Comm. On the Social and Economic Impact of Pathological Gambling). An MIT study by Grenoble &amp; Mustard (2006) reported an increase in crime in counties that had Casinos. Reject the Casino!!!</p>
177	<p><b>Don León</b></p> <p>Dear Trustee Members and President Bendapudi,</p> <p>As a resident of State College for 43 years and a retired Penn State Emeritus Professor of architecture who chaired the State College Design review board for several years, I am sickened by the news that our Penn State University academic standing has fallen to last in the Big Ten and nationally as low as 67 in some programs of study. To make matters worse, we now have to envision a community with an already serious drinking problem being able to buy beer in the football stadium. And on the horizon – a proposed casino that will be profitable to the BALLY organization but damaging to students and community homeowners. Joe Paterno must be rolling in his grave. Paterno was seriously opposed to building the baseball stadium due to their plan to sell alcohol.</p> <p>It's time to get serious and take a stand by emulating former president Dr. Frank Rhodes at Cornell University who placed academic study before the task of raising money. He saw academics as the basis of all the competence one brings to our</p>

	<p>professional tasks. Time to get serious! Time for Penn State to dig in their heels and do the right thing. Speak out against the casino. It's time do everything we can to bring Penn State to an elite status.</p>
178	<p><b>Carol Dwyer</b> Please oppose (via a board resolution) having a casino in the Centre County area. This type of "business" does not help the economy or the well-being of the broader community.</p>
179	<p><b>Eli Byrne</b> To The Penn State Board Of Trustees: I urge Penn State to use its influence to oppose the opening of any casino in the Centre Region.</p> <p>1) Gambling addiction is a serious problem nationwide and worldwide. It is as much a hazard of the human condition as drug addiction. Many opioid addicts would never have become addicts if they had not been prescribed opioids for pain relief, and many gambling addicts will never gamble unless the opportunity presents itself. When so many area residents are facing financial hardships, the attraction of easy money at a local casino could further sink the bank accounts of residents and students. This is good for profits, but disastrous for communities!</p> <p>2) It will not be profitable for the Centre Region or the University. Most of the casino profits will go to the parent company and not be re-spent in the community, reducing revenue streams for the Bryce Jordan Center, Penn State Football, local businesses and charities. Moreover, there will be a dramatic increase in demand for local social services and Penn State resources as people discover their addiction and ruin their lives and academic careers (students, faculty and staff alike).</p> <p>3) Cash rich businesses are prime operations for money laundering and inherently attract much more dangerous elements of organized crime, even if the original business owners want nothing to do with crime. When hard core criminals show up and tell you to play ball, nobody can be expected to withstand that kind of pressure. Once organized crime is involved, can drug dealing, prostitution and ultimately human trafficking be far behind? Do you want to start reading about female students and other young women disappearing? Did you read about the bodies recently discovered in Oklahoma? This level of crime is not only in the movies - do not invite it here!</p> <p>4) Any business preying on people's weaknesses is morally corrupt. I'm not suggesting every bet is evil - it can be harmless fun, and it can fund charities or social services like our PA Lottery. But gambling is not as easy to limit as alcohol, which can also be harmless in small doses but disastrous for addicts. Bartenders are required to stop serving drinks to customers who drink too much. But have you ever heard of a casino barring customers from betting because they lost too much? The customers might arguably have a right to demand a chance to win back their losses.</p> <p>5) Once there is one casino, there will surely be competition! Let's nip this in the bud! Allowing a casino here has disaster written all over it. I dread the thought of how this lovely community, where I have lived since 1961, will decline, and I dread the thought of how many lives will be ruined and how many local young people will fall prey to the increased level of crime this will bring! <b>DON'T GAMBLE THE FUTURE OF THIS COMMUNITY!</b> Sincerely, Eli Byrne, Graduate Faculty, Mathematics and Operations Research</p>
180	<p><b>Madhu Suri Prakash</b> To Members of the PSU Board of Trustees:</p> <p>As a Professor of Education in this community for more than forty years, I share all the concerns extensively documenting the ill-effects of the proposed Casino in the Nittany Mall.</p> <p>The impeccable research on the Casino's net pitfalls undertaken by our community reveals an admirable commitment to the well-being of people over profits. The conclusion of this exhaustive study is indubitable: the Casino will contribute to extensive damage and suffering in Happy Valley, calling its very name into question</p> <p>Please protect our community from the immense harm that this Casino will inevitably bring. Sincerely, Madhu Suri Prakash, Emerita Professor</p>

181	<p><b>Susan Person</b> Dear Board Members, I am writing to ask your help in whatever way possible to oppose the development of a casino in Centre County. As I have become more informed, I have become increasingly concerned about the negative impacts a casino would have on our region. From increased crime to human trafficking, from gambling addictions to student poverty and financial distress, from decreased property values to parental concerns about risks of their children attending PSU, I believe our entire community -- town and gown -- will be adversely impacted. I have attended township meetings over the past month, hearing testimonies from healthcare professionals, mental health professionals, retirees, a former PSU Trustee Board Member, PSU students, family members of those with gambling addictions, individuals from all walks of life, all in opposition to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I implore you to do everything possible to help stop this casino from being built in our community. Thank you.</p>
182	<p><b>Edward Kaiser</b> Dear Penn State Board of Trustees, We are encouraged that you are "laser-focused on the safety and success of all parts of the Penn State community". Please use your influence to voice your opposition to the proposed casino in State College! You can make a big difference. Thank you! Best regards, ~Edward Kaiser</p>
183	<p><b>Catherine Cohan</b> I would like to register my opposition to building a casino in State College at the Nittany Mall. I live close to the mall in Lemont and do not want to see my property value negatively affected by the presence of a casino. Would you want a casino in your neighborhood? The low crime rate in this area is a significant aspect of our quality of life here. I do not want to see our quality of life in Happy Valley diminished by increased crime resulting from a casino. Thank you for your consideration and support against a casino in State College.</p>
184	<p><b>Vaughn Shirk</b> As a long term resident of College Township, I am strongly opposed to a casino in our area. It is a proven fact that crime and gambling addiction increase when a casino is introduced. SC area already has major issues with alcohol. Local businesses can not not fill jobs. It is a proven fact that there is no local economic benefit. PSU needs to oppose this casino.</p>
185	<p><b>Ann Pangborn</b> I strongly oppose the Casino being proposed for the Nittany Mall. The harm to the community out-weighs any benefit. Students do not need MORE unwholesome diversions. Students are often stressed financially: the lure of a casino will lead students to spend money they need for school. Gambling is addictive. Penn State's Psychological services are already stressed beyond capacity. A casino will harm our community. It is shameful that someone in the PSU "family" is ignoring public sentiment and pushing forward with this detrimental idea that will enrich a few while hurting so many. Please use your power to stop this.</p>
186	<p><b>Marguerite Ciolkosz</b> I am very much opposed to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. With the high population of the most vulnerable to addiction age group (especially Penn State students) in our community, it is unconscionable to allow such a highly addictive operation to be placed within easy access of our youths and young adults. I can only imagine the many lives that could and will be destroyed if we fail to prevent the approval of this blight on our community. Please do not allow the casino.</p>
187	<p><b>Peggy Myers</b> Dear Board of Trustees,  My husband, Don, and I are very much opposed to a casino being at the Nittany Mall. As you likely know, judgment isn't fully developed in young people until about 25 years of age. It's very risky for young folks, especially after drinking an alcoholic beverage, to head to a casino and know when it's time to stop gambling. Parents have enough concerns when they send their children off to college. Is it really necessary to add to those concerns with a casino close by?  It has been a disappointment that the Board of Trustees has not spoken out in opposition to the casino considering the damage and heartbreak casinos can cause to so many young people's lives as well as the lives of their families. Please state your opposition to the proposed casino before it's too late. Thank you for letting us share our views. Peggy Myers</p>

188	<p><b>Lakshman Yapa</b> I am writing to express my opposition and displeasure at the proposal to approve a casino at the Nittany Mall. This is contradictory to the mission of a public land grant university to associate ourselves with activities that lead to addictive behavior and the potential financial ruin of members of our community, and of course our students.</p>
189	<p><b>Kristen Boccumini</b> I would like to express my concern about the proposed casino at Nittany Mall. I would like the Board of Trustees to speak out against this, specifically to write a letter to the PA Gaming Control Board stating PSU does not want a casino in this town as it would put students of age at risk and impact the safety of the University. Please take a stand against the proposed casino.</p>
190	<p><b>Alli Eeickson</b> Your consideration for opposing the proposed casino is important. Students are living in a time when so many things are trying to get their time and attention, they don't need one more thing. A casino can produce additional financial strain in a time where so many are already experiencing significant struggle to pay off student loans. Let's find ways to support our students and not give them more opportunities to be distracted and fail.</p>
191	<p><b>Joanne Santamaria</b> I'm from Connecticut, land of OZ, We have 2 casinos. They rise majestically from our green southeastern hills. It's surreal. Remember what they say about Oz,</p> <p>Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain. Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun, 'creative' sources of revenue Each with many stories Stories of hope, but false hope.</p> <p>Children left in cars as parents gamble, hoping for that win. Children stuck, no positive socialization, no academic stimulation, gaps in learning, no friends. Many tales of loss, of home and hearth, of car, of family savings. Students having to move, leaving their home, neighbors, changing schools, total readjustment.</p> <p>And teachers, paying the price when such students act out in class, and they do. And other students paying the price when acting out disrupts their education, and it does.</p> <p>At a wedding we happened to be seated with a Blackjack dealer who said he could count on less than one hand actual winners. Slot machines were defined as piggy banks for the casinos. Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain. But...Let's pay attention to what is right in front of us. Casinos are more destructive than creative They cost more than their worth</p>
192	<p><b>Emily Wenda</b> Our family strongly opposes the proposed casino. We moved here 15 years ago for quality of life and uniqueness of this community. A casino will be devastating to the Penn State students and families with all the dangers of crime, human trafficking, dangerous people, poverty and addiction it will bring. Allowing a casino to smear this community will certainly make us reconsider Penn State as an option for our four children. We want nothing to do with it. Please listen, a casino is a bad idea for the next generation.</p>
193	<p><b>Kyle Becker</b> I'm writing to encourage you to weigh in with an opinion to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) opposing the plans for a Casino in the Centre region. Research indicates a negative ROI for communities hosting such venues. It will prey on the combined population of retirees and students that make up our region. As a neighbor within walking distance of Campus Beaver Stadium I also strongly oppose the sale of Alcohol at sporting events and question the values the university is instilling in young minds.</p>
194	<p><b>Don Colburn</b> Gambling destroys people.</p>

195	<p><b>Lara Carter</b></p> <p>I am opposed to the casino at the mall. My husband is an alumni and recovering gambling addict, a habit that began during his college years. The exposure and opportunity the casino will provide to our community and the students would be detrimental and unsafe.</p>
196	<p><b>Paula Hesse</b></p> <p>The Board of Trustees of Penn State should not favor the establishment of a Casino at the Nittany Mall. There is insufficient evidence that it will prove an economic boon to the local community and a great deal of evidence of the negative effect a gambling facility can have on the student body, especially the male population.</p>
197	<p><b>Grace Irwin</b></p> <p>Please, please, please do all that you can do to stop the opening of a casino at the Nittany Mall in Centre County! As you know, the frontal cortex of a human being is not full developed until the age of 25 years of age. A casino is bad news for any community for so many reasons that have been discussed over and over, but to put one here near PSU with impressionable young people, is a recipe for disaster. Thank you Grace Irwin</p>
198	<p><b>Holly Keen</b></p> <p>Please present your opposition to the proposed casino for Centre County. Our college students face so many challenges and things that distract them from their education. I see this as a money pit for the students...they already face so much debt from student loans...please don't allow a casino that would allow them to think of it as an easy way make money and stay out of debt. Keep the integrity of our community above reproach. Thank you!</p>
199	<p><b>Margaret Higgins</b></p> <p>I'm writing to urge the trustees to oppose the proposal to allow a casino on the Nittany Mall property.</p> <p>As a resident of the State College Borough and an Academic Advisor at Penn State University, I am aware of the vulnerability of our low-income and student populations who will be tempted to gamble their available cash. Students in particular may use funds sourced through student loans and don't have the maturity to understand the detrimental long-term effect of spending their money this way, and the profound risk of becoming addicted.</p> <p>The area would benefit far more from an entertainment venue that is family-friendly and doesn't prey on local residents. There is plenty of evidence that casinos do not reinvigorate local communities as predicted. Instead, property values decrease and crime rates increase.</p> <p>It would be short-sighted to allow a Casino to open in this space, and the risks outweigh the perceived benefits. Please do not allow this proposal to move forward.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of my comments.</p>
200	<p><b>Adeline Aileo</b></p> <p>At a time of budget cuts, of creation of new (and previously inexistant) positions at the highest levels with high salaries while giving a low raise to employees and setting up a hiring freeze, the community needs more transparency, not less. Cancelling oral public comments and asking them in writing ahead of time doesn't give a sense of trust to the community. What else is coming that you would want to silence people?</p>
201	<p><b>Maria Truglio</b></p> <p>I am very concerned about the cancellation of the oral public comment portion of the BOT meeting. Has this 500-word written format replaced the oral format going forward? If so, I strongly urge the board to reconsider this move. Penn State Administration is, sadly, notoriously for its lack of transparency and its top-down governance model which keeps stake holders in the dark in decision making processes. The elimination of the opportunity for stake holders to address the Board face to face and to speak in real time is a dangerous step in the wrong direction, and suggests that the board fears having to look constituents in the eye. This move must be reversed to assure faculty, staff, students, and alumni that you are not silencing us.</p>
202	<p><b>Katharine Donnelly Adams</b></p> <p>Please do everything you can to stop the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall.</p>

