

Florida Gaming Control Commission

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Meeting

July 11, 2023

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TRANSCRIPTION OF FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION  
MEETING

JULY 11, 2023

Stenographically Transcribed Audio Recording By:  
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1 Thereupon,  
2 the following proceedings were transcribed from an audio  
3 recording:

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. Good morning. Welcome  
5 to -- let's go on the record. Welcome to the  
6 July 11, 2023 meeting of of the Florida Gaming  
7 Control Commission. We're going to begin with the  
8 Pledge of Allegiance. I'd like to ask Vice Chair  
9 Brown to lead us today.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 Please rise with me.

12 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

13 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. The first order of  
14 business today is the approval of the minutes from  
15 May 2, 2023. We'll take those up together, that's  
16 1.1 and 1.2 on the agenda. Do I -- any discussion on  
17 the minutes? A motion to approve the minutes?

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Chairman, I move to approve  
19 items 1.1 and 1.2 meeting minutes.

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Chairman, I'll second.

21 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. All in favor?

22 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Approval of the minutes is  
24 unanimous. Moving on to the discussion of the  
25 consent orders. We have that agenda to be taken up

1 together, unless one of the commissioners has  
2 something they'd like to discuss on these. Okay.  
3 Can I get a motion to approve 2.1 through 2.3?

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, I'll go ahead  
5 and move Items -- the staff recommendation on Items  
6 2.1 through 2.3.

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Do I have a second? I'll  
8 second it. All in favor?

9 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Moving on to Agenda Item  
11 No. 3, discussion of the default final orders  
12 Again, do any of the commissioners have anything  
13 they'd like to discuss here? All right.  
14 I'll make a motion to approve the staff  
15 recommendation here. Do I have a second?

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

18 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. Onto Agenda  
20 Item 4, the discussion of application for transfer of  
21 permit holder tax credit exemption.

22 Now, when I read through these, these all look  
23 to be uncontested on the same issue. Do we have a  
24 problem taking these up together as well? Any  
25 discussion on these? All right. Then I'll make a

1 motion to approve 4.1 through 4.6. Do we have a  
2 second on that?

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

5 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. It's unanimous.  
7 We'll move on to Agenda Item 5 No. 5, discussion of  
8 renewal application for slot machine license, that's  
9 5.1, that's Gretna Racing. We have someone from  
10 staff who would like to present on this.

11 MS. POUNCEY: Good morning, Jamie Pouncey,  
12 Permit Holder Program Administrator for Pari-Mutuel  
13 Wagering. Item No. 5.1, Case No. 2023-035062. It is  
14 the annual slot license renewal for Gretna Racing,  
15 LLC, d/b/a Magic City Casino. The slot machine  
16 license application was submitted on June 19, 2023,  
17 the application was deemed complete as of June 27,  
18 2023, they have submitted all the required  
19 documentation to include the application, the other  
20 numerous requirements to be elements to the slot  
21 machine license, and the division recommends  
22 approval.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: We'll open it up for  
24 discussion.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, all of the

1 prerequisites have been met and there's been all of  
2 the appropriate disclosures with this application.  
3 With that, I'd move the approval of the application  
4 renewal.

5 CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll second that motion. All  
6 those in favor?

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. In unanimous.  
9 Moving on to Agenda Item No. 6. We'll do 6.1, that's  
10 the Florida Standardbred Breeders' and Owners'  
11 Association. It's a renewal application for  
12 non-wagering pari-mutuel license.

13 MS. POUNCEY: That's Case No. 2023-001563. The  
14 Florida Standardbred Breeders' and Owners'  
15 Association has submitted their annual admission for  
16 renewal of their non-wagering license for calendar  
17 year 2024. They have requested to operate seven  
18 non-wagering performances, they have submitted the  
19 required information for their license, they possess  
20 the qualifications, and the division is recommending  
21 approval of their non-wagering license for the  
22 calendar year of '24.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. We'll open it up  
24 for discussion. All right.

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

1 CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll second that. All those  
2 in favor?

3 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. 6.1 is approved.  
5 Moving on to Agenda Item No. 7. 7.1, that's the  
6 discussion of final orders by request from  
7 respondent, that's Mr. Timothy McDonald. I'd like to  
8 hear from staff on this.

9 MS. ALVARADO: This is Emily Alvarado for the  
10 record. That's Case No. 2023-012964. In this case  
11 the respondent was provided with an administrative  
12 complaint seeking exclusion from all pari-mutuel and  
13 slot machine facilities. He responded with an  
14 election of rights requesting that a final order be  
15 issued against him, and therefore the division would  
16 ask that the commission enter a final order adding  
17 respondent to the permanent exclusion list.

18 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. We'll open it up  
19 for discussion.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, if there's no  
21 discussion, I would go ahead and move approval of the  
22 final order.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. We've got a motion to  
24 approve. I'll second that. All those in favor?

25 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

1           CHAIRMAN UPTON: On to Agenda Item 7.2.

2           MS. ALVARADO: FGCC vs. Lisandro Sky,  
3           Case No. 2023-013741. In this case, it was an  
4           administrative complaint that was filed seeking  
5           exclusion and revocation of the respondent's license  
6           or slot machine card room pari-mutuel wagering  
7           occupational license. They were excluded and fired  
8           from Hialeah Park on February 20, 2023. He had  
9           responded with an election of rights requesting that  
10          a final order be issued against him, therefore the  
11          division would ask that the commission exclude  
12          respondent from all pari-mutuel slot machine  
13          facilities as well as revoke his license.

14          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. We'll open it up  
15          for discussion.

16          I have a question on this one, and maybe  
17          I missed it in the materials.

18          When it says that the respondent asked for a  
19          penalty, what was their request for in this case?

20          MS. ALVARADO: They don't make a specific  
21          request. They're given a form that gives them  
22          multiple options. In this case, they were given an  
23          option for a formal hearing, an informal hearing, or  
24          option three, which is what they checked. It just  
25          says the division will make a decision on a final

1 order in this case.

2 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Are they aware of the severity  
3 of the penalty?

4 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. The administrative  
5 complaint does address what the penalty would be or  
6 what the potential penalty could be.

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Do we have a motion on this?

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll move to approve staff  
9 recommendation.

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. I'll second that. All  
11 those in favor?

12 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Unanimous on 7.2. On to  
14 Agenda Item No. 8, discussion of recommended orders.  
15 8.1, we'll hear from staff on that.

16 MS. ALVARADO: FGCC vs. Patty Anne Burns, Case  
17 No. 2023-0511570. This case comes before you  
18 following a recommended order that was issued by the  
19 hearing officer. An informal hearing was conducted  
20 on April 25, 2023 regarding an administrative  
21 complaint seeking to suspend respondent's license for  
22 an unpaid financial obligation relating to racing  
23 conducted at a pari-mutuel in the state of Florida.  
24 After the hearing, the hearing officer recommended  
25 entering an order suspending respondent's license

1           until proof was provided that the unpaid financial  
2           obligation has been satisfied. The hearing officer  
3           gave the respondent until October 11, 2023 to provide  
4           proof of past action of the debt. Therefore, the  
5           Florida Gaming Commission would ask that that  
6           commission adopt the hearing officer's recommended  
7           order.

