

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Reported by: Shelley Kelly

Job No.: 398413

1 APPEARANCES:

2 COMMISSON MEMBERS:

3 JULIE I. BROWN, VICE CHAIR

4 CHARLES DRAGO, COMMISSIONER

5 JOHN D'AQUILA, COMMISSIONER

6 TINA REPP, COMMISSIONER

7

8 PARTICIPANTS:

9 ROSS MARSHMAN, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10 JOE DILLMORE, DIRECTOR OF PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

11 ELINA VALENTINE, GENERAL COUNSEL

12 MARC TAUPIER, DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL

13 EMILY ALVARADO, CHIEF ATTORNEY

14 JUSTIN HUNDERSMARCK, SENIOR ATTORNEY

15 DIXIE PARKER, GENERAL AND OPERATIONS MANAGER I

16 CARL HEROLD, DIRECTOR OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

17 LISA MUSTAIN, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

18 BILL CRAFTS, CHIEF OF SLOT OPERATIONS

19

20

21 OTHERS PRESENT

22 JONATHAN ZACHEM, PPI COUNSEL

23 JORDAN MILLER (APPEARS BY PHONE)

24 PATRICK BLAND, ACRES

25 EDGAR DIAZ

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (9:30 a.m.)

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning. Good morning,  
4 everyone.

5 (Good morning.)

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I hope you all are doing well  
7 today, and thank you everyone for joining us in Fort  
8 Lauderdale here. It's great to see a lot of our  
9 Gaming Commission staff members here.

10 Today is May 13th, Tuesday, at 9:30. We're in  
11 Fort Lauderdale. Our court reporter is Shelley Kelly.  
12 And since we don't have -- all of us in the room don't  
13 have name tags, when you speak, please present clearly  
14 your name before you speak. And that's to all of our  
15 staff members. And silence your phones, please.

16 And with that, if you could please stand for the  
17 Pledge of Allegiance, which will be led by our very  
18 own Bill Crafts.

19 (Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Bill. And I want  
21 to first start this meeting out by saying this is  
22 really always the highlight of the whole year, is  
23 being able to come down here and being with all of you  
24 and getting an opportunity to see facilities and catch  
25 up and see how everyone is doing.

1           It is a tight time frame. A lot of folks have  
2   different things going on, conferences. But I do want  
3   to just start out by saying thank you to Dixie Parker  
4   and Brandy Humphries for organizing this. The  
5   logistics are very complex and making it all go  
6   seamless, and we really appreciate that, as well as  
7   our staff for setting up various meetings along the  
8   way.

9           With that, commissioners, we are going to begin  
10   our meeting. We're starting out with the approval of  
11   meeting minutes for March 6th, 2025, and April 10th,  
12   2025. Can I please get a motion to approve both  
13   items?

14          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

15          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

16          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

17          VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.

18          (Aye.)

19          VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. We're going into  
20   discussion of renewal application of slot licenses.  
21   We're going to take them up together, items 2.1 and  
22   2.2, which will be led by Director Dillmore.

23          MR. DILLMORE: Good morning. Joe Dillmore for  
24   the record --

25          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes.

1 MR. DILLMORE: Item 2.1 is case number 2025 --

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Could you maybe move it a  
3 little bit closer? A little temperamental.

4 MR. DILLMORE: This is item 2.1, is case number  
5 2025-024809-839 (sic), Federal Highway Acquisition,  
6 LLC. 2.2 is case number 2025-031060, Calder Race  
7 Course, Inc. Both applicants have submitted slot  
8 application renewal forms, met all statute  
9 requirements, paid all the associated fees. And staff  
10 recommendation is for the commission to approve those  
11 slot new licenses.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Director Dillmore.  
13 We're still trying to figure out the mic, but thanks  
14 for getting that to us today. And I know Ms.  
15 Pouncey's not here, but I do have a question about  
16 item 2.1, is about the payment. I know you said that  
17 all of the statutory requirements have been met. I  
18 just want confirmation on the record that the \$2  
19 million will be paid upon approval.

20 MR. DILLMORE: Actually, we have updated -- that  
21 both payments have been made on both licensees. Yes.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay, great. Commissioners,  
23 are there any questions? If not, can I get a motion  
24 to approve the renewal of items 2.1 and 2.2?

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Motion to approve items

1 2.1 and 2.2.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And is there a second?

3 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.  
5 (Aye.)

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We're getting into  
7 a discussion of default final orders 3.1 through 3.3,  
8 which are all exclusions.

9 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Good morning.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning.

11 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Justin Hundersmarck for the  
12 record. Item 3.1 is Tyson Norman Trimble, case 2023-  
13 025188.