203	<p><b>Steven Smith</b></p> <p>It is disheartening to not hear of any Penn State opposition to the proposed casino. The board of trustees and the administration have to know of the deleterious effects of gambling, both on society as a whole and on young people, who are supposed to be protected and educated by Penn State while they are here, not drained of even more money. Penn State needs to oppose this casino, not support it, despite the ownership by a wealthy alum.</p> <p>In addition, the proposed sale of alcohol in Beaver Stadium is a colossal mistake. There are already enough drunks inside the stadium. Earth to administration: People are drinking heavily at tailgates. This will necessitate more training for more employees, as most vendors are not university employees and are not trained to recognize signs of impairment. This is a mistake and yet another example of the university's efforts to be a "bad neighbor" to this community. Stop being a force for bad and start being a positive influence on this area. You have two prominent choices to make. Do the right thing!</p>
204	<p><b>Patti Reddington</b></p> <p>As a alumni and 40 year resident of College Township, I am strongly opposed to a casino so close to my home and to the PSU student population. Please do everything you can to OPPOSE the casino at the Nittany Mall. I am deeply concerned of the negative impact that the closest of the gambling most likely will have in our community. Research has already shown the negative impacts created by gambling. Respectfully, Patti Reddington</p>
205	<p>Casino.</p> <p>I'm writing to ask you to please do whatever you can to oppose the development of the casino at the Nittany Mall location. I am a clinical psychologist, yoga teacher in the Kinesiology department at PSU, and part of our local business community as co-owner of Yoga Lab in downtown State College. I am very concerned about the impact this casino will have on the health and well-being of Penn State students and our State College community. Please do everything you can to stop the development of this casino.</p> <p>Thank you, ~Anna Engels</p>
206	<p><b>Samuel Hoskins</b></p> <p>Dear Penn State Board of Trustees,</p> <p>I would guess that you have heard many concerns about having a casino in the mall or anywhere in Happy Valley, and about the damage that gambling can do. I agree with those arguments. Considering the fact that there are public service announcements about problems caused by addiction to gambling, as a society we seem to agree that there is a significant downside to it.</p> <p>In fact, I cannot understand why people view gambling as good. There are stories about people winning it big and being set for life; however, winning it big can be very detrimental to people and the community. Especially young adults, who do not fully understand the value of work and money. Some might argue that a casino creates jobs that pay "good". Where does the money for those wages come from? Perhaps some of it comes from people who simply enjoy the sport of it and can afford to lose money, but this does not apply to most college students. Additionally, the cost of the license for \$10,000,000, would require 10,000 people to lose \$1,000 before there is money to renovate the building and the "good" wages are paid.</p> <p>Gambling does not produce wealth, like farming, manufacturing, or other industries, where the labor adds value to a product which increases the price someone will pay for it. Nor does it add value to a person like educating them to solve problems and understand the world around them to make a positive contribution to society. Gambling is at best a transfer of wealth, generally from people who cannot afford it to at least one person in this case who already has millions (the casino license owner).</p> <p>What is the value to the community? I see none, but in fact the opposite. Whether or not someone or several people benefit from gambling (increased tax revenue, more jobs, a non-vacant mall, etc.), there is a net loss to our community or to other communities. Why bring that kind of influence to Happy Valley? Why bring that to a college town where there are many young adults who are facing new challenges, developing new habits and at times seeking a way to escape? With the promise of wealth just a short bus ride away, why add that temptation to the choices that they are making?</p> <p>Sincerely, Sam Hoskins</p>

207	<p><b>James Freihaut</b></p> <p>I am vehemently opposed to the proposed Casino operations in the State College area. Having lived in a State (CT) that allowed such establishments, it can be documented that the net tax revenue and ancillary business activity benefits to the hosting community are marginal at best and, when all human condition effects are taken into account, have a net negative societal impact. I would think the combined intellectual creativity of the University, combined with the expertise found in local town and townships governance, should lead to a more foundational and diverse set of economic growth plans. Establishing an operation that relies on community members - whether they be long term, residential citizens or short term student community members - to loose wealth in all its forms, rather than pursue activities that utilize and create community and personal wealth , is antithetical to everything a University community should represent. A University's role is to provide with certainty a milieu of lasting personal self-actualization and community growth, not support a game of chance that almost always leads to the lack of lasting personal and community actualization.</p>
208	<p><b>Paul Whitehead</b></p> <p>Please oppose the casino idea for State College. Casino disadvantages far outweigh the advantages. State College has been a reasonably prosperous town for decades. It has no strong need for a casino. Among U.S. localities and cities, establishing a casino is often what a declining local economy does in desperation. We need not be desperate. Let's promote more constructive investment in our town. What's more, casinos act as a regressive tax, drawing money out of the pockets of medium- and lower-income people and funneling it to well-to-do casino owner. As for our students, why in the world should a university that is dedicated to long-term investment in student success EVER promote "get-rich-quick" ideology? Reject this odious casino thinking: declare your understanding tReject the ideas of chance and engineered "odds." Promote the old-fashioned values of thrift and investment!! Thank you for considering these views.</p>
209	<p><b>Michelle Rodino</b></p> <p>Dear Board Members:</p> <p>At a time when the administration is promising more budget cuts for Penn State amid record financial strength, we need greater not less transparency. Therefore, I oppose the elimination of the oral public comments at the Board of Trustees meetings. Penn State should be governed in a way that benefits members of the Commonwealth as well as students, employees, and wider community members. We should also be mindful that students and employees come to Penn State from across the globe. Shutting down oral comment further narrows decision making and creates barriers to access from diverse stakeholders and voices. Please open back up public comment. Better still, take steps to make it easier to participate in Board of Trustees business, which is the business of governing the university. Please publish our public comments in public.</p>
210	<p><b>Earl Carver</b></p> <p>A casino at Nittany Mall or any other location is a bad idea. Gambling can easily become an addiction and ruination of a life. Having such a potential life tragedy threat close to our Penn State students is unwise and in fact foolish.</p>
211	<p><b>Dorothy Blair</b></p> <p>Penn State University strives to build moral character in its students. As a faculty member, and teacher, I introduced my students to issues of world poverty, inequality, and global/local issues of hunger and climate change. If cultivating the student mind and increasing student focus on higher goals is an objective of a degree at Penn State, then why in the world would we tolerate the distraction and very real harm of a casino so close to campus? If the casino is allowed to be constructed here, our laissez faire policy will reflect very badly on the university and sully our reputation. Student mental health should be front and center when we appraise this issue.</p> <p>A gambling casino with its multiple flashy games, high levels of manufactured excitement, ready access to alcohol, and distracting entertainment uses the misfortune of others, in this case our students. to pay PA real estate taxes in a non-means-tested way. It enriches the few and has the potential for a disastrous impact on students' financial health. Only 35% of the profits go to tax relief; 45% go to the casino firm, and 13 percent are used to promote more gambling--horse racing.</p> <p>While many think of gambling as entertainment, gambling is also a critical public health issue for our youth. Gambling significantly and negative impacts our society at large and creates problematic gamblers, about 4-5% of the adult population. But the most critical impact is on young people and college-age students.</p> <p>The National Academy of Sciences' "Pathological Gambling, a Critical Review,"1999 (352p), estimates that 20% of college students have the potential to be problematic gamblers, 4 times the level in adults.</p> <p>Gambling at a casino is a menacing distraction from the purposes of academic study at Penn State. Our students are already distracted by Big Ten sport competitions, alcohol, drugs, and fraternity life. Why would our trustees sit by complacently while</p>

	<p>vulnerable students are given a new venue to divert their attention, extract their cash and perhaps ruin their life? Science has demonstrated the threat of Casinos to students under your care. A "look the other way" attitude will come back to haunt you. No casino should be built two miles away from 46,000 undergrads.</p> <p>Thank you for providing this chance to comment, Dorothy Blair</p>
<b>212</b>	<p><b>Carolyn Bingham</b></p> <p>I urge the Penn State Trustees to do whatever they can to oppose the casino planned for the Nittany Mall. Creating a center for gambling in our local area is a tragic mistake that will continue to cause hardship for those already bearing a heavy load of suffering in our surrounding local areas. Anyone who has ever popped their head into a casino door has likely seen what I have: an elderly woman, standing in front of a slot machine, surrounded by her belongings and with shoes off because so many hours have passed there... it is an addiction. Period. Our surrounding areas are rife with substance abuse of all kinds, grandparents are raising the children of addiction's victims. Desperate people will come to the casino in the wild, irrational hopes that this time, it might just work. More lives will thus be damaged. You have no doubt seen the data. External costs to the community to address these harms, and the array of more damages that go hand-in-hand and will involve law enforcement, will far outweigh taxes collected and whatever private benefits are accrued. Please, do not let this happen. Thank you.</p>
<b>213</b>	<p><b>Dean Christian</b></p> <p>I am writing to ask you to do whatever you can to prevent a construction of a casino in the State College area. While once upon a time I thought that it's up to an individual if they want to visit a casino and their actions do not affect others, in the last two years my opinion has changed. I'm concerned about the addictive properties of gambling and although there are services available, those who need them most do not seek them out. I've seen the damage done to families as they deal with bankruptcy and attempted suicide. When someone chooses to gamble it affects more than just themselves; it affects their children, spouse, extended family, colleagues at work, friends, and more. As a parent, I do not want my children attending a university so close to a casino. Please do whatever you can to oppose the construction of the casino.</p>
<b>214</b>	<p><b>Jaylene Smith</b></p> <p>As an alumni and local resident I am strongly opposed to the proposed Nittany Mall Casino. I respectfully request you to research the negative effects it would have on the student population who are even more susceptible to addictions like gambling. Penn State deserves better than to have this casino ruin our Happy Valley. Please oppose this project to the PA Gaming Board.</p>
<b>215</b>	<p><b>Patricia Hummer</b></p> <p>As someone with decades long connections to the University and College Township, I wish to voice my hope that the University will take a public stand against the proposed Casino coming to town. It saddens me to know that a former chair of our Board of Trustees would be put growing his personal wealth ahead of the good of our community—a community in which he does not live. I see very little benefit to our community to outweigh the potential harm this casino will bring.</p> <p>We are already seeing some erosion to the quality of life for our local townspeople due to the continued sprawl of University building and the resultant change to the local landscape. The addition of a casino will do nothing to improve that.</p> <p>I respectfully request that the University use its significant weight in officially adding their voice to those opposing the opening of this casino.</p> <p>Sincerely, Patricia (Trish) Hummer, '82 Advertising</p>
<b>216</b>	<p><b>Michelle Rodino-Colocino</b></p> <p>Dear Board Members:</p> <p>As you know, Penn State is enjoying record financial strength. Our published audited financial statements show that. So do our stellar credit ratings from Moody's and S&amp;P. Our \$5 billion in non-donor restricted funding should provide us with a source of support should small downfalls hit. These billions should not be looked at as a mountain to make even higher. Penn State's core mission is to serve members of the Commonwealth and the world. As a public, land-grant university, our mission is not to extract from programs that engage in such service, but to support them and the people that make them work. Penn State should support the students and community members who benefit. As our mission statement emphasizes, "As Pennsylvania's land-grant university, we provide unparalleled access to education and public service to support the citizens of the</p>