8           CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. Thank you,  
9           counsel. We'll open it up for discussion.

10          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, I think this  
11          strikes the perfect balance of leniency, but also  
12          giving the respondent an opportunity to rectify their  
13          error. And with that, I would move approval if  
14          there's no other discussion on the item.

15          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Any other discussion? Do we  
16          have a second to Vice Chair Brown?

17          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll second.

18          CHAIRMAN UPTON: All these in favor?

19          ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

20          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Unanimous for the  
21          recommendation.

22          MR. MARSHMAN: Mr. Chair?

23          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes.

24          MR. MARSHMAN: I'm sorry to interrupt. I've  
25          been informed that our audio might not be

1 broadcasting correctly on The Florida Channel's  
2 website. We're trying to fix that. I'm not sure how  
3 you'd like to proceed.

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: You want to take a five-minute  
5 recess, see if we can figure it out?

6 MR. MARSHMAN: I believe that would help.

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: We'll stand in recess.

8 MR. MARSHMAN: Thank you.

9 (Brief recess taken.)

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'd ask everybody to have a  
11 seat, we're going to go back on the record here in a  
12 few seconds. Okay. We'll go back on the record.

13 We'll take up Agenda Item 8.2. We'd ask to  
14 hear from staff now.

15 MS. ALVARADO: This is Emily Alvarado for the  
16 record. Item 8.2 is FGCC vs. Luis Y. Roll in  
17 Case No. 2023-005746. This case comes before you  
18 following the recommended order that was issued by  
19 the hearing officer. An informal hearing was  
20 conducted on April 25, 2023 regarding a two-count  
21 administrative complaint alleging that respondent was  
22 convicted of a felony and failed to inform us of the  
23 felony within 48 hours. The hearing officer  
24 recommended entering an order revoking respondent's  
25 pari-mutuel wagering general and divisional

1 occupational license, therefore the division would  
2 ask that the commission adopt this recommendation.

3 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
4 We'll open it up for discussion. No discussion --

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: This is a pretty clear-cut  
6 case here, pretty onerous charges, and the fact that  
7 he neglected to disclose it. With that, I would  
8 agree with the hearing officer and approve the  
9 recommended order.

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. Do we have a  
11 second on the motion?

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

14 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

15 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Staff recommendation is  
16 approved. Moving on to agenda items 9.1 and 9.2,  
17 discussions of order vacating final orders.

18 9.1, we will hear from staff, Ms. Alvarado.

19 MS. ALVARADO: 9.1 is 2023-003527, FGCC versus  
20 Marquitta Jones. The commission seeks to vacate  
21 the final order that was issued on June 9, 2023  
22 permanently excluding respondent from all pari-mutuel  
23 and slot machine facilities in the state. The  
24 administrative complaint was served at the wrong  
25 address and we reviewed notification of the new

1 address for respondent. So the division would ask  
2 that the commission allow us to vacate the final  
3 order and reissue the administrative complaint in  
4 this case.

5 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. I'll open it up  
6 for discussion. Seems pretty straightforward to me.  
7 If the respondent didn't receive notice, we need to  
8 provide them with proper notice. So I'll make a  
9 motion to approve the staff recommendation.

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

12 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Ms. Alvarado, on 9.2.

14 MS. ALVARDO: 2023-014450, Lucasindre Remy.

15 This case is similar to the last. The  
16 commission entered a final order permanently  
17 excluding respondent from all pari-mutuel slot  
18 machine facilities in the state and the  
19 administrative complaint was served at the wrong  
20 address. So we'd ask that the commission allow us to  
21 vacate the final order and serve the respondent at  
22 the correct address.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. Motion to approve the  
24 staff recommendation?

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make it. So moved.

1           CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll second that. All those  
2           in favor?

3           ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

4           CHAIRMAN UPTON: Staff recommendation is  
5           approved for 9.2. Moving on to Agenda Item No. 10,  
6           discussion of licensed denials. We'll hear from  
7           staff on 10.1.

8           MS. ALVARADO: That is 2023-021465, Celestino  
9           Lanza. The division received an application  
10          for Celestino Lanza on April 6, 2023. He was  
11          seeking a general and divisional occupational  
12          license. After review of the application, it was  
13          discovered that they were convicted of manufacture,  
14          possession and delivery of more than one kilogram of  
15          cocaine and manufacture, deliver or possession with  
16          intent of a schedule five drug in 2017. They failed  
17          to disclose this on their original admission and  
18          disclosed one of the convictions on the amended  
19          application. The applicant applied for waiver which  
20          was declined by the executive director, therefore the  
21          division would ask that that commission authorize the  
22          issuance of a notice of intent to deny in this case.

23          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. We'll open it up  
24          for discussion. No discussion, do we have a motion?

25          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

1           CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll second that motion. All  
2           in favor?

3           ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

4           CHAIRMAN UPTON: It's unanimous. Staff  
5           recommendation is approved for 10.1.

6           Ms. Alvarado on 10.2.

7           MS. ALVARADO: 2023-025733, Kaliyah Alexander.  
8           The division received an application for the  
9           applicant on May 3, 2023. They were seeking a slot  
10          machine card room pari-mutuel combination  
11          occupational license. After review of the  
12          application, it was discovered that they were  
13          convicted of possession of marijuana with intent to  
14          sell or deliver in 2019. This was on the June  
15          meeting materials, and the commission asked that we  
16          include the arrest report into the packet, and that  
17          has been included in the meeting materials. The  
18          applicant did not apply for waiver because it is not  
19          authorized under Chapter 551, and the division would  
20          ask that the commission authorize the notice of  
21          intent to deny in this case.

22          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. I will open it up  
23          for discussion.

24          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I just want to say thank  
25          you for getting that extra information. It does

1 clarify it quite a bit for me anyway. So I  
2 appreciate you getting that. That helps a lot in my  
3 decisionmaking on this and where I want to go on it.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I would agree. That second  
5 judicial circuit affidavit as well provided a lot  
6 more detail surrounding the incident. And it is  
7 clear that this is -- I would agree with staff  
8 recommendation on denying this applicant at this  
9 time.

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Anyone else? Do we have a  
11 motion?

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

13 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

14 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

15 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. That one is unanimous  
16 as well. And we'll hear from the staff on 10.3.

17 MS. ALVARADO: This is 2023-0030433, Kijuana  
18 Larkins. The division received a license  
19 application on May 10, 2023 seeking a slot machine  
20 card room pari-mutuel wagering combination  
21 occupational license. After review of the  
22 application, it was discovered that she was convicted  
23 of two grand thefts in 2003. The applicant did not  
24 apply for waiver because it's not contemplated under  
25 Chapter 551, therefore the division would ask the

1 commission issue a notice of intent to deny in this  
2 case.

3 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. I'll open it up for  
4 discussion.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I have one question, Mr.  
6 Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay, yes.

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Did it turn out to be a  
9 felony or misdemeanor conviction? I know it started  
10 out as a felony. I thought I read something in there  
11 that it ended up being misdemeanor.

12 MS. ALVARDO: It ended up being two felony  
13 convictions, two grand theft felony convictions.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Further discussion?

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, I would move  
17 to approve the license denial recommendation.

18 CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll second that. All in  
19 favor?

20 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. We're moving on then to  
22 Item No. 11, that's the executive director update.  
23 And we'll hear from you, executive director.