14 THE REPORTER: A little slower, please. Thank  
15 you.

16 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Sure. The case materials  
17 include the administrative complaint alleging that  
18 respondent was a patron of Magic City Casino and was  
19 excluded on April 23rd, 2023, for disorderly behavior  
20 and refusing to leave the casino when asked multiple  
21 times. The administrative complaint seeks exclusion  
22 from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in  
23 Florida.

24 The case materials also include USPS certified  
25 mail tracking number and confirmation of delivery to

1 the respondent on February 13th, 2025. They did not  
2 respond. Therefore, the division would ask the  
3 commission to enter an order with the following  
4 findings.

5 That the respondent was properly served the  
6 administrative complaint and failed to respond within  
7 21 days and waived his right to a hearing. That the  
8 factual allegations of the administrative complaint  
9 are accepted as the findings of fact in this case.  
10 And that respondent shall be permanently excluded from  
11 all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in  
12 Florida.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.  
14 Commissioners, are there any questions on this item?

15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: If not, can we get a motion to  
17 permanently enter a final order permanently excluding  
18 the respondent from all pari-mutuel and slot machines.

19 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion to  
20 exclude.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.  
24 (Aye.)

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Taking up 3.2.

1           MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 3.2 is Rudy Ortiz, case  
2   2024-060493. The case materials include the  
3   administrative complaint alleging that respondent was  
4   a patron of The Big Easy Casino and was excluded on or  
5   about October 22nd, 2024. The exclusion was for his  
6   violent behavior when he disagreed with a poker table  
7   call.

8           The administrative complaint seeks permanent  
9   exclusion from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
10   facilities in Florida. The case materials also  
11   include the USPS certified mail tracking number and  
12   confirmation of delivery to the respondent on March  
13   17th, 2025. They did not respond.

14          Therefore, the division would ask the commission  
15   to enter an order following findings that respondent  
16   was properly served the administrative complaint,  
17   failed to respond within 21 days, and waives his right  
18   to a hearing. That the factual allegations of the  
19   administrative complaint are accepted as the findings  
20   of facts in this case, and that respondent shall be  
21   permanently excluded from all pari-mutuel and slot  
22   machine facilities in Florida.

23          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any  
24   questions on this item? If not, can we get a motion  
25   to approve the staff recommendation?



1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make that motion.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And is there a second,  
3 Commissioner?

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second that motion.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All those in  
6 favor, say aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And lastly, 3.3.

9 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 3.3 is Stephen Anthony Abbond,  
10 case 2024-068476. The case materials include the  
11 administrative complaint alleging that respondent was  
12 a patron of Card House Port St. Lucie and was excluded  
13 on November 21st, 2024. He was excluded for using  
14 crack cocaine on site.

15 The administrative complaint seeks permanent  
16 exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities in Florida.  
17 The case materials also include the USPS certified  
18 mail tracking number and confirmation of delivery to  
19 the respondent on March 18th, 2025. They did not  
20 respond.

21 Therefore, the division would ask the commission  
22 to enter an order with the following findings: that  
23 the respondent was properly served with the  
24 administrative complaint, failed to respond within 21  
25 days, and waived his right to a hearing. That the

1 factual allegations in the administrative complaint  
2 are accepted as the findings of fact in this case, and  
3 that respondent shall be permanently excluded from all  
4 pari-mutuel facilities in Florida.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.  
6 Commissioner Repp, can you please make a motion to  
7 approve the staff recommendation?

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: I will make a motion to  
9 approve the staff recommendation.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.  
13 (Aye.)

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. We are moving on to  
15 4.1, which is a discussion of settlement offers.

16 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 4.1 is West Volusia  
17 Racing, Incorporated, doing business as Orange City  
18 Racing and Card Club, case 2024-055948. On January  
19 6th, 2025, an administrative complaint was filed  
20 against respondent alleging a violation of section  
21 849.086, subsection 8A, by allowing a player to  
22 participate in a poker game without first converting  
23 his cash into chips or tokens.

24 This facility did not have any prior violations  
25 of the statute. Respondent seeks the adoption of the

1 proposed settlement and consent order to resolve this  
2 case. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed order,  
3 the respondent will agree to pay \$250 to the Florida  
4 Gaming Control Commission.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, are  
6 there any questions on this item? Seeing no  
7 questions, we're right for a motion.

8 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Make a motion to accept  
9 the recommendation of staff.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Which is approving  
11 the stipulation and consent order, correct?

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah. Is there a second?

14 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.  
16 (Aye.)

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And miscellaneous  
18 final orders, item 5.1.