	<p>Commonwealth and beyond." <a href="https://www.psu.edu/this-is-penn-state/mission-and-values/">https://www.psu.edu/this-is-penn-state/mission-and-values/</a>. Therefore, I ask that you cancel 3% recession on academic programs at Penn State. Cancel plans to make financial cuts to academic programs. End the hiring freeze. Fully fund the More Rivers to Cross call to hire fifty tenure-track Black faculty in 5 years <a href="https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/sites.psu.edu/dist/a/13525/files/2021/03/More-Rivers-to-Cross-Black-Faculty-and-Academic-Racism-at-Penn-State-University-Part-2-1.pdf">https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/sites.psu.edu/dist/a/13525/files/2021/03/More-Rivers-to-Cross-Black-Faculty-and-Academic-Racism-at-Penn-State-University-Part-2-1.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Fully fund the Center for Racial Justice and fully staff it. Restore funding cut at Altoona for the performing arts and other programs. Fully restore funding at campuses across the Commonwealth. Raise the pay of full-time faculty who earn incomes below or near the poverty line, and make pay equitable and competitive with other universities. Raise pay for employees to keep up with inflation. Give more and deeper discounts to students so that they do not have to go into debt to attend Penn State. We can afford it. As Board of Trustees members, you understand this. Please do the right thing here.</p>
217	<p><b>Lisa Richardson</b></p> <p>I am opposed to the proposed casino at Nittany Mall. I believe it will have a negative impact on the overall business community as people who spend their money at the casino won't be spending money at businesses and restaurants downtown, next to the university, that support ALL students, faculty, and community members. Casinos are an extractive business, they aren't family friendly, and it changes the character of the town in a negative way. This hurt economic development plans, recruiting new faculty and students, and causes problems for some. I think it is the worst possible economic development plan and I think we can and must do better.</p>
218	<p><b>Gary King</b></p> <p>Dear Trustees,</p> <p>I strongly encourage you to read the op-ed entitled, "Ain't Nobody Dreaming Now" that appeared one week ago today in the Collegian on Wednesday, September 14th. I am attaching the reference link:</p> <p><a href="https://www.collegian.psu.edu/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-to-the-editor-ain-t-nobody-dreaming-now/article_7615a838-33e9-11ed-afc3-3b7f77526235.html?utm_medium=social&amp;utm_source=email&amp;utm_campaign=user-share">https://www.collegian.psu.edu/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-to-the-editor-ain-t-nobody-dreaming-now/article_7615a838-33e9-11ed-afc3-3b7f77526235.html?utm_medium=social&amp;utm_source=email&amp;utm_campaign=user-share</a></p> <p>Regards, Professor Gary King</p>
219	<p><b>Mryna Yearick</b></p> <p>Dear Trustees,</p> <p>As a resident of the Centre Region, I wish to express my opposition to the presence of a casino at the Nittany Mall. This addition to our community would have many more detrimental effects than positive ones. Thank you for your attention to this serious matter. I believe upon examination of the facts you will oppose this project.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
220	<p><b>Loretta Jeffreys</b></p> <p>There may be, as Trump once said, "good people on both sides" of the issue of the casino, but their motivations are different. One side is motivated by financial gain, and the other by concern for the students and for the message Penn State sends by being quiet. We value money over virtue, and gain by chance over gain from hard work. Where do you stand. Your silence says it all.</p>
221	<p><b>Mary Serene</b></p> <p>Please do not support the establishment of a casino in State College.</p>

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Carol Camargo <carolwcamargo@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2022 8:24 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Please Oppose the Casino

You don't often get email from carolwcamargo@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I live in State College Township, and I am very opposed to the proposed casino. A casino at the Nittany Mall would bring more crime to the area. It would attract the wrong type of visitors. Gambling is also an addiction which destroys lives.

Please do everything possible to oppose the casino.

Sincerely,

Carol Camargo  
carolwcamargo@yahoo.com  
301 Rolling Ridge Dr., Apt. 217  
State College, PA 16801

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2022 10:10 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** STADIUM CASINO RE, LLC'S BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO INTERVENE IN CATEGORY 4 LICENSING HEARING  
**Attachments:** Filed with the PGCB on Friday, September 23, 2022.pdf

Dear members of the College Township Council,

The attachment was filed with the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board on Friday, September 23, and is provided to keep you informed.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna



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## I. INTRODUCTION

The question before the Board is whether Petitioner Stadium Casino RE, LLC (“Stadium”) should be permitted to intervene in the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board licensing proceedings (the “Proceedings”) regarding the Category 4 casino license application of SC Gaming Op Co, LLC (“SC Gaming”) in order to address a fundamental issue of the Board’s statutory power to even consider SC Gaming’s application under the Gaming Act. The answer is that Stadium should be permitted to intervene, but not for optics only. Rather, upon intervention, Stadium must be allowed to substantively participate, including by taking discovery and offering evidence at the licensing hearing to fully present the issue it raised in the Petition to Intervene.

In May 2020, the General Assembly instructed the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (the “Board”) to conduct an auction for the right to bid on a Category 4 license. Unlike the General Assembly’s directive in the initial Category 4 license legislation in 2017, the May 2020 legislation (1) allowed not only existing slot machine licensees, but also persons with an ownership interest in a licensee, to bid for the right to apply for the available license, and (2) precluded all qualified, non-licensed entities that did not have an ownership interest in a licensee from bidding or applying. In September 2020, the Board conducted this auction, and there were two eligible bidders: Stadium and Ira Lubert. Lubert submitted the high bid, but he did not pay for the bid himself. Instead, other persons or entities invested in his bid in exchange for an interest in the putative licensee and the casino project. Stadium knows this because two of Lubert’s investors – Robert Poole and Richard Sokolov – admitted to such investments. *See* Pet., Ex. E. Lubert also formed multiple entities, and Stadium asserts that Lubert sold ownership or control interests in those entities, one of which – SC Gaming – applied for the Category 4 license at issue in these Proceedings.

The problem with what Lubert did is that the Gaming Act requires the winning bidder, and the winning bidder alone, to apply for the Category 4 license. *See* 4 Pa.C.S. § 1305.2(c)(10)(i). By parceling out interests in his various entities and the gaming operations, Lubert himself is not applying for the Category 4 license alone; rather, Lubert has created an investment group with ownership and control interests that render applicant SC Gaming substantively different from him. It is not enough to just look at who owns common stock in just SC Gaming, without holistically assessing what Lubert created and what interests will be held by Lubert’s investors. While SC Gaming may have been eligible to bid and apply for a license under the 2017 legislation, it was not eligible under the May 2020 legislation under which the auction at issue here was conducted, and therefore its application was (and remains) void.

Stadium, the only other bidder at the September 2020 auction, is the only party in the Proceedings that has a direct interest in this threshold issue, and its interest is certainly not adequately represented by the existing parties – SC Gaming, Lubert, and the Office of Enforcement Counsel (the “OEC”). Indeed, Stadium has already challenged the Board’s authority to consider SC Gaming’s application in litigation pending before the Commonwealth Court.<sup>1</sup> The existing parties in these Proceedings acknowledge that Stadium should be let in, because Stadium indisputably satisfies the intervention requirements under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z). However, they seek to handicap Stadium’s ability to fully evaluate the threshold question Stadium seeks to present by claiming that Stadium does not need any discovery to resolve its statutory challenge. Their claim is inconsistent with the Gaming Act and basic principles of intervention under Pennsylvania law.

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<sup>1</sup> The related litigation pending in the Commonwealth Court is captioned *Stadium Casino RE, LLC v. Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, et al.*, No. 249 MD 2021 (Pa. Commw. Ct.), and referred to herein as the “Commonwealth Court Action.”

SC Gaming/Lubert essentially seek to place Stadium in a box in which it is only challenging whether any others have ownership or control interests (as they narrowly interpret those terms, ignoring a swath of other potential types of ownership or control interests) in applicant SC Gaming alone (ignoring SC Gaming's affiliates and the persons and entities to which the economics of the gaming operations will flow). Such a framing is too narrow, because both the plain text of the Gaming Act and the cases interpreting the Gaming Act take a broad, functional approach to ownership. Rather, the myriad of ways that Lubert may have structured the collection of ownership and control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliated entities in a manner that allows others into the project (who were themselves ineligible to bid) is *exactly why discovery is necessary* to fully assess whether SC Gaming and Lubert are substantively identical.

The existing parties' non-opposition to Stadium's intervention is thus an empty gesture. They welcome Stadium in but simultaneously seek to foil it from getting the information it needs to fully assess its question about the Board's statutory power to consider SC Gaming's application. Rather, the Board should allow Stadium to intervene with full party status and take the discovery described in Stadium's Petition (*see* Pet. ¶ 114). If no one else besides Lubert has any ownership or control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliated entities, SC Gaming can simply produce the documents reflecting as much, and the question may be resolved expeditiously. That SC Gaming/Lubert are so adamantly opposed to a true adversarial process on a complete record is telling, particularly so because of the intense community engagement and local opposition to this project in State College that has been publicly reported.

The interests of justice therefore call for the creation of a complete record on which the threshold issue of statutory authority raised by Stadium may be fully examined and addressed. *See* 58 Pa. Code § 493a.11(b). The information Stadium seeks is not confidential, and even if it

were, it can be provided to Stadium without being disclosed to the public, as routinely occurs in litigation through confidentiality agreements. For these reasons, Stadium is entitled to intervene in the Proceedings, obtain the discovery it seeks, and participate in the licensing hearing.

## II. ARGUMENT

### A. **Stadium Should Be Permitted to Intervene in the Proceedings Because It Satisfies the Requirements for Intervention Under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z)**

To qualify for intervention in the Proceedings, (1) Stadium must have a “substantial, direct and immediate interest,” and (2) that interest must not otherwise be “adequately represented” in the Proceedings. *See* 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z)(2). For the reasons set forth in the Petition, Stadium qualifies for intervention under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z)(2). *See* Pet. ¶¶ 1-35.

First, as the only other bidder at the auction for the right to apply for the Category 4 license at issue (and the entity that is statutorily entitled to bid again at a new auction or simply be awarded the right to apply), Stadium has a “substantial, direct and immediate” interest in challenging the Board’s authority to consider SC Gaming’s application that far surpasses the general interest possessed by “all citizens in procuring obedience to the law.” *SugarHouse HSP Gaming, LP v. Pennsylvania Gaming Control Bd.*, 136 A.3d 457, 470 (Pa. 2016) (“*SugarHouse I*”) (citation omitted); *see* Pet. ¶¶ 17-27. The OEC, for its part, agrees that “Stadium meets the requirements for intervention” and does not dispute that Stadium’s interest in the Proceedings is “substantial, direct and immediate.” *See* OEC New Matter ¶¶ 120, 125.<sup>2</sup>

Second, Stadium’s interests in the Proceedings are not and will not be “adequately represented” by the existing parties under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z)(2). *See* Pet. ¶¶ 28-35. Both

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<sup>2</sup> Contrary to the OEC’s assertion (OEC New Matter ¶ 120), Stadium’s interest in the Proceedings is not “substantial, direct and immediate” simply because it filed a Commonwealth Court Action, but rather for the reasons set forth in Stadium’s Petition (Pet. ¶¶ 17-27).

SC Gaming/Lubert and the OEC have conceded that they have no intention of challenging the Board's statutory authority to consider SC Gaming's application. *See* OEC Answer ¶¶ 31-32 (admitting that "OEC does not intend to challenge the Board's decision to consider SC Gaming's application at this time" and that "SC Gaming is not likely to challenge the Board's consideration of its application"); SC Gaming Answer ¶ 31 (admitting that SC Gaming and Lubert "do not challenge the Board's authority to consider Respondents' Category 4 application").

Yet, SC Gaming/Lubert deflect by stating that "[a]ny interest in the factual investigation of [their] application and the merits of whether [they] have demonstrated eligibility and suitability *for licensure* are fully and adequately represented in the licensing hearing by OEC, BIE, and [the Financial Investigations Unit, 'FIU']," and that the OEC and BIE "would not hesitate to object to the *issuance* of the Category 4 license sought by [SC Gaming and Lubert] on any meritorious grounds as it has done in the past for prior license applications." SC Gaming Answer & New Matter ¶¶ 32, 156 (emphasis added). That argument misses the mark. While the OEC/BIE have the power and responsibility to investigate and review all applicants and licensing applications, they do not have the responsibility to determine whether the Board has the statutory authority to *even consider* an application for a Category 4 slot machine license under the May 2020 amendment to the Fiscal Code.<sup>3</sup> The OEC – by its own admission, *see* OEC Answer ¶ 32 – will thus not adequately represent Stadium's interests in the Proceedings.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> *See* Act 23 of 2020, P.L. 158 (May 29, 2020), § 7, codified at 72 P.S. § 1724.1-E(e) (instructing the Board to hold an auction and consider an application for a Category 4 license pursuant to the General Assembly's specific directives); *see also* Pet. ¶¶ 45-47, 65-70.

<sup>4</sup> Moreover, while SC Gaming/Lubert and the OEC describe Stadium's challenge as whether the Board should ultimately *approve* the application and *issue the license* to SC Gaming, the question Stadium seeks to address involves a *threshold* determination of whether the Board has the power to go down the path it is already on in *even considering* SC Gaming's application.

**B. Stadium's Intervention Must Be Meaningful, and May Not Be Limited to the Submission of its Petition and Written Statement Only, Without any Discovery**

SC Gaming/Lubert's and the OEC's position that Stadium should be allowed to intervene but permitted no discovery makes a mockery of what intervention means, because such a limitation would thwart the entire purpose for which Stadium seeks to join the Proceedings. The Board should permit Stadium's intervention and allow it to take the discovery it seeks, so that it can fully address the threshold legal issue it raises about the Board's authority under the Gaming Act to consider SC Gaming's application.