24 MR. TROMBETTA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have  
25 one -- there's one update on the agenda, and I'm

1 available for any additional questions. This update  
2 really involves rulemaking, and there's a few kind of  
3 subparts to this.

4 As I mentioned last meeting, the technical  
5 change that was filed to move the existing rules into  
6 a new chapter has now been completed. So all of our  
7 forms that have previously existed in Chapter 61D are  
8 now technically changed to I think Chapter 75 --  
9 yeah, Chapter 75. So it's a good step in the right  
10 direction in terms of the types of transfer that was  
11 supposed to happen.

12 Secondly, the time period to adopt the  
13 public comment rule has now passed. So with your  
14 kind of authority, I do need the commission's consent  
15 to move to adopt that rule. So this is the rule that  
16 would provide public comment guidelines for meetings.  
17 So that is what I'm seeking today for the second  
18 point.

19 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. Any discussion?  
20 Any questions on the public comment rule? Then you  
21 need a motion -- you need us to approve the  
22 rulemaking, correct? For the public comment.

23 MR. TROMBETTA: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
24 I need essentially the authority to file  
25 a notice of adoption as it relates to the public

1 comment rule.

2 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. I'll make a motion that  
3 we allow the executive director the authority that he  
4 needs to file on the public comment.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll second that.

6 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

7 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

8 MR. TROMBETTA: Thank you. Then I wanted to  
9 touch on cashless rulemaking. This was one where at  
10 the previous meeting, we had public comment about the  
11 desire to engage in cashless rulemaking or rulemaking  
12 towards cashless wagering at the slot facilities. I  
13 wanted to just bring that up. And if that is  
14 something the commission desires to go down the road,  
15 same type of thing where I would need some authority  
16 to initiate rulemaking.

17 So this is a different stage of rulemaking.  
18 This would just be the initial process where it would  
19 allow my staff to kind of formally begin determining  
20 whether we -- how we're going to do that if that's  
21 something that the commission does in fact want to go  
22 do. I'm just kind of throwing that out there right  
23 now. Essentially without commission's authority, my  
24 staff is not authorized to go forward on that.

25 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Vice Chair Brown?

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Going  
2           to some of these conferences, it's such a common  
3           topic, common theme. I think this is definitely ripe  
4           to explore and go down to that rulemaking and open it  
5           up. What's the time frame that you are thinking  
6           about?

7           MR. TROMBETTA: So this is, you know, frankly  
8           one of the more complex areas of rulemaking. It  
9           would be a new technology that we would have to be --  
10          we'd have to figure out how to implement. I think  
11          that, as you mentioned, this is something that the  
12          pari-mutuel industry has been asking my staff for for  
13          a number of months. I think they're interested in  
14          going down this road. Several other states have  
15          rules, there's model rules. So it might be lengthy,  
16          it might be several months. But essentially what I'm  
17          seeking is the ability to initiate the process so  
18          that my staff can kind of undergo a review.

19          So cashless is mentioned in statute. What we'd  
20          do is try to figure out how we could best implement  
21          that rule, whether we need a single rule, a cashless  
22          specific rule, or if we have to modify additional  
23          rules in our slot machine rule chapter. So  
24          essentially what I'm seeking is the authority to  
25          initiate the process. It's the first step in what's

1 a lengthy process. Once you initiate rulemaking, you  
2 have to then formally develop the rule, you have to  
3 move towards a proposed rule, which is another  
4 filing, and then, like you just granted the authority  
5 for the previous issue, before it gets adopted, the  
6 commission would ultimately have to sign off on the  
7 adoption.

8 So circling all the way back to your initial  
9 question, it would take several months to get to the  
10 point we're readied to adopt the rule. I think also  
11 there probably would be a workshop or a hearing that  
12 we'd like to get feedback from the industry on. So  
13 that also would have to be incorporated in our plan.  
14 But what I'd like to do is if you do grant this, we'd  
15 initiate the process, and potentially at the next  
16 meeting, I would provide a better overview of kind of  
17 the plan.

18 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes, Commissioner?

19 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

20 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Commissioner Drago?

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: My Tallahassee allergies.

22 I agree, and I think certainly everything is moving  
23 that way, and everything that I hear, too, is from  
24 operators across the state are interested in this.  
25 So it might be better for players, for operators. I

1 think less cash that can be handled can be better for  
2 everybody in terms of time spent on crime, etc. So I  
3 would really like us to look into this and see if we  
4 can work something out, and I'd be interested to hear  
5 from the operators as to see how they feel about it  
6 and how they think we should go about it to make it  
7 work the best for everybody.

8 CHAIRMAN UPTON: What is the commission's role  
9 in the workshop when the stakeholders are  
10 participating?

11 MR. TROMBETTA: I'm going to ask Ross to be  
12 ready just in case. It's essentially what you'd like  
13 it to be I think is probably the best answer. Under  
14 120, there's two phases of rulemaking. There's the  
15 development phase and the proposed rule phase. In  
16 the development phase, agencies are able to offer  
17 workshops throughout the state to get initial  
18 feedback. You don't have to have proposed language  
19 at that point. The more formal process is the second  
20 stage. At that point you're able to offer what I  
21 call hearings, which is a more formal back and forth  
22 with the industry.

23 The commission itself, we haven't had a  
24 workshop yet under the five commissioners, so  
25 that's why kind of I've started with how you'd like

1           it. In my head, if any of the commissioners want to  
2           be involved, come to the meetings, I don't know,  
3           really we can work with you on what you think and how  
4           your role should be in this process.

5           CHAIRMAN UPTON: I think we'd like to get some  
6           feedback on how that would work and how it would work  
7           with Sunshine Laws and things like that. But I want  
8           to make sure that we are informed of all the  
9           different options that are on the table and all the  
10          various things involved in the process along the way,  
11          but I think it's an important issue and obviously  
12          something we should be addressing. Specifically for  
13          the next meeting, just broadly what are you thinking  
14          about? You'd come here and say what generally?

15          MR. TROMBETTA: Whatever you'd like, Mr. Chair.  
16          I'd be happy to propose a timeline, I think that  
17          might help, as well as opportunities for workshops,  
18          hearings. Would that help?

19          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes . I'm just trying to get a  
20          better understanding of the process. With that, I  
21          think I'd like to make a motion to approve the start  
22          of the rulemaking process on cash less transaction,  
23          cashless wagering. Do I have a second on that?

24          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll second that.

25          CHAIRMAN UPTON: All those in favor?

1 ALL MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Unanimous.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: If you don't mind, I just  
4 want to share with our colleagues here that in my  
5 previous life with workshops, it's been done both  
6 staff driven and commissioner driven where the  
7 commissioners kind of ran. It just depends on the  
8 subject matter and the area of interest of the  
9 commissioners, if would they want staff to run it or  
10 if they want to run the meetings, the workshops.

11 So I just wanted to offer that up when staff is  
12 formulating the different options of the format,  
13 there are various methods and mechanisms. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you, Vice Chair Brown.  
15 That was helpful. If you can just give us those  
16 options at the next meeting. I think this is just  
17 the initial step, as I understand it.