19 MS. ALVARADO: Emily Alvarado, for the record.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

21 MS. ALVARADO: Item 5.1 is 2024-049092, Gilbert  
22 Youte. In opposition to an administrative complaint  
23 that was filed by the commission, respondent filed an  
24 election of rights for timely requesting a formal  
25 hearing, but failing to comply with the statutory

1 requirements.

2 Specifically, he failed to include a statement  
3 identifying the material facts in dispute. Based on  
4 the defective request, the clerk of the commission  
5 issued an order denying applicant's request without  
6 prejudice. Under the order, respondent had 15 days to  
7 cure the defect in his request for the hearing and the  
8 applicant -- I'm sorry -- the respondent failed to  
9 respond.

10 Therefore, we ask the commission to enter a final  
11 order dismissing the request for hearing with  
12 prejudice, adopt as findings of facts and conclusions  
13 of law and administrative complaint, and permanently  
14 excluding respondent from all licensed pari-mutuel  
15 facilities as well as slot machine facilities in the  
16 state of Florida.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
18 Commissioners, seeing no questions, can we get a  
19 motion to approve the staff recommendation?

20 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to approve  
21 the staff recommendation.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And is there a second?

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.

25 (Aye.)

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And we are on to  
2 recommended orders 6.1 through 6.4.

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 6.1 is Akili Adhama Gray,  
4 Jr., case 2023-053889. The division seeks revocation  
5 of respondent Akili Adhama Gray Jr.'s pari-mutuel  
6 wagering professional individual occupation license.  
7 Respondent was served an administrative complaint and  
8 requested an informal hearing, which proceeded on  
9 March 18th, 2025.

10 On April 25th, the hearing officer recommended  
11 revocation. The division recommends the commission  
12 adopt the hearing officer's recommendation and revoke  
13 respondents pari-mutuel wagering professional  
14 individual occupational license.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any  
16 questions on item 6.1? Can we get a motion to adopt  
17 the hearing officer's recommendation revoking  
18 respondent's occupational license?

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second, please.

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.  
23 (Aye.)

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are moving on to 6.2. We  
25 do have the respondent on the phone. And I just want

1 to confirm before we open up this item that Mr. Miller  
2 is on the phone.

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 6.2 --

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Oh, Mr. Hundersmarck, one sec.  
5 Ms. Parker, just confirmation that Mr. Hundersmarck --  
6 sorry -- Mr. Miller is on the phone?

7 MS. PARKER: Yes, ma'am.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Just one moment, Mr.  
9 Miller. We are going to have our staff present the  
10 item. Mr. Hundersmarck?

11 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 6.2 is Jordan Miller,  
12 case 2024-010658. Petitioner Jordan Miller submitted  
13 an application for a pari-mutuel wagering professional  
14 individual occupational license. Following review of  
15 the application, the commission issued a letter of  
16 license denial and denial of the request for a waiver,  
17 notifying petitioner of its intent to deny the  
18 application based on petitioner's felony conviction.

19 Petitioner requested an informal hearing, which  
20 was held on February 26th, 2025. On April 28th, the  
21 hearing officer recommended denying petitioner's  
22 application. The division recommends the commission  
23 adopt the hearing officer's recommended order and deny  
24 petitioner's application.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.

1 This file particularly is very voluminous and has a  
2 lot of information in it to review. Before we have  
3 any questions, Mr. Miller, you are going to be given  
4 an opportunity to speak. And we have all of the  
5 commissioners present here today. It is not being  
6 filmed on the Florida channel, but it is being  
7 transcribed by a court reporter.

8 MS. PARKER: Mr. Miller, go ahead.

9 MR. MILLER: Hi there. Thank you for letting me  
10 speak today. I respect your guys' decision, you know,  
11 denying my license application going by your guys'  
12 rules. I just wanted to say my piece at the end of  
13 it. I understand that I made a bad decision years ago  
14 when I was younger. I paid my debt to society at the  
15 time. I was then deported from the United States. I  
16 waited my time, made an application to come back to  
17 the United States, and they have granted that I'm  
18 allowed back in the United States. I'm allowed  
19 working back in the United States.

20 I've held a license in Pennsylvania. I was  
21 granted a license in California, even though I ended  
22 up not going. You know, after everything that had  
23 happened all those years ago and I got in trouble, I  
24 feel like I am rehabilitated. I've had not even so  
25 much of a speeding ticket since I left. What had

1 happened back then is -- was 100 percent out of  
2 character, and I made a mistake, and I didn't own it.

3 I just always hoped that, you know, moving  
4 forward, I wouldn't have to pay the penalty for the  
5 rest of my life. And I'm trying to move forward and  
6 doing my job as a jockey agent. And, you know, I have  
7 people willing to let me represent them down in the  
8 state of Florida. And I've just always wanted the  
9 opportunity. And, you know, I've done a lot of good  
10 things on the racetrack throughout my life.