1. Without Discovery, Stadium Cannot Fully Address the Legal Question It Raises

Neither SC Gaming/Lubert nor the OEC oppose Stadium's intervention in the Proceedings. *See* OEC New Matter ¶¶ 139, 145; SC Gaming Answer at 1-2. However, both SC Gaming and the OEC seek to limit Stadium's participation to the submission of its Petition and incorporated Written Statement only, with no discovery allowed. *See* OEC New Matter ¶¶ 142, 145; SC Gaming Answer at 3, ¶¶ 114-116. The discovery requested in Stadium's Petition (¶ 114) is necessary to develop a comprehensive record reflecting (1) how Lubert structured the casino project; (2) how Messrs. Poole and Sokolov, and potentially others, will receive a return on their respective investments; and (3) the various ownership and control interests Lubert created in SC Gaming and its affiliates, and how such interests are or will be held by Lubert's investors. Such a record is needed in order to determine whether SC Gaming/Lubert complied with the Gaming Act and whether the Board has the statutory authority to consider SC Gaming's application. The Board should reject the existing parties' attempts to allow Stadium in but then stymie Stadium's ability to get an answer to the legal question being raised.

a) *SC Gaming and Lubert Impermissibly Narrow the Legal Issue That Stadium Seeks to Raise*

SC Gaming/Lubert base their position that Stadium needs no discovery upon two faulty premises. First, SC Gaming/Lubert narrow and misrepresent the issue Stadium seeks to present in order to avoid answering it. Stadium seeks to address what Lubert’s investors received for their investments, how Lubert structured his investment group to fund the bid and the casino project, and whether Lubert sold interests in entities – including SC Gaming and its affiliates – to persons that were not eligible to be part of Lubert’s winning bid. If that happened, then SC Gaming (the applicant) is substantively different from Lubert (the winning bidder), and its application is void under the Gaming Act. To that end, Stadium seeks discovery about what the persons who invested in the bid payment or the casino project (Messrs. Poole and Sokolov, and possibly others) have received or will receive, to see whether it constitutes ownership or control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliates.

Ownership and control interests are broad concepts, and are not limited to common stock or “net” or “ultimate” equity ownership, as SC Gaming/Lubert appear to contend. Indeed, the General Assembly has expansively defined ownership and other financial interests under the Gaming Act, and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court has (i) broadly interpreted the term “financial interest” in another (since repealed) section of the Gaming Act to include “options to purchase exercisable after a license has been issued”; and (ii) approved a broad interpretation of “ownership” – in a case involving another of Lubert’s gaming projects – to include equitable conversion interests. *See* Pet. ¶¶ 83-85 (citing *SugarHouse HSP Gaming, LP v. Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board*, 162 A.3d 353, 377-78 (2017) (“*Sugarhouse II*”) and *Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment, Inc. v. Pennsylvania Gaming Control Bd.*, 15 A.3d 884, 889-91 (Pa. 2011)). In a change from Lubert’s prior position in *Greenwood*, SC Gaming/Lubert, as well as

the Board, have effectively acknowledged that their narrow definition of ownership does not include such types of interests. *See* Pet. ¶¶ 78-80.

Stadium has presented ample evidence showing that there are persons who invested in the casino project, who naturally expect a return on their investments. *See id.* ¶¶ 50-53. Despite this threshold showing, Stadium still does not know *exactly how* SC Gaming/Lubert structured their various entities and this casino project, and *that is precisely why Stadium needs to obtain discovery* showing the specific manner in which Lubert arranged the entities and economics of the gaming operation he is developing in order to assess whether Lubert has shoehorned other persons or entities into the investment group he created who were not themselves eligible to bid or apply. Stadium is thus entitled to know, just by way of example (and this is in no way an exhaustive list of the possible ways Lubert could have assembled the various interests), whether any person or entity received (i) a convertible interest that would convert debt into future gaming proceeds once the license were issued; (ii) a right to gaming (or other types of) profits that are akin to ownership; or (iii) a right or ability to control or influence the management or policies of the licensee.

If the discovery shows that Lubert did in fact parcel out interests for certain aspects of the project to help fund the licensing, then SC Gaming is substantively and functionally different than Lubert, and the Board may not consider SC Gaming's application under 4 Pa.C.S. § 1305.2(c)(10), because the winning bidder did not apply for the license. Indeed, unlike the initial Category 4 license legislation in 2017, which allowed the Board to accept bids and applications from not only existing slot machine licensees, but also any other entities that satisfy the requirements for licensure ("qualified entities"), the May 2020 legislation governing the Category 4 license at issue here limited bidders and applicants to *only existing slot machine*

*licensees and persons with an ownership interest in a licensee. See Pet. ¶¶ 65-70, 86-88. So, while the types of interests illustrated above may be common in other casino licensing categories, they are not permitted for this particular Category 4 license as circumscribed by the General Assembly.*

SC Gaming/Lubert, however, frame Stadium’s question as whether the Board has the power to consider SC Gaming’s application “given that Mr. Lubert chose to utilize a corporate entity – **SC Gaming**, of which Mr. Lubert is the **ultimate one hundred percent owner** – to apply for the Category 4 license.” SC Gaming Answer at 1-2 (emphasis added). In another instance, SC Gaming/Lubert describe the issue as whether “**SC Gaming is ultimately wholly owned** by Mr. Lubert.” *Id.* at 3 (emphasis added). What is more, SC Gaming/Lubert’s position on indirect interests seems to be carefully and narrowly limited, both legally and factually – appearing to disclaim indirect interests in various entities, but not in all aspects of the deal. *See, e.g., id.* ¶ 56 (denying that “any person holds any preferred stock, convertible notes, and/or options or warrants that entitles the holder to exercise (or convert) the interest into any direct or indirect ownership interest in SC Gaming ‘if/when the Board issues a license to SC Gaming’”).

In sum, Stadium has presented evidence that persons not eligible to bid have invested in the casino project. The ultimate legal question – whether Lubert’s investment group renders the applicant substantively different from Lubert himself – is a question that can only be answered on a complete record. Adversary proceedings like this are not guessing games, and it is not Stadium’s responsibility to blindly figure out what Lubert did here. The Board should not allow SC Gaming/Lubert to narrow and warp the issue Stadium seeks to raise beyond recognition, thereby ignoring the real question posed under the broad, practical definition of “ownership or control” espoused by the Gaming Act and Supreme Court precedent.

b) *SC Gaming and Lubert May Not Ask Stadium to Simply Rely on its Adversaries to Answer the Question*

Second, even putting aside SC Gaming/Lubert's impermissible narrowing of the actual legal question at hand, their request that Stadium simply rely on Lubert's own attestations that he is the only one with ownership or control interests – as he narrowly interprets those terms – in SC Gaming, without allowing *Stadium* to view the underlying materials to make that assessment for itself, is fundamentally flawed. In any typical adversarial proceeding, what Stadium has pled here plainly would have been enough of a showing to be allowed to intervene, obtain full party status, seek out the rest of the facts, and present a fully-developed position to the decisionmaker. *See, e.g., Appeal of Municipality of Penn Hills*, 546 A.2d 50, 52 (Pa. 1988) (“Intervention is a procedural tool by which a person not **originally** a party can participate in a given action. [] Generally, once intervention is allowed ***the intervenor is afforded all the rights of a party to the action***[.]”) (citations omitted; emphasis added). Here, the Board should not allow Stadium's opponents to narrowly define the question being raised, and then declare the question answered based on their *ipse dixit* – and Stadium, which has already presented enough evidence to pursue its claim, should not be constrained to argue a legal question without the full discovery to which it is entitled.

Moreover, even if it were appropriate to ask Stadium to simply rely on SC Gaming/Lubert's say-so, SC Gaming/Lubert's (and the Board's) representations about ownership and control interests in the project in no way provide a clear answer to even a narrowed version of Stadium's question. Rather, those representations have been vague, carefully and narrowly circumscribed, and inconsistent with other statements by SC Gaming/Lubert or the Board or known facts (*e.g.*, Messrs. Poole and Sokolov's statements to David Cordish that they contributed to Lubert's bid payment, *see* Pet., Ex. E).

For example, here is a chart comparing SC Gaming/Lubert’s statements in their pleadings in these Proceedings with statements SC Gaming/Lubert and the Board have made in their filings in the Commonwealth Court:

SC Gaming/Lubert’s Statements in its Answer and New Matter in the Licensing Proceedings	SC Gaming/Lubert’s and the Board’s Statements in the Commonwealth Court Action
<p>SC Gaming/Lubert deny that persons other than Lubert have “invested in and have control interests in <i>SC Gaming</i>.” SC Gaming Answer ¶ 9 (emphasis added) (without defining “invested in” or “control interests”).</p>	<p>The Board claimed that the Gaming Act “clearly includes other not uncommon scenarios where third parties could contribute to a project in exchange for a note later convertible to an equity interest, in exchange for a security interest in the project, or with an option or warrant on an equity interest which can be exercised at some future date.” Pet. ¶ 80 (citing Bd. Br. at 16)</p>
<p>SC Gaming/Lubert further deny that <i>SC Gaming</i> is “substantively different from Mr. Lubert <i>in any way that is legally relevant</i> to the Category 4 licensing hearing.” SC Gaming Answer ¶ 19 (emphasis added) (without defining what “legally relevant” means).</p>	<p>SC Gaming/Lubert stated that “for present purposes,” SC Gaming and Lubert are identical because Lubert “holds a <i>100% net ownership interest</i> in [<i>SC Gaming</i>].” Pet. ¶ 79 (emphasis added) (citing SC Gaming Br. at 27).</p>
<p>SC Gaming/Lubert deny “that any person holds any preferred stock, convertible notes, and/or options or warrants that entitles the holder to exercise (or convert) the interest into any direct or indirect ownership interest in <i>SC Gaming</i> ‘if/when the Board issues a license to <i>SC Gaming</i>[.]’” SC Gaming Answer ¶ 56 (emphasis added) (without defining “direct or indirect ownership interest”).</p>	<p>The Board stated that “SC Gaming, so long as <i>100% of all equity interests</i> are held by Lubert, can apply.” Bd. Rep. Br. at 4 (emphasis added).</p>
<p>SC Gaming/Lubert claim that public versions of its Category 4 application show that Lubert did not “[sell] ownership or control interests’ in <i>SC Gaming</i> to others.” SC Gaming Answer at 3 (emphasis added) (without defining</p>	<p>The Board further stated that “[net ownership interest] is meant to convey that the applicant or licensee may have issued outstanding warrants, options, security interests, debt-to-equity conversions and the</p>

SC Gaming/Lubert’s Statements in its Answer and New Matter in the Licensing Proceedings	SC Gaming/Lubert’s and the Board’s Statements in the Commonwealth Court Action
“ownership or control interests” and ignoring that the ownership-related information made public by the Board is limited to “net ownership interests” in SC Gaming, which the Board defines as <i>only</i> “common stock,” and not “other stock or debt offerings,” <i>see</i> Pet. ¶ 75, at Ex. 1 & Ex. 3 at App. 44).	like which have not been exercised and are not, therefore, reflected in the ownership breakdown.” Bd. Rep. Br. at 8.

As evidenced by these statements – particularly those made in the Commonwealth Court Action – SC Gaming/Lubert and the Board all but admit that there are persons and entities that have been issued ownership or control interests other than common stock, including interests that have not been exercised, and yet those interests are being excluded from their narrow definition of “ownership” because, according to SC Gaming/Lubert, they are “not legally relevant to the Category 4 licensing proceeding.” SC Gaming Answer ¶ 19. To the contrary, all of this is certainly relevant to the fundamental question in this agency proceeding – whether the Board even has the statutory authority to consider SC Gaming’s application under the May 2020 legislation.

SC Gaming/Lubert further suggest that Stadium should simply trust that the OEC will address all facts relevant to Stadium’s challenge to the Board’s statutory authority, and make a confidential recommendation to the Board on the issue based on those facts.<sup>5</sup> But the OEC has

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<sup>5</sup> *See* SC Gaming Answer ¶ 60 (arguing that through the discovery Stadium seeks in the Proceedings, Stadium “seeks to conduct the very investigation that OEC, BIE, as independent investigatory units, are charged to conduct and report on to the Board”); *id.* New Matter ¶ 149 (claiming that each of the “application and disclosure forms submitted as part of [their] Category 4 application . . . are investigated by OEC, BIE, and FIU, which will produce an investigation report and file recommendations or objections relating to the *issuance* of the Category 4 license”) (emphasis added); *id.* ¶ 156 (stating that “[a]ny interest in the factual investigation of [Stadium and Lubert’s] Category 4 application and the merits of whether [they] have demonstrated

already represented that it will not go against the Board’s view that the Board *does* have authority to consider SC Gaming’s application. *See* OEC Answer ¶ 32 (“It is admitted that OEC does not intend to challenge the Board’s decision to consider SC Gaming’s application at this time.”). And the Board (i) is already considering SC Gaming’s application, indicating its belief that it has the power to do so; and (ii) has taken the position in the Commonwealth Court Action that Stadium’s challenge to the Board’s statutory authority to consider SC Gaming’s application lacks merit and that no discovery is warranted to assess the ownership and control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliates. Pet. ¶¶ 32-34. Moreover, as described elsewhere in this brief (*see supra*, § II(A)), the OEC, BIE, and FIU are charged with (*inter alia*) investigating slot machine license applicants’ suitability for licensure, but are not responsible for determining the Board’s statutory authority to consider an application for a Category 4 slot machine license.

In sum, Stadium is entitled to obtain the discovery it seeks and present its legal challenge to the Board, regardless of SC Gaming/Lubert’s current attestations or the OEC’s confidential, seemingly predetermined investigation as to the threshold issue presented here. The Board should not follow the existing parties’ suggestion that Stadium intervene but remain confined to the sidelines.