18 MR. TROMBETTA: Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Anything else for the  
20 executive director?

21 MR. TROMBETTA: No, Mr. Chair. Sorry. One  
22 other thing that -- just the discussion of the next  
23 meetings. It is also not necessarily on the agenda,  
24 but I think that that is something that I think would  
25 probably be fruitful, not necessarily in an update

1           either, but in my individual conversations with each  
2           of the commissioners, I think there is an interest in  
3           trying to plan our calendars. So if there's any way  
4           I can help through that discussion or just lead you  
5           through that, I'd be happy to.

6           CHAIRMAN UPTON: I'll open that up for  
7           discussion.

8           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

9           MR. TROMBETTA: Yes, Commissioners D'Aquila.  
10          Mr. Marshman, do you maybe want to provide just a  
11          general overview of where we are with HISA?

12          MR. MARSHMAN: Mr. Chair.

13          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes, go ahead, general  
14          counsel.

15          MR. MARSHMAN: To Commissioner D'Aquila's  
16          point, after executing the agreement, we have started  
17          to receive notices. As was described in the  
18          agreement, we obviously can't discuss the content of  
19          the notices in a public meeting, but staff has been  
20          handling those with all due care and confidentiality  
21          pursuant to the terms of the agreement, and we're  
22          starting to create our own sort of internal tracking,  
23          the information that's been shared with us, and the  
24          plan is I think for us to compare that to historical  
25          data related to drug testing, positive test results,

1 and see if there's any sort of pattern that emerges  
2 or anything that we can tell what they're doing  
3 versus what we were doing.

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. Let's go back to the  
5 calendar and the meeting. Any other questions  
6 [indiscernible] on the calendaring of the meetings?  
7 I feel very strongly, not necessarily for the next  
8 meeting or even the one after that, but we ought to  
9 have at least a year in advance a set meeting time  
10 and location, preferably not a different location. I  
11 know we're working without a meeting room, so that's  
12 a difficult thing to arrange, but that's what I would  
13 like to see going forward. We can do it on an ad hoc  
14 basis for the next couple, but after that, that we  
15 know what it is and everybody [indiscernible]. The  
16 only thing -- whether it's the first Tuesday of every  
17 month or the first Wednesday, that's open for  
18 whatever everybody on the commission wants to do, but  
19 we know and we can plan, that's the way most of the  
20 other commissions operate. I'll open it up for  
21 discussion. Yes, Commissioner.

22 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I agree with that  
23 wholeheartedly, and I think that we right now, I know  
24 we have set up for the first Thursday of every month,  
25 so that's how I plan it, that it's going to be the

1 first Thursday of every month, unless something  
2 happens, 4th of July or whatever. Certainly I'm open  
3 to if anybody wanted to change it to the third  
4 Thursday or whatever, but I think we should -- I  
5 agree that we should stick with some semblance of  
6 order in terms of consistency, first Thursday, second  
7 Thursday, whatever it is every month, so we can plan  
8 way out, and we can also look at the calendar in that  
9 fashion. We know 4th of July is coming, we know 4th  
10 of July will fall on a certain day of the week and  
11 that will effect our schedule. So we can do that way  
12 in advance. We don't have to wait until a month  
13 before.

14 Yeah, I'd hope that we can plan that out. I  
15 think it makes it easier for everybody to have a  
16 standard day of the month and then look forward to  
17 dates that might interrupt or that we know. I know  
18 there's always going to be things that are going to  
19 come up and that we can't help, but I think it is  
20 helpful for all of us and everybody that's involved  
21 to have a schedule they can count on in terms of when  
22 these meetings will happen. So I'd like to see that  
23 happen as well.

24 CHAIRMAN UPTON: From my perspective, this is a  
25 a great meeting room, technical difficulties aside,

1 but the PSC meeting room being right across the  
2 street from our offices and not having to deal with  
3 downtown parking, I have a strong preference that we  
4 try to coordinate where we can meet in that meeting  
5 room consistently.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Chairman, I'd also add  
7 that it does help the public, too, to know well in  
8 advance if they want to talk on a topic or anything  
9 that they can plan accordingly. I know we're all  
10 pretty flexible on at least that first week of the  
11 month. If we want to stick with Thursday, I'm  
12 completely okay with that. And Commissioner Drago  
13 said things come up and commissions have to be agile,  
14 and we are, but if we can post a calendar, too, on  
15 the website so that the public knows when our  
16 meetings are going to be in advance, that will be  
17 helpful, and any other important details or workshops  
18 or forums that we'll be attending.

19 CHAIRMAN UPTON: I would suggest that we ask  
20 staff to check on the availability of the PSC meeting  
21 room. Since we don't have one of our own, we need to  
22 find out if that one is going to be available on the  
23 first Thursday of the month regularly, and if that's  
24 okay with everybody, maybe that's the starting point.

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

1           CHAIRMAN UPTON: That would be fine. I think  
2 another option for a meeting room is the  
3 [indiscernible] courtroom at the 1st DCA  
4 [indiscernible]. We had checked for this time, but  
5 it wasn't available, but that's much closer to our  
6 offices and the parking is much better.

7           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

8           CHAIRMAN UPTON: That would be fine with me.  
9 Yes, Commissioner Repp.

10          COMMISSIONER REPP: [Indiscernible].

11          CHAIRMAN UPTON: I think telephonic appearance,  
12 if you're open to that, we can [indiscernible].

13          COMMISSIONER REPP: I'm fine with  
14 [indiscernible].

15          VICE CHAIR BROWN: The PSC has a big screen  
16 behind you that we could see your face and you could  
17 do FaceTime and call in.

18          CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. I think it says it's  
19 not jumbled, staff gets the idea, you understand the  
20 direction of the commission, and give us some options  
21 on meeting rooms for those days, with the preference  
22 of the PSC room.

23          MR. TROMBETTA: Mr. Chair, just to confirm the  
24 dates, it would be August 3rd, September 7th,  
25 October 5th, and I'll with my staff try to get the

1 PSC room. If that's not available, we'll try the  
2 DCA. Does that kind of capture the --

3 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yeah. Everybody take a  
4 second, confirm on your calendars. August 3rd,  
5 September 7th, and October 5th, correct?

6 MR. TROMBETTA: Yes, sir.

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Good for me. With the  
8 exception of Commissioner Repp needing the one  
9 telephonic appearance, I think we're all good for  
10 those days in Tallahassee.

11 MR. TROMBETTA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will  
12 coordinate with staff and try to get the locations  
13 set up.

14 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Okay. Now -- anything further  
15 from the executive director?

16 MR. TROMBETTA: No, sir. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Now we're going to open it up  
18 for any discussion from the commissioners. Vice  
19 Chair Brown?

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
21 With the start of a new fiscal year and the close of  
22 a prior fiscal year and so many milestones that have  
23 been achieved to date that maybe the public is not  
24 aware of but we are aware of, is there anything you  
25 or your staff would like to add?

1           CHAIRMAN UPTON: I will take the blame, I  
2           thought this was going to be a much longer agenda. I  
3           had pushed that off to another one in the interest of  
4           time, so I'm not sure if the executive director is  
5           prepared for that. That is my fault. And we are  
6           going to do that in the future, but if there's  
7           anything you'd like to discuss at this one, you're  
8           welcome to do that, or we can put that on the future  
9           agenda.

10           MR. TROMBETTA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. With  
11           your permission here, I think outside of Susie  
12           Whitmire, our head of IT, who is busy working on a  
13           project today, I think I have several directors here  
14           that I think would be able to answer questions or  
15           provide an overview of some accomplishments from this  
16           past year. I think we've done a lot. I'm very proud  
17           of the work the team has done. I'd love to be able  
18           to show it off if we have some time.

19           CHAIRMAN UPTON: The floor is yours. I just  
20           didn't want to put anybody on the spot with something  
21           that wasn't on the agenda.

22           MR. TROMBETTA: Mr. Chair, again, with your  
23           permission, first is Lisa Mustain, the Director of  
24           Administration.

25           CHAIRMAN UPTON: The floor is yours.

1 MS. MUSTAIN: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
2 In reflection for the last fiscal year, at this time  
3 we had two employees in the Division of  
4 Administration, DBPR was complete, all of our  
5 accounting, our budgeting. We have come a long way.  
6 We now have a full staff of 19 employees, we are  
7 currently on the Statewide Travel Management System,  
8 My Florida Marketplace, People First. We're  
9 independent from DBPR except for a few accounting  
10 transactions that are linked through Versarray, which  
11 we're working on.

12 The close of this fiscal year, we produced 450  
13 purchase orders, we've on-boarded 75 employees,  
14 mostly with two HR employees, and really we're doing  
15 -- we've come a long way and we have a long way to  
16 go. We have seven policies and procedures in place.  
17 We've managed renovation of a building, we've moved  
18 people in. There's just been a lot of moving parts,  
19 and we've had a really successful year, proud of the  
20 people that work for the Division of Administration.  
21 Everybody is onboard and looking forward to a great  
22 year next year, this year.

23 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Lisa, can you just for the  
25 sake of the public who doesn't really understand or

1 know, what responsibilities are under your division?

2 What different kinds of areas do you manage?

3 MS. MUSTAIN: Commissioner Drago, I manage the  
4 finance and accounting division, budgeting,  
5 facilities management, property asset management,  
6 leasing, accounting -- did I say accounting? Yes.  
7 Just general operations. My job is to support the  
8 people that work for the Florida Gaming Control  
9 Commission, to support the Law Enforcement Division,  
10 to support our operations, and to get them what they  
11 need to do their jobs.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: HR as well?

13 MS. MUSTAIN: Yes, sorry. HR as well.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: It's a pretty big job that  
15 you've done over the last year, and I know that  
16 you've had an awful lot to do with helping law  
17 enforcement get their feet on the ground and moving  
18 forward. And that cooperation is so important when  
19 you're starting a whole new police department  
20 basically. And as somebody who understands it and  
21 works with Carl in making sure that everything gets  
22 up and running, I really appreciate that, because  
23 that has really helped us move along as quickly as we  
24 have. So thank you for that. And I know you've done  
25 a lot of work. I'm glad you were able to get up here

1           and talk about it. You do a lot of the work behind  
2           the scenes that people don't see. We certainly do  
3           recognize it. Thank you for that.

4           MS. MUSTAIN: Thank you, Commissioner.

5           CHAIRMAN UPTON: Vice Chair Brown.

6           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
7           Thank you for the indulgence. We've seen -- even  
8           just this past month, we've seen such major  
9           milestones, but it's been a very gradual process, and  
10          you've been very successful, and I can't be more  
11          enthusiastic about the hires that the team has done  
12          under Mr. Trombetta. You're just -- you've been  
13          tremendous, a great asset, and you could feel the  
14          energy in the new facilities, too, yesterday when the  
15          team got together. It's very contagious. People are  
16          excited to be at the gaming commission under your  
17          tutelage in making everything such a smooth  
18          transition from DBPR to the new entity. So just  
19          really big compliments to you.

20          MS. MUSTAIN: Thank you, Commissioner. It's a  
21          team effort. Again, we've come a long way, but Carl  
22          has been wonderful, Ross is wonderful, the senior  
23          leadership, Susie is wonderful. We're all in it to  
24          make it work and we're all dedicated. It's been a  
25          great effort. Thank you for the opportunity to work

1 at the Florida Gaming Control Commission.

2 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Commissioner D'Aquila?

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Director Mustain, just  
4 a special appreciation as a person who's spent many,  
5 many years in both accounting and HR, in that role in  
6 the lower middle mark companies, I understand how  
7 difficult it is, and [indiscernible] the accounting  
8 to work. So hats off. Great job. Thank you so  
9 much.

10 MS. MUSTAIN: Thank you, sir.

11 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Mr. Executive director, I'll  
12 kind of let you lead this.

13 MR. TROMBETTA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Next up  
14 I'm going to call Director Herold, who is our  
15 Director of our Law Enforcement Team.

16 MR. HEROLD: Good morning. If I may?

17 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes.

18 MR. HEROLD: Thank you. My name is Carl  
19 Herold, Director of Gaming Enforcement. And I have a  
20 few notes here because I'm certainly not going to  
21 remember everything.

22 This past year has been very interesting for  
23 the Director of Gaming Enforcement. Bringing a law  
24 enforcement agency up from essentially nothing is  
25 quite the challenge, and it has been very important

1 all the stuff that we've done. So I'm going to start  
2 with kind of the infrastructure to let everybody know  
3 that in bringing a law enforcement agency up, there's  
4 a lot of things you've got to put in place before you  
5 can even start taking any kind of action. Criminal  
6 justice access, you've got to have access to these  
7 databases and things like that. Equipment, we're  
8 still building out our evidence property management  
9 system. Warehouses, we had no idea that we needed to  
10 have warehouses for all this gambling equipment that  
11 we're seizing, policies and those kind of things like  
12 that. Those are all the pieces that you have to put  
13 together that have to come in at different times and  
14 different places, but they all need to kind of  
15 intersect at the end where they can make the job for  
16 gaming enforcement effective.

17 One of the things that we did in gaming  
18 enforcement is we really emphasized, outreached out  
19 our stakeholders, meetings with the stakeholders to  
20 let them know that we were here essentially. And  
21 that's part of the three-prong process that we have  
22 of informing our stakeholders in law enforcement of  
23 what we do in the gaming enforcement side. We had  
24 meetings, multiple meetings with law enforcement,  
25 Florida Sheriffs Association. In fact, I have

1 another meeting with them at their summer conference  
2 at the end of the month. Meetings with local law  
3 enforcement, and I've tried to make sure that we  
4 educate the law enforcement unit and let them know  
5 that we want to participate with them and be good  
6 partners with them in the enforcement of gaming and  
7 gambling violations. I think that part of the  
8 outreach is also about relationship building. We've  
9 worked very hard to try and build relationships with  
10 our partners out there, and then also informing the  
11 general public.

12 I'm going to take this opportunity to give a  
13 shout-out to Eric Carr, our external affairs person,  
14 because Eric has done a fantastic job of getting the  
15 gaming enforcement and overall the agency's mission  
16 out there. He's done a phenomenal job. He was able  
17 to get me on a podcast. I've never been on a  
18 podcast, and that was quite interesting. You know,  
19 when we send letters -- whenever we get complaints  
20 from the public on illegal gambling, we send letters  
21 to businesses and letters out to the public informing  
22 them about what's going on, and then we've also  
23 recently put resources for the public and for law  
24 enforcement on the gaming enforcement page on the  
25 overall website. So that's part of the informing and

1 the educating as well, you know, educating the public  
2 some and the stakeholders out there about what is  
3 legal and illegal and what we're doing.