*c) SC Gaming/Lubert’s Account of Stadium’s Past, Unrelated Board Filings Is Irrelevant and Underscores the Need to Fully Assess the Various Ownership and Control Interests that SC Gaming/Lubert Created*

SC Gaming/Lubert also deflect in their New Matter by devoting numerous paragraphs to prior, unrelated filings by Stadium and its affiliated entities to the Board – specifically, to Stadium’s prior licensing applications and the petitions to (i) re-designate Stadium Casino RE, LLC as the holder of a Category 2 license, and (ii) re-designate Stadium Westmoreland as the

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eligibility and suitability for licensure are fully and adequately represented in the licensing hearing by OEC, BIE and FIU”).

applicant for a Category 4 license. SC Gaming Answer ¶¶ 118-142. In doing so, SC Gaming/Lubert seek to imply that Stadium has previously engaged in the same corporate structuring that it alleges SC Gaming and Lubert did here. This argument is not true, and more importantly it misses the point.

SC Gaming's application is not defective because of corporate structuring among the various SC Gaming entities Lubert formed; rather, Stadium asserts that the application is defective because there are persons or entities other than Lubert with ownership or control interests in the investment group Lubert created that render SC Gaming substantively different than Lubert. That SC Gaming/Lubert focus on Stadium's ownership interests in their pleading underscores the need to develop a robust record regarding the various interests in SC Gaming and its affiliates before the Board (or the Commonwealth Court) decides whether the Board has the statutory authority to proceed in considering SC Gaming's application. SC Gaming and Lubert cannot, on the one hand, delve into the ownership structure of other licensing applicants like Stadium and its affiliates, and on the other hand, proclaim they are substantively identical based on an incomplete record.

Moreover, SC Gaming and Lubert's focus on Stadium's prior corporate structuring serves as a tacit admission of the relevance of factual circumstances of ownership, and further shows that Stadium is entitled to the discovery it seeks in the Proceedings. In other words, they have opened the door to such a factual inquiry into the substance of what SC Gaming/Lubert created by putting at issue Stadium's structuring and its ownership and control interests. However wrong and ultimately irrelevant their facts may be, they have agreed that such factual inquiries are part of this hearing. SC Gaming/Lubert cannot simultaneously raise issues about other licensees'

ownership and control interests, while also seeking to block discovery into SC Gaming's own ownership and control interests.

2. Stadium Satisfies the Requirements for Obtaining Discovery in the Proceedings

Contrary to the existing parties' claims (*see* OEC New Matter ¶ 144, SC Gaming Answer ¶¶ 114-16), Stadium satisfies the requirements for obtaining the discovery it seeks in the Proceedings under the Board's regulations.

Under 58 Pa. Code § 493a.11(b), the Board "may grant a request for discovery if the request will serve to facilitate an efficient and expeditious hearing process, will not unduly prejudice and burden the responding party and as may be required in the interests of justice." Allowing for the requested discovery now will make the licensing process more efficient, given that the Board should (and must) address the issue Stadium raises on a fully-developed record. In fact, in a prior licensing proceeding, the Supreme Court rejected the Board's narrow interpretation of the term "financial interest" in Section 1330 of the Gaming Act and remanded the matter to the Board to more "conclusively determine" whether a party has a "financial interest" as the Court broadly defined the term, including by "re-open[ing] the evidentiary record and develop[ing] evidence to answer those questions." *SugarHouse II*, 162 A.3d at 377& n.32.

Moreover, the discovery requested would not "unduly prejudice and burden" SC Gaming. SC Gaming and Lubert have the requested information, they have simply refused to show it to Stadium. Additionally, as detailed further below (*see infra* § II(C)), if the requested discovery contains information that the OEC claims should be "withheld from public disclosure" under 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f), Stadium will enter into a confidentiality agreement that prohibits it from publicly disclosing such information. However, as stated below, information about the various ownership interests in an applicant for a slot machine license is not confidential.

### 3. Denying Stadium the Discovery It Seeks Will Only Cause Further Delay

Contrary to SC Gaming/Lubert's view (*see* SC Gaming Answer at 3), allowing Stadium the discovery it seeks will result in a more efficient licensing proceeding. On the other hand, limiting Stadium's ability to effectively intervene – *i.e.*, denying it the discovery that would put it in a position to fully address the question it raises – would cause more delay. As the Board is already aware, a reviewing court will not countenance a decision on an incomplete record, particularly on such a critical issue of whether the statute even gives the Board the power to do what it is already doing. *See Sugarhouse II*, 162 A.3d at 380 (reversing “the Board’s determination of what constitutes a financial interest” and remanding to the Board to “reopen[] the evidentiary record and hold a public hearing” to reach a decision consistent with the Court’s opinion). Accordingly, rather than dealing with appeals and potential remands to the Board for additional fact-finding, the Board should permit Stadium the discovery it seeks now.<sup>6</sup>

#### **C. Stadium May Not Be Denied the Requested Discovery on the Basis of Confidentiality**

The OEC cites purported confidentiality issues to support its position that Stadium may not obtain the discovery it seeks. Specifically, the OEC argues that confidential information “furnished to or obtained by the Board or the [BIE] from any source will not be discoverable” under the Gaming Act and governing regulations, and that there is “no remedy” to maintain confidentiality over the discovery Stadium seeks. OEC Answer and New Matter ¶¶ 24, 50, 116,

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<sup>6</sup> SC Gaming/Lubert's assertion that Stadium has challenged the Board's authority “to create delay and expense” for the existing parties and the Board, SC Gaming Answer at 3, is ironic, given that SC Gaming/Lubert (1) filed preliminary objections in the Commonwealth Court Action, delaying an expeditious resolution, and (2) have refused to simply produce the information Stadium has been seeking for more than a year. If SC Gaming/Lubert would produce that information, the parties could proceed to the merits of Stadium's challenge.

132-36. For their part, SC Gaming/Lubert “reserve . . . their statutory right to confidentiality.” SC Gaming Answer at 4 n.1 (citing 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f)(1); 58 Pa. Code § 407a.3).

It defies reason to suggest that confidentiality concerns could prevent the airing of a legal issue as fundamental as the limits of an agency’s statutory power. Even apart from the absurdity of such a position, the information Stadium seeks about the various ownership and control interests in an applicant for a slot machine license is not confidential. Indeed, the Board publishes that information on its website. Yet in both these Proceedings and in the Commonwealth Court Action, SC Gaming, Lubert, and the Board are taking an unduly narrow view of ownership that is inconsistent with the plain text and history of the Gaming Act. If the Board and the OEC approached ownership in a manner consistent with Pennsylvania law, this information would not be confidential. *See* 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f)(1) (listing categories of information to be considered confidential under the Gaming Act, including “information relating to character, honesty and integrity”; “[n]onpublic personal information” such as Social Security numbers; proprietary or trade secret information; and security information, none of which would cover ownership or control interests in an applicant).

Even if the requested information could be considered confidential, the OEC’s reliance on Section 1206(f) of the Gaming Act to argue that even *Stadium alone* may not obtain the information is misplaced. Section 1206(f) states that confidential information “shall be withheld from public disclosure.” 4 Pa.C.S. § 1206(f). Stadium, however, is not part of the “public” here; rather, it is a party in a Commonwealth Court lawsuit and a putative intervenor in a licensing proceeding, and it is willing to enter into a confidentiality agreement that limits its ability to use or disseminate the information. Such an arrangement is commonplace in litigation – but according to the OEC, if it concludes that certain information is confidential, that information

cannot be disclosed under *any circumstances* to a party challenging compliance with the Gaming Act. *See, e.g.*, OEC Answer ¶¶ 116, 132. If OEC’s position were correct, it would entirely eliminate the role of the judiciary in interpreting gaming law, violate the due process rights of an adverse litigant, and invite a future court remand back to the Board to reopen the evidentiary record as occurred in *Sugarhouse II*. 162 A.3d at 380.

The OEC also cites to Section 1517(a.1)(2) of the Gaming Act in support of its claim that confidentiality requirements prohibit Stadium from obtaining the discovery it seeks. 4 Pa.C.S. § 1517(a.1)(2). This provision, however, prohibits BIE only from “disclosing any portion of a *background investigation report* to any member [of the board] *prior to the submission of the [BIE’s] final background investigation report* relating to the applicant’s suitability for licensure to the board.” *Id.* (emphasis added). That provision is not applicable, because Stadium does not seek the “reports and any associated recommendations [] presently pending within BIE and OEC” as the OEC claims (*see* OEC Answer ¶ 136). Rather, Stadium seeks only the information listed in paragraph 114 of its Petition – none of which, as noted above, should be considered confidential.

**D. In the Alternative, the Board May Stay the Proceedings Until the Commonwealth Court Action Has Been Fully Resolved**

As an alternative to allowing the discovery Stadium seeks in order to meaningfully participate in the Proceedings, the Board may stay the Proceedings until the Commonwealth Court Action (through any hearings, trial, and/or appeals to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court) has been fully resolved. Indeed, throughout its Answer and New Matter, the OEC affords deference to the Commonwealth Court Action, appearing to suggest that the Board should await a ruling on the very legal question at hand about the Board’s statutory authority. *See, e.g.*, OEC Answer ¶¶ 14, 55-57, 71-74, 78-81, 89-94, 110 (“OEC is of the opinion that the merits of the

Commonwealth Court Action will be appropriately decided by the Commonwealth Court . . . .”). If the Board prefers to wait for the Commonwealth Court (and potentially the Supreme Court) to rule on this threshold legal issue, it certainly has the discretion to do so. Stadium, for its part, commenced the Commonwealth Court Action because an issue of an agency’s fundamental statutory power and authority should be addressed expeditiously and at the outset. In the end, however, the Board must be prepared to address the threshold issue presented in the Petition on a full evidentiary record.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

Stadium seeks to intervene in these licensing proceedings under 58 Pa. Code § 441a.7(z) to ensure that its claims are considered on their merits, after SC Gaming and Lubert disclose the ownership and control interests in SC Gaming and its affiliated entities. While Stadium has shown that others have invested in SC Gaming and the casino project in expectation of a return on their investment, Stadium needs the discovery it seeks to *fully* evaluate *how* Lubert has structured the substance of the deal, in order to thoroughly assess and present to the Board the very legal question Stadium seeks intervention to raise – *i.e.*, whether the Board’s ongoing consideration of SC Gaming’s application is an impermissible end-run around the Board’s statutory authority for this particular Category 4 license.

Stadium therefore respectfully requests that the Board (1) deny the existing parties’ requests to limit Stadium’s intervention status and deny Stadium the discovery it seeks; (2) grant Stadium the right to intervene in the licensing and subsequent proceedings of SC Gaming as a full party to the proceedings; (3) grant Stadium the right to engage in discovery, including without limitation the discovery requested from SC Gaming in paragraph 114 of its Petition to Intervene; and (4) grant Stadium the right to present oral testimony (factual testimony and/or

expert opinion) and evidence during the licensing proceeding, including testimony from Lubert and persons/entities that are part of Lubert's winning bid and casino project.

Respectfully submitted,

HANGLEY ARONCHICK SEGAL  
PUDLIN & SCHILLER

Date: September 23, 2022

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Mark A. Aronchick, hereby certify that on this 23rd day of September, 2022, true and correct copies of the foregoing Stadium Casino RE, LLC's Brief in Support of Petition to Intervene in Category 4 Licensing Hearing Regarding Application of SC Gaming Op Co, LLC, was served upon the following by e-mail and by USPS mail:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark A. Aronchick

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Marie Hamilton <gmfhamilton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 9:14 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; Michael Pipe; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jvp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** Casino

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gmfhamilton@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Leaders: You are not representing the majority. I would hope that a letter to the Gaming Board telling them we changed our minds and do not want the Casino would at least tell us that you were following our request. We can better handle any fine from the Board rather than the devastation that the Casino will avalanche upon us. Listen to yourselves: You will be sure to have police at the Casino and watch out for the "bad." Why would you bring anything to our area that automatically calls for police presence???? We will be questioning your representation of us, your decision making, and your looking out for the welfare of your constituents when violent, regretful and negative incidents happen. Show us you can stand up for right over money power. Marie Hamilton

Founder, CentrePeace 814 238-8735

"Grace Goes to Prison"

TedX Talk: "Breaking Out of Prison Thinking"

Toward a More Restorative Justice System

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Carla Stilson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022 8:46 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Snyder  
**Subject:** Fwd: thank you, update inquiry (amended, superseding my 6:06 am email)  
**Attachments:** 8Gambling Barron\_anti-casino.pdf

Jen, Please make these emails part of public correspondence. Thanks so much for all your hard work on this.  
 Carla

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Strauss, Susan G" <[sgs9@psu.edu](mailto:sgs9@psu.edu)>  
**Subject: Re: thank you, update inquiry (amended, superseding my 6:06 am email)**  
**Date:** September 26, 2022 at 9:53:51 AM EDT  
**To:** Carla Stilson <[cstilson@collegetownship.org](mailto:cstilson@collegetownship.org)>

Hi Carla,

I am including two more powerful evidence-based documents:

The first is the following link to Volume 1 of a publication by NCRG that focuses specifically on Youth and College Gambling.