4 Lastly, the enforcement side of it. We've had  
5 some enforcement action already, very proud of that.  
6 We currently have a number of other investigations  
7 going on that will have a significant impact, I hope,  
8 and doing everything we can to try and mitigate the  
9 illegal gambling that's going on out there.

10 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. Discussion?  
11 Questions?

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just a couple of comments,  
13 I think. I wanted to thank you for what you've done,  
14 and I know what a job this is to create a law  
15 enforcement agency from the ground up and all the  
16 work that's involved and behind-the-scenes stuff that  
17 people don't even realize that has to get done that's  
18 so time consuming. And for the way that you've  
19 introduced this agency to the state I think has been  
20 -- the reputation is good, and it's because of what  
21 you're doing and how you're doing it and the  
22 partnerships you're creating and so forth and the way  
23 you and Eric work together on that.

24 And Eric, thank you for what you do in getting  
25 the word out. Fortunately, unfortunately, you're

1 getting the word out so good that people are  
2 imitating us in the illegal operations, but that  
3 shows that the word is getting out, everybody is  
4 hearing about it, understanding about these machines  
5 being illegal and the other illegal activities going  
6 on around them. So thank you for all that work, and  
7 especially the way you keep us apprised and involved  
8 with what you're doing so we understand and know  
9 what's happening all the time. So thank you for  
10 that, Carl.

11 MR. HEROLD: My pleasure.

12 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Commissioner D'Aquila?

13 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'd like to echo  
14 Commissioner Drago's comments, and in particular,  
15 just to put on the record, with regard to the  
16 podcast, that appeared on the Florida Sheriffs  
17 Association website. For the benefit of the public  
18 and the staff, if you haven't listened to this  
19 podcast, it's less than 30 minutes --

20 MR. HEROLD: About 35.

21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: 35 minutes absent  
22 commercials. But it strikes at one of the pressing  
23 many issues, but it's a very good summary of what  
24 we're doing and also the recent developments in  
25 illegal slot machines. And so I want to compliment

1           you on that, the education of the public in this  
2           particular area [indiscernible]. And also the  
3           education with regard to workshops on those machines  
4           that was recently conducted by the staff,  
5           commissioners, all interested parties, was an  
6           extraordinary [indiscernible] on this somewhat  
7           complex topic that I believe has much conclusion for  
8           the public and within sometimes our own commission  
9           your efforts [indiscernible] the same way is greatly  
10          appreciated. [Indiscernible] a big thank you. Keep  
11          it up. Thank you.

12                   CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. Vice Chair Brown?

13                   VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All of that I  
14           agree with, even more emphatically as well. You're  
15           being very modest about the work you've done in your  
16           summary. There are massive milestones you've  
17           achieved in the what, ten months I think you've been  
18           here?

19                   MR. HEROLD: 11.

20                   VICE CHAIR BROWN: 11, okay. 11 months. And  
21           we [indiscernible] a lot of you when it's 12 months  
22           because you went from being a singular employee to  
23           now you've been building a team here in Tallahassee,  
24           Central Florida, South Florida, finding space,  
25           finding warehouse space, all on your own,

1 coordinating massive collaboration with  
2 multi-jurisdictions to seize illegal property to help  
3 -- continue to help prosecute cases, massive cases  
4 across, again, multiple counties that will have a  
5 significant impact on consumers and the state of  
6 Florida as far as revenue that's being lost to the  
7 illegal gambling.

8 Your collaboration with the help of Eric Carr  
9 with attracting other entities, not just law  
10 enforcement, but AARP, it goes on and on of the  
11 amount of things that you've done, and you're  
12 building such an amazing program here for everybody.  
13 I hope that we are definitely tracking this and we're  
14 able to put all of the statistics that we know that  
15 you've been achieving in a document for our annual  
16 report that we can send the legislature, the governor  
17 so that he knows the great work that you've already  
18 done in the past 11 months, too, and your team has  
19 just been impeccable.

20 MR. HEROLD: Absolutely. I'm humbled. Thank  
21 you. And I'm accepting all this praise, but I want  
22 you to know it's everybody involved. I mean, the  
23 team that I've put together so far, Lisa, Susie,  
24 absolutely Lou. And so I appreciate the praise, but  
25 it certainly should be showered on them as well,

1           because without them, I couldn't be successful.   So,  
2           thank you.

3           CHAIRMAN UPTON:   Thank you.   Mr. Executive  
4           director?

5           MR. TROMBETTA:   Thank you, Mr. Chair.   And then  
6           I think last that we have here is Mr. Joe Dillmore,  
7           who's the director of our regulatory division,  
8           Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering.

9           MR. DILLMORE:   Thank you.   We were a little bit  
10          different than the other divisions.   They were  
11          building from the ground up.   So the Division of  
12          Pari-Mutuel Wagering was involved in the Type 2  
13          transfer from DBPR into the newly formed gaming  
14          commission.   So we kind of had existing operations in  
15          place.   And with that, one of our big goals was to  
16          maintain the integrity of the gaming operations at  
17          the licensed facilities in Florida.   And we do that  
18          through our regulatory responsibilities of licensing,  
19          safeguarding our state revenue, inspections, ensuring  
20          the welfare of not only the patrons, but also the  
21          racing animals at the facilities.

22          So since July 1st, that's been a primary focus,  
23          and I think we largely succeeded in maintaining those  
24          operations without interruption.   And I have to thank  
25          our tremendous staff for that and the hard work they

1 did, and the division administration and the  
2 technology, keeping the lights on, keeping IT stuff  
3 going as we migrated from our other systems onto our  
4 own platforms. So it has been I think very  
5 successful, and like I said, greatly appreciated.

6 Second thing that we had was back in 2020 when  
7 the Horseracing Integrity Safety Act was passed into  
8 federal law, and as luck would have it, the  
9 implementation date was July 1st, the same day the  
10 commission went into existence. So it was kind of a  
11 double-barrel shotgun there. So we got the safety  
12 program in first and then there was some delays from  
13 HISA with getting the anti-doping program in place,  
14 and then there was also some legal challenges from  
15 other states in getting that program. So with a  
16 couple false starts and stops, we I think in May,  
17 mid-May, we went into officially collecting samples  
18 under the HISA program, getting our staff trained up  
19 under their protocols and all of their technology as  
20 far as protocols for using iPads and stuff to  
21 identify the samples and get those shipped off to the  
22 lab. The work there is not over, obviously, since  
23 it's just really getting started.

24 And I'd also like to thank our general  
25 counsel's office for the tremendous assistance they

1 provided us in getting to those agreements and also  
2 providing that information to the commission. We  
3 have a couple of other things we implemented in the  
4 field, live fingerprint machines. We have those at  
5 the slot facilities. We also implemented those for  
6 our busiest places in the field, our horse racing  
7 facilities. The one in Tampa Bay Downs is already up  
8 and running. So we're already collecting live scan  
9 fingerprints at those facilities. We're still  
10 working at the Gulfstream location to get that one in  
11 place. And again, with the migration to some of the  
12 technology stuff, our staff has been tremendous in  
13 user interface testing for the migration from the new  
14 platforms on base and also help identifying  
15 ultimately some requirements when we get to a place  
16 where we're going to come into the new licensing  
17 system hopefully. So that's kind of where we were as  
18 far as our big level things.