<https://www.ncrg.org/sites/default/files/uploads/docs/monographs/ncrgmonographyouthforwebfinal.pdf?msckid=087df99cd14711ecbe2b555df85a733d>

## VOLUME 1 Youth and College Gambling - International Center for Responsible Gaming

studies range from 4 percent to 23 percent, while this study observed the rate of weekly gambling at only 2.6 percent. A related paper by Shaffer and his colleagues ("The

[www.ncrg.org](http://www.ncrg.org)

The second is a copy of a correspondence from Michelle Campos to President Eric Barron -- Please see item 5 in her letter in particular as it cites six additional academic research articles that point out the risks of gambling on youth and college students. (This attachment is numbered 8 in the pdf series of documents that I have sent you).

**As you and the Council can see, the evidence is abundant.**

Thank you so much for listening to our concerns and considering these research-based findings as the Council continues its deliberations in regard to this very serious community-based issue.

Take good care,  
Susan

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**From:** Strauss, Susan G <[sgs9@psu.edu](mailto:sgs9@psu.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2022 8:20 AM  
**To:** Carla Stilson <[cstilson@collegetownship.org](mailto:cstilson@collegetownship.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: thank you, update inquiry (amended, superseding my 6:06 am email)

Dear Carla,  
Thank you so much. We (the community) will absolutely be there on 10/6 (in person and virtually) to hear more.

Yes, it is fine for you to include these emails as part of the public correspondence record.

As for research and evidence, I will attach 9 documents:

The first is a pdf of search results [i.e., **21 academic research articles**] **specifically targeting risks associated with college students and gambling** (as well as other addictive behaviors, including alcohol), **limiting the search to publication dates between 2018-present**. (File name: \*\*2018-Present RESEARCH).

There is a **multitude of research** on risks related to college students and gambling **predating 2018**, much of which underscores the "**growing problem of gambling behaviors among college students**." And given the content of 21 articles in the more recent bibliography attached here, we can see that **said problems have become worse, not better**.

The second is a pdf that essentially summarizes the research mentioned above -- which was sent to the PGCB and CTC on May 11, 2022. (File name: \*CASINO May 11 2022 to PGCB and College Township).

The **statistics and evidence are clear**, and all should be taken very seriously **in preventing these types of problematic behaviors** (rather than *treating them after they have occurred, suggesting interventions, and so forth*).

The remaining 7 attachments are pdfs of other research articles (2 of these appear in the 2018-2022 bibliography mentioned above) with statistics and analyses of behaviors and risks associated with gambling and college students. These files are all numbered 1 - 7, for your convenience. The pdfs have also been highlighted in a few places to underscore some of the key findings.

As you will see, there is essentially **nothing** indicated in these studies **that points to a positive effect of gambling on college students**. All investigate risks; some propose interventions to help college students and their families cope with already occurring behaviors and detrimental effects of gambling.

Thank you, Carla, for responding so quickly, and during the weekend at that!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

With warm regards,  
Susan

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**From:** Carla Stilson <[cstilson@collegetownship.org](mailto:cstilson@collegetownship.org)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 25, 2022 11:52 AM  
**To:** Strauss, Susan G <[sgs9@psu.edu](mailto:sgs9@psu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: thank you, update inquiry (amended, superseding my 6:06 am email)

Dear Susan,

Thank you for your deep concern and passion for our community. I appreciate you reaching out. We did meet with the solicitor and plan to discuss his opinion and any actions council intends to take at the next Council meeting on October 6th. It is my understanding that the attorney-client privilege will be waved and the solicitor's opinion will become public at that meeting. It will include an additional response to some of our follow-up questions.

Two additional questions:

- 1) Would you like me to make your below email part of public correspondence?
- 2) Would you please send me the evidence you found for increased risk of gambling addiction among adults under 25 years old?

Thank you,

Carla

On Sep 25, 2022, at 6:30 AM, Strauss, Susan G <[sgs9@psu.edu](mailto:sgs9@psu.edu)> wrote:

You don't often get email from [sgs9@psu.edu](mailto:sgs9@psu.edu). [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Carla,

Thank you for chairing the 9/15 meeting so expertly and for listening so attentively to public commentary.

I am writing to inquire about the outcome of the CTC meeting with the Solicitor and when that information will be made public, with a particular focus on whether the CTC will voice the community's many and deep concerns about the casino and suggest to the PGCB that approving a license in the proposed location is not in the best interest of the surrounding areas, including and especially CT proper.

**As we have read in the CDT, the Board of Trustees has placed the full onus of this decision on the Township,** refusing to take any public position whatsoever.

**The community** (as represented by the hundreds of letters/emails/online input submissions; the 3,300 online and hard copy distinct petition signatures; and the 1,498 "no" votes [vs. 385 "yes" votes] on the State [College.com](http://College.com) site) **is looking to the Township to do the right thing and express to the PGCB that it stands behind its constituents and the State College community more broadly.**

Once CT residents became aware of the casino plans, word began to spread fiercely and vigorously...People (including myself) had not spoken up because we were not aware of the full scope of this issue.

The more we have learned over the past months in terms of how this all came about, who precisely is involved, what the research states unequivocally [actual, replicable, objective research -- not "visiting comparable townships who do host a casino"], the more we see the inevitable detriment to our community that will come about if that casino is built in the proposed space.

A vote by the constituents (as raised in the 9/15 meeting) would surely reveal the same skew, with the overwhelming majority of CT residents voicing a resounding "no." There could have been such a vote taken.

**We are trusting that the CTC will recommend to the PGCB that it not approve the license given the outpouring of community concern.**

We do realize that much of this rests on the advice by the Solicitor and we are awaiting news of the outcome of that meeting.

Thank you for listening so compassionately to our concerns throughout these months.

Sincerely,  
Susan Strauss

Dear President Barron,

I am writing in response to a recent open letter published on StateCollege.com urging you to speak out against the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. I would like to add my voice as a new faculty member, educator, parent, and community member.

We moved to State College in summer 2020, lured by the university's commitment to research and education and because we saw Happy Valley as a quality community in which to raise our two school-age children. Last summer, my elderly mother joined us in order to have more support in this stage of her life, and she was likewise charmed by the pastoral setting, public safety, and community stability that we enjoy here.

In December, I was shocked to learn that the College Township board had approved an investor's proposal to take over part of the Nittany Mall to build a casino. As I noted at the time in my email to the PA Gaming Commission opposing this move, the mall houses a county-sponsored senior activity center (which my mother attends regularly to play games and socialize), and it also serves as an informal exercise track for families and individuals during the cold winter months. Placing a casino there would ruin the community functions of the mall and directly endanger those populations that regularly use it.

More broadly, a casino anywhere in State College and the surrounding hamlets would pose a significant and irreversible threat to our community's public health and social welfare. As I read the minutes of the College Township meetings where this proposal was discussed and approved, I was puzzled to see that there was no *substantive* engagement with the very real social costs that this casino would impose on the city and its residents. Instead, the questions posed were entirely banal, including what kind of landscaping would be provided, the size of the parking lot, and how large the entry overhang would be.

Why did the township officials not raise pertinent, evidence-based questions about the impact of the casino on our community? Surely a town that houses the flagship state university could harness the power of scholarly research to better understand the risks and challenges of bringing a casino into the community. Since the township did not do so, I urge you as the university president, with a tremendous responsibility not only to the students, staff, and faculty of Penn State and their families, but also to the surrounding community, to respond to the evidence and oppose this casino.

Although this is far from my field of expertise (I am a historian of the Middle East), I spent a couple of hours on my Saturday morning reviewing the scholarly literature on casinos and their economic and social costs to the communities in which they are built. The literature is very uneven in time, scope, and method, but the overall assessment is clear and demands that we oppose this proposed casino for the short-, medium-, and long-term health of our community, our students, and our collective future.

The five main points are bolded, with relevant quotes and citations following.

### **1 – The Economic Benefits are Minimal to Nonexistent**

**While casinos are lucrative investments for the owners [due to the laws of probability, i.e., the house always wins], the wider economic benefits that are promised have not materialized in communities across the country. (There are possibly greater economic benefits in regions that allow multiple casinos to enter or in casino resorts due to scale and market size, but *not* in single-casino locations.)**

“During the campaigning stage of the legalization of gaming, tourism development and economic growth were used as the “hook” for residents’ affirmative votes. As indicated by Hsu (1998), the economic impact of a riverboat casino in southeastern Iowa was limited. Economic indexes showed that the economic conditions of those communities seemed to be a reflection of the overall state economy, not the presence of the riverboat casino.”

- Hsu, Cathy HC. "Residents’ support for legalized gaming and perceived impacts of riverboat casinos: Changes in five years." *Journal of Travel Research* 38.4 (2000): 390-395.

### **2 – The Socioeconomic Costs Far Outweigh Any Benefits**

**There is a clear assessment that the social welfare, public health, and community-born costs of operating a casino are far higher than the minimal economic benefit they bring. Notably, these costs are *not* born by the casino investors nor by the casino customers, but by all of us.**

“Based on available numbers, costs [of allowing casinos] exceed benefits by a factor of more than 3:1.” This includes the social costs of crime, business and employment costs, suicide, illness, social service costs, direct regulatory costs, family costs, and abused dollars.

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

“The weight of the empirical evidence suggests that casinos do in fact impose negative social costs on surrounding communities, most notably, an increased prevalence of property and violent crime.”

- Kearney, Melissa Schettini. "The economic winners and losers of legalized gambling." *National Tax Journal* 58.2 (2005): 281-302.

“Upon careful review, the overwhelming body of research, indicates legalized gambling to impose more costs than any perceived benefit. In fact, tabulation of all external costs borne by society, proves the cost exceed the benefits of gambling by a ratio of two-to-one.”

- Barretta, Todd C. *The direct, induced, and external costs and benefits of legalized casino gambling*. Quinnipiac University, 2004.

### **3 – Specific Social Problems [Crime, Bankruptcy, Suicide, Compulsive/Pathological Gambling] Increase with Casinos**

**There is empirical correlation of statistically significant higher levels of a number of specific social problems in casino locales – most notably, crime, bankruptcy, suicide, and mental health gambling issues that contribute to additional ills such as domestic abuse. These are not community “fears” or “anecdotal evidence,” but widespread and documented problems.**

“The results suggest that the effect on crime is low shortly after a casino opens, and grows over time. Roughly 8% of crime in casino counties in 1996 was attributable to casinos, costing the average adult \$75 per year.”

- Earl L. Grinols, David B. Mustard; Casinos, Crime, and Community Costs. *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 2006; 88 (1): 28–45.

Crime includes FBI index 1 violent and nonviolent crimes [aggravated assault, murder, rape, robbery; larceny, burglary, auto theft], as well as non-Index I crimes [forgery, fraud,].

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Casino counties have 18-35% higher rates of bankruptcy than non-casino counties. Suicide rates of compulsive gamblers are 5-10x higher than the population at large.

- Grinols, Earl L. *Gambling in America: Costs and benefits*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

“This study enumerates a prevalence rate of at-risk, problem, and pathological gamblers combined to be between 7.3% and 8.4% of the adult population.”

- Chhabra, Deepak. "Estimating benefits and costs of casino gambling in Iowa, United States." *Journal of Travel Research* 46.2 (2007): 173-182.

“These unintended negative consequences can include gambling disorders, a term used to encompass a spectrum of problems experienced along the continuum that incorporates the constructs of problem and pathological gambling; family dysfunction and domestic violence including spousal and child abuse; youth and underage gambling; alcohol and other drug problems; psychiatric conditions including major depression, bipolar disorder, antisocial personality, anxiety, and attention deficit disorder; suicide, suicidal ideation, and suicide attempts; significant financial troubles including bankruptcy, loss of employment, and poverty as a direct result of wagering; and criminal behavior ranging from prostitution and theft to drug trafficking and homicide.”

- Shaffer, Howard J., and David A. Korn. "Gambling and related mental disorders: A public health analysis." *Annual review of public health* 23.1 (2002): 171-212.

#### **4 – Seniors and Low-Income Households are at risk**

**The consensus of the scholarship is that gambling disproportionately attracts lower-income populations including seniors on fixed incomes. Likewise, gambling problems disproportionately affect these classes.**

“The most dramatic increase in lifetime gambling occurred in the 65+ age group, from 35% of older adults to 80% . lower-income households spend proportionately more of their money on gambling than higher-income households. Given that some gambling revenue goes to the government (e.g., lotteries), these data encourage the view that gambling expenditures represent a regressive tax. Poverty often is associated with increased financial risk-taking, perhaps because of the psychoeconomics of gambling.”

- Shaffer, Howard J., and David A. Korn. "Gambling and related mental disorders: A public health analysis." *Annual review of public health* 23.1 (2002): 171-212.

#### **5 – Teens and College Students are Particularly Vulnerable**

**It is no wonder that the investors would like to place their casino near Penn State University, as studies of gambling on other college campuses have found that the vast majority of students have gambled, with significant numbers of them gambling on a regular basis.**

**Moreover, there are a number of recent studies on teens and college students and the “epidemic” of gambling that outline the clear danger to individual students and to the student body as a whole. Habitual gambling among teens leads to a number of social problems, including alcohol and drug abuse, negative learning outcomes, eating disorders, and more.**

“Students from six colleges and universities in five states in the U.S. (New York, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, and Nevada) were surveyed concerning their gambling behavior and the rate of pathological gambling. Type of gambling varied by state, with students in the northeast and Nevada gambling more than students in Oklahoma and Texas. Over 90% of males and 82% of females had gambled. One third of the males and 15% of females gambled once a week or more.”