19 Some of our stats we did: We had 19 Greyhound  
20 licenses that were annually operating issued last  
21 year, ten jai-alai, three Thoroughbred, six quarter  
22 horse and one harness, 27 card room operating  
23 licenses and eight slot machines. As far as  
24 pari-mutuel, we only have a few facilities actually  
25 conducting live races, but most of those are still

1 open along with their card rooms conducting  
2 inter-track wagering. As far as revenue, we  
3 collected approximately -- again, these figures are  
4 preliminary because we're just finishing our fiscal  
5 year, it takes us a couple months to finalize  
6 those -- but around \$290 million in total revenue we  
7 we collected. 6.3 from pari-mutuel operations,  
8 22.6 million from card rooms, and 262 million from  
9 slot operations.

10 Our occupational licenses, we did about 15,000  
11 occupational licenses, processed the applications.  
12 13,000 were in the pari-mutuel card room side and  
13 2,800 were on the slot side. We collected around  
14 8,500 samples from the racing animals which resulted  
15 in 75 positive test findings, which you've seen some  
16 of those drug positives and some of the penalties  
17 associated with those. Really a lot of the other  
18 stuff, we've just maintained continuing -- we've done  
19 thousands of inspections, pari-mutuel card room,  
20 obviously bar inspections, slot machine shipment  
21 approvals. So you'll see a breakdown of all of that.  
22 I can provide you a list or it will come out in the  
23 annual report when we have that finished. But I'm  
24 available to answer any questions you might have.

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: When you don't have the

1 live scan, the live scan fingerprinting, you just  
2 have the old ink fingerprinting, is that what you're  
3 still using in those other places?

4 MR. DILLMORE: So that's one of the options  
5 people have. They can actually go to a private  
6 service live scan provider if they want to. We have  
7 I think a link to those sites on our website. They  
8 can also just mail in the hard card and we actually  
9 scan it in at our end. So we get them  
10 electronically, get them in the system  
11 electronically, but we still offer several options.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Do you know how many  
13 facilities still need to get the live scan?

14 MR. DILLMORE: Well, so the horse racing is  
15 where really our biggest on-site need is and our  
16 highest demand. So they come in and they'd really  
17 like to enter a race either the same day or next day.  
18 So we've identified those highest needs first and  
19 we'll continue to explore whether any other areas we  
20 have any log jams.

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And what did you say the  
22 total revenue was? What was that number?

23 MR. DILLMORE: 290 million.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I just want to again thank  
25 you, Joe, for all you and your division has done. I

1 mean, you had to -- even though you were already  
2 there and the division was already there, the  
3 changeover, everything that gets complicated by that,  
4 you had to take on a new job, a new position. Even  
5 though they were easy shoes to fill that you took  
6 over for, you had to take that over in the middle of  
7 all the changes, the commission, HISA, anti-doping,  
8 the whole thing. We all recognize that, I think.  
9 And applying all that that you had to do and all your  
10 staff who had to adjust to all these changes, coming  
11 to the commission and having to do things differently  
12 now I know is challenging. But it's been done  
13 without a bump in the road.

14 I mean, really, it just seems like it's moved  
15 right over, everybody jumped right in with what  
16 they've been doing and working, and it's just been  
17 flowing so smoothly. So thank you to all your staff  
18 and to you for all that. We really do appreciate  
19 that and appreciate the updates. It's very  
20 interesting to me to hear the updates on these  
21 periodically and how much work is being done with the  
22 licensees. So thank you for that.

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll echo the  
24 commissioner's comments. Just one question, would I  
25 be correct that there's 7,500 [indiscernible] --

1 MR. DILLMORE: It was 8,500 samples collected  
2 and 75 positives. That was for the fiscal year 2022  
3 and 2023.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: 8,500 samples, 75  
5 positives [indiscernible] --

6 MR. DILLMORE: That's correct. And obviously,  
7 you know, still being in transition, there may be a  
8 couple that trickle in there, but that's about it.

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

10 MR. DILLMORE: They did a tremendous job at  
11 adapting to the new processes. Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Vice Chair Brown.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I can't not say anything  
14 because you've been tremendous. You've been just a  
15 steadfast leader for your whole team, for the whole  
16 agency, and we are grateful that you're with us as  
17 director of PMW. And I know that your team is also  
18 grateful. You have this incredible institutional  
19 knowledge of the agency that I think so many of us  
20 depend on, and to have that and also have you be able  
21 to do that as we migrate to a whole new agency  
22 seamlessly really has just been amazing. So thank  
23 you so much for everything that you do for us, and  
24 we're grateful for you.

25 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Anything else, Mr. Executive

1 director?

2 MR. TROMBETTA: Yes, Mr. Chair. I forgot Ross.  
3 So -- he's sitting right next to me. Mr. Marshman is  
4 the general counsel, and I'd like to give him an  
5 opportunity to also kind of show off what he's done.

6 MR. MARSHMAN: Mr. Chair?

7 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Yes.

8 MR. MARSHMAN: The best thing that I've done is  
9 really reflected by my staff's efforts. So I'd like  
10 to acknowledge them and congratulate them for  
11 sticking with it, so-to-speak. The original three  
12 were Emily Alvarado, Elizabeth Stinson, and Ebonie  
13 Lanier. Ms. Stinson and Ms. Alvarado I think you've  
14 seen almost every meeting, and Ms. Lanier is actually  
15 the one that first alerted me today about the audio  
16 issue. She is my assistant and she keeps me on the  
17 straight and narrow. So I appreciate her. We've  
18 also hired Darrell Garvey, who we're very grateful  
19 with him helping Liz. Steve Woods is our new hire.  
20 I'd like to introduce you to him after this meeting.  
21 And Elina Valentine. I think most of you have  
22 met at this point is my deputy. We also have Melba,  
23 our clerk, who's sitting at the table as well. I  
24 think most of you have met her before by now. And we  
25 have Mindy, who's back at the office as well that

1 keeps all the lights going on our end. And we also  
2 have an intern right now that we're trying to  
3 convince to work for us, Cara Campbell. And without  
4 them, none of this would be able to succeed. So I  
5 appreciate all their efforts. Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you, Mr. Marshman. Mr.  
7 Executive director?

8 MR. TROMBETTA: Just one final shout-out, two  
9 maybe. Dixie and Brandy, they are instrumental in  
10 putting these meetings together. There was an e-mail  
11 sent immediately following the conversation about the  
12 dates and locations. Dixie is already working on  
13 trying to finalize locations. So they do a  
14 phenomenal job in making sure that these meetings  
15 happen, putting the materials together, and I'd hate  
16 to kind of miss that. So thank you guys. Debbie,  
17 too, she's been super helpful just getting me through  
18 a lot of things this year. So it really is a team  
19 effort from everybody who you've seen. Susie, who  
20 was not able to be here, again, because our IT team  
21 is preparing what she's calling a caravan of  
22 goodness, she has termed this thing, we are -- she's  
23 boxing up a whole bunch of equipment and driving to  
24 South Florida next week to get our folks in South  
25 Florida new equipment. So just it's taken all of her

1 time. She wanted to be here, but she's working on  
2 that. Her whole team, it would be bad to not mention  
3 all the work that IT has been doing to try to help  
4 all of this other stuff happen. And it has not been  
5 easy, it's been very challenging.

6 So I'm very -- just thank everybody that you  
7 don't necessarily see behind the scenes for  
8 everything they've been doing. It's been a big lift  
9 on everybody's part. And from leadership to the  
10 members of their team, I mean, really, everybody's  
11 chipped in, and it's a phenomenal place to be a part  
12 of. This last year has really been pretty  
13 incredible. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for the time, and  
14 thank you, commissioners, for the questions.

15 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Thank you. Commissioner  
16 Drago?

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you. I certainly  
18 don't want the lawyers to go without some compliments  
19 because I personally really do appreciate everything  
20 that they do. Since day one when I started here --  
21 and I know the other commissioners, many went through  
22 the beginning the same way -- we got so much -- I  
23 learned so much from the lawyers here in that short  
24 period of time, and I have tremendous faith in all of  
25 you. I really appreciate the advice I get, the legal

1 advice. It's helped me so much. I can always count  
2 on it. Mr. Marshman, everything that you've had to  
3 deal with over the last year, it made it much easier  
4 on me personally. As I've said before, I sit next to  
5 a lawyer, so I feel like I'm pretty much qualified,  
6 but I'm really not. So I appreciate all that  
7 information. It's helped me get through a lot and  
8 understand it and simplify it for me. And the way  
9 you all work together is just such a good team and  
10 everything that you do.

11 I know Emily has been put on the spot here in  
12 dealing with some of the stuff, and even though we  
13 may throw some crazy things at you, Emily, we  
14 appreciate all of you and everything that you've  
15 done. And thanks for all the help you've done for  
16 me. The ethics training from Liz and everything has  
17 just been top notch. So I want to make sure I said  
18 that, how much I appreciate it. And I will still --  
19 it doesn't mean you're going to get off easy. I'm  
20 still going to be hounding you for advice.

21 Brandy and Dixie, thank you so much back there,  
22 sitting in the back of the room, the two people that  
23 I epitomize. The wind beneath your wings  
24 kind of thing, you don't even know they're there, and  
25 they're always helping. And I deal a lot with

1 Dixie of course, too, and like you said, you just  
2 have to mention something, and boom, they're taking  
3 care of it. So thank you ladies back there. You're  
4 not lost in the back, you can't hide forever. We  
5 really do appreciate everything.

6 And then of course, Lou, thank you for  
7 everything that you do. This year -- I think this is  
8 an appropriate time -- I know I'm boring everybody  
9 with this -- but this is an appropriate time I think  
10 to make mention of these things, a great job you've  
11 done in putting this team together, and the hiring  
12 you've done, you brought in top notch people, that's  
13 what it's all about, especially when you're a  
14 manager, a leader, it's the people that are around  
15 you that you put together that make everything work,  
16 and you've done a great job with that on every level.  
17 And one of the things I mentioned, I remember when  
18 you were first hired is one of the main things for me  
19 is that any commission is always kept apprised of  
20 what's going on, always involved, no surprises, make  
21 sure we're all in this together, and you've been  
22 great about that, always keeping us in the loop and  
23 keeping us informed. I know sometimes when you have  
24 a job like this, you're busy day to day to day, you  
25 don't want to have to tell five people about what's

1 going on, but you've done a great job with it, and I  
2 want to thank you for that.

3 MR. TROMBETTA: Thanks.

4 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Commissioner D'AQUILA?

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: [Indiscernible].

6 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Vice Chair Brown?

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Seeing that this  
8 is such an apt time for a tribute, your kind of  
9 reflection, everything that Commissioner Drago said  
10 was just so spot on. I'm happy that you highlighted  
11 Executive Director Trombetta, too, because it hasn't  
12 been necessarily a smooth ride the whole time for him  
13 or for the lawyers or for Dixie and Brandy or Debbie.  
14 I mean, they work 18 hours some days. I know a lot  
15 of you all do, too, but I know directly each one of  
16 you, we hear from you, one of you every single day,  
17 and we're very dependent on you, the whole agency is.  
18 Your leadership, Lou, has just been tremendous.  
19 You've been faced with many challenges and obstacles  
20 and you've stayed steadfast and resilient and you've  
21 been great for the agency. You've sent the whole  
22 state staffers for the gaming commission, you give  
23 them updates regularly so they're not in the dark of  
24 what's going on and what our progress is. I think  
25 the employees really appreciate that from you. Of

1 course you're in touch with us all the time, the  
2 lawyers, Mr. Marshman, Ms. Alvarado and Ms. Stinson.  
3 I mean, you have always been the rock from the  
4 beginning. We've had a lot of growing pains  
5 together. So thank you for sticking it out and for  
6 your hard work. I know how many hours you work and I  
7 know you have multiple balls in the air that you're  
8 constantly juggling and always do such a professional  
9 job. And of course, Dixie and Brandy, we love you.  
10 Thank you so much.

11 CHAIRMAN UPTON: Commissioner Repp?

12 COMMISSIONER REPP: Being new to the  
13 commission, I didn't get to see all of the  
14 transitions that took place, but I'd like to just  
15 collectively thank everyone for everything you've  
16 done, everything you're doing now, and for making me  
17 feel welcome.

18 CHAIRMAN UPTON: All right. Thank you. Mr.  
19 Executive director, anything further?

20 MR. TROMBETTA: Just to follow up on what  
21 Dixie's been working on. We have the PSC room  
22 confirmed for those three days. But that's it.  
23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN UPTON: We will move on now to public  
25 comment if we have any. Okay. I don't think we have

1 any public comment.

2 There's one thing I wanted to say. I  
3 understand there were some technical issues with the  
4 sound today, and I know that some of the folks that  
5 were parties, respondents or otherwise, were trying  
6 to listen in. If you want a transcript, just contact  
7 the office and we will get you a transcript of what  
8 went on today if you weren't able to hear it on The  
9 Florida Channel. Any further discussion? Anything  
10 else from any of the commissioners? Okay. We'll  
11 stand adjourned.

12 (Transcription concluded.)

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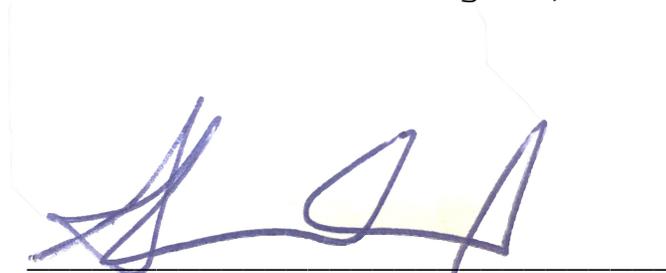
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STATE OF FLORIDA )  
COUNTY OF BROWARD )

I, Shelby Rosenberg, Florida Professional Reporter,  
certify that I was authorized to and did  
stenographically transcribe the foregoing audio  
recording to the best of my ability and that the  
transcript is a true and complete record of my  
stenographic notes.

Dated this 8th of August, 2023.



Shelby Rosenberg, Florida Professional Reporter