- Lesieur, Henry R., et al. "Gambling and pathological gambling among university students." *Addictive behaviors* 16.6 (1991): 517-527.

“College students from 2 Minnesota universities were surveyed about their gambling involvement. Gambling was reported to be a common experience, with 87% having participated at least once in the previous year.”

- Winters, K. C., Bengston, P., Door, D., & Stinchfield, R. (1998). Prevalence and risk factors of problem gambling among college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 12(2), 127–135.

“Long term trends, based on findings from twenty independent prevalence studies surveying middle and high school youth in North America, suggest that within the past year two out of three legally underage youth have gambled for money. In the United States and Canada as many as 15.3 million 12–17 year olds have been gambling with or without adult awareness or approval, and 2.2 million of these are experiencing serious gambling-related problems... Trends between 1984–1999 indicate a substantial increase in the proportion of juveniles who report gambling within the past year, and a parallel increase in the proportion of juveniles reporting serious gambling-related problems.”

- Jacobs, Durand F. "Juvenile gambling in North America: An analysis of long term trends and future prospects." *Journal of Gambling Studies* 16.2 (2000): 119-152.

“The odds of being identified as a probable pathological gambler was high for men, those indicating a positive parental history for gambling problems, regular (weekly plus) users of illicit drugs, and those with poor grades.”

- Winters, K. C., Bengston, P., Door, D., & Stinchfield, R. (1998). Prevalence and risk factors of problem gambling among college students. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 12(2), 127–135.

“Students identified as problem gamblers, compared with other students, were significantly more likely to be heavy drinkers, report negative consequences of alcohol consumption, and be regular tobacco and marijuana users. Problem gambling was related to binge eating and greater use of weight-control efforts. University athletes were also found to have significantly greater problem gambling rates than nonathletes.”

- Engwall, Douglas, Robert Hunter, and Marvin Steinberg. "Gambling and other risk behaviors on university campuses." *Journal of American College Health* 52.6 (2004): 245-256.
- Derevensky, Jeffrey L. *Teen gambling: Understanding a growing epidemic*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2012.

For all of these reasons, President Barron, I urge you to speak out against this proposed casino that so clearly goes against the interests of Penn State students, staff, faculty, and families and community members in State College and the surrounding area.

Sincerely,

Michelle Campos

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** David Werner <davidwernersc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 4:04 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino

You don't often get email from davidwernersc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please stop the casino. It is a problem for the least fortunate in our society and brings no benefit to our community. State College vs Atlantic City Where do you want to live?

David Werner, MD

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Andrew Shaffer <andrewshaffer148@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:44 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Cc:** D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov  
**Subject:** Potential Township Immunity from Lawsuits by Casino Developers

Some people who received this message don't often get email from andrewshaffer148@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Members of the College Township Council & Solicitor Glantz,

It is my understanding that government entities in the state of Pennsylvania generally have immunity from lawsuits related to their performance of government functions. It is also my understanding that these immunities are intended to ensure that government officials can represent their constituents and perform their duties without being paralyzed by fear of lawsuits, and that these immunities are also intended to protect the public treasury from being depleted by malicious parties who might otherwise make frivolous lawsuits or claim excessive damages against government entities that are backed by public funding. These immunity protections appear to be based on the doctrine of Sovereign Immunity as they apply to the Federal government, and a constellation of related doctrines appear to provide similar protections for state and local governments.

The Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act (<https://lhrklaw.com/the-political-subdivision-tort-claims-act/>) appears to provide College Township with legal immunity from any claims that might arise as a result of the Township sending a letter to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) requesting denial of the license for the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall. This Act also appears to significantly limit the damages that could potentially be claimed against the Township in the event that a lawsuit against the Township would be permitted. These protections would seem to play a crucial role in the decision to send such a letter.

I strongly encourage the Council to evaluate how these immunities may protect the Township if the Council decides to represent its constituents' overwhelming opposition to the proposed casino. I also respectfully request that the following question and its answer be added to the Township's "Proposed Casino Frequently Asked Questions" document and that the update be published on the College Township Casino Information webpage prior to the upcoming Council meeting on 10/6/2022:

***Does Pennsylvania's Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act or any other applicable law or doctrine provide College Township with immunity from legal or financial exposure that might arise as a result of the Township writing to the PGCB advising that the Council does not regard a casino at the Nittany Mall as being in the best interest of the community and requesting denial of the casino's license?***

Thank you for your ongoing attention to the community's concerns regarding the proposed casino.

Best regards,

Andrew Shaffer  
 State College, PA

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Daniel Materna <sailordan76@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 11:32 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; Adam Brumbaugh; Mike Bloom  
**Cc:** louis.glantz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Casino-related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)  
**Attachments:** HFL Corporation shares College Township address with 2901 ECA Associates, LLC.pdf

Good morning, Mr. Brumbaugh, Mr. Bloom, and members of the College Township Council,

**Please add the following question and its answer** to the Township's *"Proposed Casino Frequently Asked Questions"* living document. Additionally, please ensure the below-listed question and its answer are published on the College Township Casino Information FAQs webpage prior to the upcoming College Township Council meeting on 10/6/2022:

***"The former Macy's store at Nittany Mall is owned by 2901 ECA Associates, LLC that has a mailing address of 1155 Benner Pike in College Township. Is the township aware of the connection between that locally formed LLC and Mr. Ira Lubert's business partner Mr. Ara Kervandjian?"***

The attachment includes supporting details regarding the above-listed question.

Thank for your keeping the casino-related FAQs up to date with factual details.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Materna

Details of the 3/25/2021 purchase of the former Macy's store at Nittany Mall in College Township by HFL Corporation of 1155 Benner Pike, State, College, PA 16801.

As seen below, HFL Corporation shares the same mailing address with 2901 ECA Associates, LLC. College Township records show that locally formed LLC as the current owner of the former Macy's store.

SALE  
 IMAGE: Gil Loloi  
 DATE: 03/25/2021  
 ADDRESS: 2901 East College Ave. (Macy's  
 Box at Nittany Mall)  
 MARKET: State College, PA  
 ASSET TYPE: Retail

BUYER: HFL Corporation  
 SELLER: Namdar Realty Group – Gil Loloi

SALE PRICE: \$3,500,000  
 SF: 95,000 ~ PPSF: \$36

Business Entity Details		Officers	
Name	H F L CORPORATION	Name	ARA M KERVANDJIAN
Entity Number	606121	Title	VICEPRESIDENT
Entity Type	Business Corporation	Address	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322
Status	Active	Name	FREDERICK I SAHAKIAN
Citizenship	Domestic	Title	PRESIDENT
Entity Creation Date	11/20/1974	Address	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322
Effective Date	11/20/1974	Name	LARA C SAGAJUAN
State Of Inc	PA	Title	SECRETARY
Address	1155 Benner Pike Suite 100 State College PA 16801 Centre	Address	1155 BENNER PIKE STATE COLLEGE PA 16801-7322

Business Entity Details	
Name	2901 ECA Associates LLC
Entity Number	7010415
Entity Type	Limited Liability Company
Status	Active
Citizenship	Domestic
Entity Creation Date	02/06/2020
Effective Date	02/06/2020
State Of Inc	PA
Address	1155 Benner Pike Suite 100 State College PA 16801 Centre

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Martha MICUDA <mmmicuda@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 5:09 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Cc:** mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov  
**Subject:** Proposed Nittany Mall Casino

When my family purchased a home in the College Township area of Harris Acres in October, 1970, I could never have imagined that one day I would be writing this email. Fifty-two years ago, one very significant reason that we purchased our house there was the peaceful, bucolic, and relatively non-commercial nature of College Township. You could "breathe" there without traffic congestion, urban sprawl, air pollution, and serious crime. It was a great place to raise our two young children. Even in 1970, the contrast between the North Atherton Street and South Atherton Street areas was obvious and telling.

Naturally, in fifty-two years, a lot has changed. Although State College and surrounding townships are still desirable places to live and raise families, progress has often come at a supreme cost. One has merely to look at State College and its high rises on virtually every street corner. Seemingly greedy developers just can't get enough of our Borough and profits to be had here. I realize that no one can stop progress. However, a serious question remains .... Just what constitutes "progress"?

Seemingly, "progress" is coming to College Township. Never mind that the Nittany Mall has died the death of many malls in America. Without quality retail anchor stores such as Macy's, how would malls survive in the world of Amazon and other online retailers? Sometimes what is old does become new again, but when that does occur, changes are likely and unpredictable in their impact. At least one member of the College Township Council has expressed his rationalization for voting to not opt out of a casino in Nittany Mall by saying that a casino would revitalize the Mall. Another Council member has said that he did considerable research on the Internet before voting not to opt out. Granted that I am a retired librarian who might be expected to be a bit more proficient at research and Internet searching, I have to say that I had no difficulty at all in quickly locating references to indicate that it is highly unlikely that a casino will rescue a dying mall when the mall is not a Class A one. Although a mall casino might help to fill vacant retail space in the short run, how many of these retailers will reflect the casino itself and how many will be merely "transitional" retailers? The Nittany Mall already has transitional retailers, and how has that worked out for the community? Driving by the Nittany Mall these days is quite pathetic. There is Rural King with its eyesore property that is beginning to resemble an abandoned junkyard. There is Dunham's Sports with all that implies. Then there's Gabe's filled to the brim with synthetic, cheaply made Chinese imports. These "anchor stores" will not join with a casino to rescue the Nittany Mall nor revitalize it. It will require much more for this to happen. All over the United States, dying malls are trying to survive. Very often they have had to repurpose themselves into true community centers. In fact, if malls cannot greatly attract community traffic, they are unlikely to make it in the short or long run.

When I visit my daughter in Lone Tree, Colorado, a suburb of Denver, I never miss going to and spending time at its Community Center. This is a fabulous place for everyone there: exercise equipment and trainers, pickleball and basketball courts, exercise classes, educational classes, art classes and exhibits, dance classes, walking tracks, and much, much more. Our community, and surrounding communities, would all benefit from such a repurposing of the Nittany Mall property. Having the Senior Center there is a good start. The College Township Council, Township Manager, and Planning Department need to think more creatively than opting for a mere casino. The glitz and temporary glamour of a casino located in close proximity to a respected, major land-grant university and in a quiet, family- and academic-oriented community is not a good fit and never will be one. If saving or revitalizing Nittany Mall is associated with or dependent on a casino, the societal cost is too great and not worth it. I find it hard to believe that those making the Casino decision in College Township do not realize this reality. Perhaps their motivation may be more about money and revenue.

The College Township Council is elected to serve ALL of its Township residents -- not just special interest groups and individuals. Some of these individuals may be powerful political allies and influential, highly placed developers and community decisionmakers. Special interests may have much to gain from a casino. Money begets money. However, College Township and Centre Region residents have much to lose. The concept of mini-casinos in Pennsylvania's dying malls is too new to fully evaluate their negative impact. However, there is much evidence of personal and societal impacts of existing casinos in America, and they do not present a pretty picture. Research and personal accounts reveal

overwhelming negative risks and sadness. If this were not the case, there would be little need for gambling disclaimers and sources for help with addiction. One cannot turn on the television set or look on the Internet without seeing numerous ads for on-line gambling. When seeing celebrities like Jamie Foxx and Kevin Hart and sports' heroes like Wayne Gretsky plugging such a form of gambling, this actually points to a lack of need for brick-and-mortar casinos. Unfortunately, however, they probably complement and reinforce each other. At some point, there may be no looking back until it is too late. Does College Township really want to contribute to this downward dangerous cycle? There will be victims, whether they be Penn State Students, the elderly on fixed incomes, the young individuals and family members just starting out in life, people hoping to supplement their funds to cope with rising inflation, or someone you know. Gambling revenue constitutes huge profits for casino investors and hidden taxes for state governments and municipalities where they are located. College Township opted for these hidden taxes without considering viewpoints and opposition from its citizens. There has been a lack of transparency and a huge elephant (or donkey) in the College Township meeting rooms from the very beginning of the process. It is hard to understand how our elected and appointed township representatives can look in the C-Net cameras and face their constituents and others affected by their decisions and planning in the community. They must know about the opposition and that what adversely affects College Township residents also affects everyone in the Centre Region. Yet, they've gone their merry way ... organizing a "field trip" to the then-in-planning mini-casino at the Westmoreland Mall, appearing to express their early support at a local meeting at the Penn Stater with the PGCB and Ira Lubert, and planning sidewalks, cross walks, access ramps, and associable parking at the Nittany Mall. During all of this, they have chosen to ignore mounting community opposition to the Nittany Mall Casino.

Fast forward to the present day. The College Township Council has finally consulted with its Solicitor in an executive session about drafting a letter to the PGCB concerning opposition to the mini-casino and the legal ramifications of such a letter. I fear that I already know how this scenario will play out since I have lived in College Township a long, long time and am all too familiar with local politics and political posturing. However, I do want to stress that our local government officials and appointees have a responsibility to represent all of their citizens and their interests. It is difficult to imagine that a well-crafted, thoroughly documented letter to the PGCB reflecting the overwhelming public opposition to the Nittany Mall Casino would result in a lawsuit. Our public officials do not have to agree with public opposition to compose such a letter, although it would have been nice for them to recognize such opposition throughout the long process -- and to represent the community accordingly.

Please draft a trueful letter to the PGCB before it is too late. Do not support "Reverse Robin Hood"--robbing the poor to give to the rich!

Sincere regards,

Martha Micuda

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Charity Barger <simplysign@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2022 7:57 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** No casino please!

You don't often get email from simplysign@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Our town is a wonderful town to live in so let's keep it that way. Bringing in a casino will also entice many other unhealthy, unlawful enterprises including increasing crime, encouraging gambling addictions, hurting families of such persons, and human trafficking.

We love our town. Do not let the lure of money change our very existence. It is a very bad idea.

Thank you,

Charity Barger  
8143608275

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Phyllis Gardener <ptgard62@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 4:00 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jyp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; Andrew Shaffer  
**Subject:** Casiino

It is important that all of you understand the negative influence that a casino in the Nittany Mall will have on residents, visitors, students, and the economy.

Gambling is not a pastime with positive outcomes: increased crime in surrounding areas, gambling addiction, and loss of money needed for families instead spent on games of chance that are fixed to benefit the casino. Few visitors will be drawn to our small town/rural community with ample money to spend. The student addiction rate is much higher than that of adults. Profits will be siphoned off for the owners, with little benefit to the local economy.

Please do all you can do to oppose the siting of a casino in the Nittany Mall. Would you want one in your backyard? Don't allow one in ours.

Phyllis Gardener

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Yearick, Myrna <myrna.yearick@beasd.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 10:47 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jyp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com

You don't often get email from myrna.yearick@beasd.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

I wish to thank you for taking the time to investigate the impact of having a casino in the Centre Region. Hopefully, you will come to the same conclusion as many in our area who oppose this project. We believe the Nittany Mall should remain a family friendly venue. As the grandmother of a Penn State student, I am concerned that a casino would bring undesirable influences to State College.

Again, thank you for seriously considering the concerns of so many of us who believe in safeguarding the environment of our community for our children.

Sincerely,

Myrna Yearick

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**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Anna Engels <annaengels@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 3:43 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Say NO to the Casino

You don't often get email from annaengels@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I understand that the casino is on the council meeting agenda as "OB-1 Nittany Casino Legal Opinion" for the next meeting on 10/6. I'm writing again to voice my strong opposition to the Nittany Mall Casino, and to ask you to do everything you can to please help stop the development of the casino.

Based on the research gathered by people in the community who oppose the casino, please consider the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act and whether it will protect the College Township from legal liability if the council sends a letter to the PGCB requesting denial of the casino's license. Also please discuss the applicability of the Sovereign Immunity doctrine and its related extensions at the meeting.

I hope you listen to the voices of opposition to the casino in our community and do what you can to stop its development.

Thank you,  
~Anna

--

Anna S. Engels, Ph.D., E-RYT 500, YACEP  
[www.annaengels.com](http://www.annaengels.com)  
Co-Founder of Yoga Lab  
[www.YogaLabStudio.com](http://www.YogaLabStudio.com)  
Creator of Sunny Get Up  
[www.sunnygetup.com](http://www.sunnygetup.com)  
Yoga Instructor, PSU Dept of Kinesiology  
email: [annaengels@gmail.com](mailto:annaengels@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** pris shea <prishome@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 5:53 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino situation

It is my understanding that Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act protects individuals and governmental agencies from any liability should they take a stand against any development that is felt to be detrimental to the affected area.

Please send letter (s) to PGCB in objection to the proposed casino in College Township. There has been widespread opposition to the development of this casino and surely, you wish to keep the voting constituents pleased with your actions.

Thank you for your attention.

Priscilla Shea  
State College

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** MJ <mgreyghost@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 1, 2022 1:05 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Legal issues

[You don't often get email from mgreyghost@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification> ]

Dear College Township Council,

I hope your own legal people will agree that you all have no danger of lawsuit by protesting that casino license.

Joseph T and Mary Jane Stout

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** kelly dimond <pkdimond@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 12:13 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; D. Richard Francke; Carla Stilson; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; mike@centrecountypa.gov; mark@centrecountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.edu; ebh5481@psu.edu; rcr132@psu.edu; axa900@psu.edu; djd382@psu.edu; jah107@psu.edu; dmk93@psu.edu; tmp348@psu.edu; sir43@psu.edu; ebb136@psu.edu; afd5722@psu.edu; bjf102@psu.edu; cah248@psu.edu; apl12@psu.edu; jyp4@psu.edu; awp130@psu.edu; bds146@psu.edu; szw5251@psu.edu; reb5851@psu.edu; dwc5618@psu.edu; vls153@psu.edu; lad97@psu.edu; amh102@psu.edu; crh24@psu.edu; mhd15@psu.edu; ref18@psu.edu; nkg38@psu.edu; wcr121@psu.edu; mls85@psu.edu; rss5792@psu.edu; tar299@psu.edu; jap58@psu.edu; mws18@psu.edu; TrusteeDavis@psu.edu; njr12@psu.edu; rbh6@psu.edu; wss129@psu.edu; andrewshaffer148@gmail.com  
**Subject:** No to Casino and Is the township protected from a lawsuit ?

You don't often get email from pkdimond@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello

My name is **Patricia Kelly Dimond**, and **I live in College Township**. I have nothing against gambling. I play the lottery sometimes. But I am disheartened by the predatory behaviors of casinos. So, I am asking you to **please say no to the proposed casino at the Nittany Mall**. I have seen the harm that can come from the tactics casinos use to lure customers in, and get them to spend more money than they can afford. When someone is drinking too much at a bar, the bartender cuts them off and gets them a ride home. When someone is showing a gambling addiction in a casino, instead of being sent home, they are offered free alcohol to cloud their judgment and given all kinds of incentives to drain their bank account. The customer is left with financial problems and a sense of regret and self-loathing. Some have resorted to desperate means and crime in order to recoup their losses. This problem effects the whole community. If casinos played fair, I would have no problem with them, but learning that they use analytics to prey on those who are vulnerable does not sit well with me. We can do better to revitalize the Nittany Mall; collaborate and maybe turn it into a destination area, something that lifts the community up instead of bringing it down. So, again I ask you to please say no to the proposed casino.

Also, in the last council meeting, there was talk of a concern that the township could get sued for sending a letter to the gaming commission. **Do you consider the Township to be protected from lawsuits by the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act or by any other law or legal doctrine should they choose to send a letter to the PGCB requesting denial of the casino's license?** In the 10/6/22 council meeting, please also discuss the applicability of the protections that are generally provided to government entities by the Sovereign Immunity doctrine and its related extensions for subsidiary government entities.

Thank you for your good work and your good will.  
Take care and Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Patricia Kelly Dimond

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Karen Patzer <kpatzer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil; rfranke@collegetownship.org; cstilson@collegetownship.or; Paul Takac; Dustin Best; L. Eric Bernier; Michael Pipe; mark@centrycountypa.gov; sdershem@centrecountypa.gov; president@psu.edu; tww10@psu.edu; cad46@psu.ed; ebh5481@psu.ed; rcr132@psu.ed; axa900@psu.edu  
**Subject:** NO on the Casino

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kpatzer@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

After attending the College Supervisors' meetings on September 1 & 15 and listening to the Supervisors' discussions, it sounds like they think the casino plans "happened" to them and that there's nothing they can do about it. Comments like, "I didn't think Macy's would actually leave", "We have to let all kinds of businesses in College Township", etc., etc., etc.

There are so many reasons to oppose this casino. I have seen what gambling can do to families, lives in general. My uncle caused his family business to go bankrupt because he gambled away business money & he was in hiding for years because of his debts to the wrong people. My father, who lived in Las Vegas for 25 years (please don't remind me that State College is not Las Vegas or Atlantic City) lost significant money at his favorite casino on slot machines, and ultimately lost his house. Foreclosure, squatters, etc. followed. The cities are different but the effect is the same. These were adults, the Penn State students are at a much more vulnerable age for addictions of all kinds.

Comparing online gambling with in person gambling - the comment, "online gambling is huge and there are no problems" - does not take into account the alcohol that will be present to impact judgment. In fact, if online gambling is so popular and prevalent, why do we need a casino? Why have to deal with increased desperation, spill-over crime, increased police calls? Don't the State College police, EMTs, ER at Mt. Nittany Hospital have enough to do during PSU events?

Will the vacant stores in the mall be perfect locations for associated businesses such as pawn shops and payday loans that we have to "let in College Township"? How handy to have them all in one location.

You talk about holding the casino owners "feet to the fire" in following regulations. Who, exactly, is going to do that? And what about the immediate vicinity of the casino?

Is this "nothing we can do", "not my fault", "our hands are tied" thinking what you will tell yourselves to assuage your consciences?

Regarding your impact study, please remember to include information about the effect on property values for properties within walking distance to the casino, like my property.

Please request that the PA Gaming Control Board DENY the license for the mini casino in College Township.

Thank you,

Karen Patzer  
107 Lincoln Ave (College Township)



**Jennifer Snyder**

---

**From:** Leon, Don Alvaro <dal1@psu.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 1:50 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** casino opposition & protection from lawsuits

You don't often get email from dal1@psu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

**We would very much appreciate -- should you decide to appeal to the PGCB to request denial of the proposed casino's license -- if you considered the Township to be protected from lawsuits by the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act or by any other law or legal doctrine.**

**Given the widespread opposition to the casino being planned for the Nittany Mall -- just 3 miles from Penn State's main campus -- we feel strongly that a gambling site that is easily accessible by 40,000 students might not be the wisest choice for the township to make. Honestly, if all the questions are answered re: financial returns, impact on local police, housing values, etc., we know that the wise decision is to reverse your decision and think of the public welfare.**

**Thank you.  
Don & Gina Leon, State College, PA  
Professor Emeritus (Don)**

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** JEAN WITMER <jsilk123@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 2, 2022 7:06 PM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** Casino

You don't often get email from jsilk123@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Council Members,

I and my family have been deeply opposed to the prospect of a casino at the Nittany Mall since we first heard about it. I have have lived in this area for most of my 94 years and I know that a casino would have negative impacts on this community. I understand that you agreed not to "opt-out" of offering a space to the casino developer. However, since then you have gained a full understanding of your constituents' opposition to this venture. It is far better to inform the PGCB now of this opposition and withdrawl your support - better than waiting until this process moves any further. It is better to deal with a potential one-time lawsuit (from which you should have certain protections) than leave a diminished community as your legacy.

Sincerely,

Jean Witmer

Pleasant Gap

**Jennifer Snyder**

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**From:** Valerie Burnett <yellow5132@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 3, 2022 11:44 AM  
**To:** CTCouncil  
**Subject:** A Pathway Away from a Mini Casino

You don't often get email from yellow5132@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear College Township Council Member:

I understand that the Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act may make a more palatable pathway for the Council to effectively reject the mini casino and represent the best interests of people in our community.

There is only one reason that the expansion of mini casinos became an issue in State College. Rather than writing laws to support a fair share tax plan to fund government, our legislators wrote a law to expand gambling to balance the state budget. Pennsylvania already ranks in the top ten states using "sin taxes" on alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and gambling to balance the budget and fund state government. Our legislators knowingly rely on taking advantage of human weaknesses that open avenues to unhealthy behaviors and addictions. Ironically, after our legislature actually writes laws that support access to addictive behaviors & substances they turn around to pass laws to "help" addicts. This is sick and irresponsible behavior. It ties our local governments into knots.

The Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act offers a way to slip the knot made by our legislators. It is not our responsibility to close the budget gaps of state government. It is our responsibility to support the health our local community. I urge you to take the pathway away from the mini casino.

For the health of people and the planet!

Valerie  
Patton Township

WINDSTREAM SERVICES, LLC

4001 Rodney Parham Road  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72212



September 1, 2022

Received  
SEP 02 2022  
College Township

Township Manager  
College Township Municipal Building  
1481 East College Avenue  
State College, PA 16801

**Re: Windstream D&E Systems, Inc.'s Cable System Franchise Agreement for the Township of College dated September 6, 2012**

Dear Township Manager:

Please accept this as formal notice that Windstream D&E Systems, LLC. ("Windstream") intends to allow the existing Cable Franchise Agreement to expire, effective October 1, 2022. Windstream will cease providing existing cable television services on September 30, 2022, and will not provide new cable television services going forward.

Windstream has notified all existing customers. Please find a copy of the customer notice enclosed for your reference. While the television signal will cease on September 30<sup>th</sup>, existing Internet and voice services will remain active with no changes.

Windstream will remit all applicable franchise fees to the Township through the date of termination.

If you have any questions about this notification, please contact me at (501) 748-6313 or by email at [nicole.winters@windstream.com](mailto:nicole.winters@windstream.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nicole Winters'.  
Nicole Winters  
Senior Counsel

Enclosure