11 And up here at Woodbine, you know, I help with  
12 the chaplaincy. I help running the activities with  
13 softball team, the hockey team, and I run backstreet  
14 barbecues. I feel I'm a really big asset to the  
15 racing community.

16 And like I said, I understand that you guys  
17 denied my application based on the rules, but I really  
18 feel that, you know, especially in our game, where  
19 it's harder and harder to have younger people in the  
20 game and people are leaving the game and not entering  
21 the game, I really feel that I'm an asset to the game  
22 of horse racing. And, you know, my record as an agent  
23 speaks for itself as well.

24 I've been very successful. I've represented a  
25 lot of really good jockeys, and I just really want to



1 be afforded the possibility, even if it was on a  
2 temporary basis, just to have a shot to prove myself  
3 in the state of Florida. And I just hope that you  
4 guys can just take one more look at it. I just really  
5 hope you can take one more look at it.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Miller.  
7 Commissioners, do any of you have questions of Mr.  
8 Miller?

9 COMMISSIONER REPP: No.

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No, I don't.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Miller, do you currently  
12 have an active license?

13 MR. MILLER: I apologize. -- very hard for you  
14 guys.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Hold on one second. Thank  
16 you. Do you currently have an active license in the  
17 United States?

18 MR. MILLER: I believe my Pennsylvania one just  
19 expired in May. I can double check, but that would  
20 have been my last one because I had it for two years,  
21 I believe.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay, thank you.

23 MR. MILLER: Yes.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are going to be reviewing  
25 this with staff right now. You can stay on the phone.

1 You're just going to be muted. Commissioners, any  
2 question of staff?

3 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I don't, no.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I don't.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. If there are no  
6 questions, we are right for a motion. Commissioner  
7 Drago.

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I make a motion to accept  
9 the staff recommendation.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

11 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll second.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in  
13 favor, say aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving on  
16 to 6.3.

17 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 6.3 is Robert Cotrone,  
18 case 2024-018224. Petitioner Robert Cotrone submitted  
19 an application for a pari-mutuel wagering professional  
20 individual occupational license. Following review of  
21 the application, the commission issued a letter of  
22 license denial and denial of the request for waiver,  
23 notifying petitioner of its intent to deny the  
24 application based on petitioner's six felony  
25 convictions.

1           Petitioner requested an informal hearing, which  
2   was held on February 26th, 2025. On April 28th, the  
3   hearing officer recommended that the commission grant  
4   petitioner's application.

5           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.  
6   Commissioners, are there any questions? I appreciate  
7   the hearing officer's recommendation. Given the  
8   amount of time that lapsed from -- of these crimes,  
9   although they are notable, it appears that the  
10   individual is rehabilitated. And I would agree with  
11   the hearing officer's recommendation. Commissioners,  
12   any questions of staff? Commissioner Drago?

13           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just let me make sure I get  
14   my information correct. So we've got several criminal  
15   acts that occurred from 1984 to 2003, most of them, as  
16   I see, are felonies, correct?

17           MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct. They are all  
18   felonies. And there were maybe some other  
19   undisqualifying offenses -- non-disqualifying  
20   offenses.

21           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Right. And then I have --  
22   was there an arrest in 2005?

23           MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct. It was for  
24   offering a false instrument.

25           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And that was not a

1 conviction though, right? It was just an arrest?

2 That non-disqualify?

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: It was a conditional  
4 discharge.

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: May I add a question?

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure. Commissioner Drago's --  
7 go ahead.

8 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: That false instrument,  
9 was one of those falsifying a license to do business  
10 in a jurisdiction in another state? I believe the  
11 state of New York. Is that correct?

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I believe it was business  
13 records, yeah.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: In other words, obtaining  
15 a license under one -- another individual's identity?

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Ms. Alvarado is looking  
17 through the materials.

18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I have some concerns  
19 because of the length of time for which these felonies  
20 were committed, as well as the disregard for  
21 understanding what a license is and the rules  
22 pertaining to such.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Hundersmarck, any comment?  
24 You have the floor, Commissioner Drago.

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I think I'm just still

1 waiting too for some clarification on the violation of  
2 this. I believe it was falsifying business records  
3 for a license in New York State. I mean, I think  
4 that's a critical thought in terms of whether or not  
5 the individual has been rehabilitated or not. And  
6 we'd be talking more about 2005 and somebody who  
7 fraudulently attempted to or maybe have -- maybe was  
8 actually able to do it to acquire a state license on  
9 the false identification, false records.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I would like to know that as  
11 well. This individual has not committed any crimes,  
12 is that correct, since 2005?

13 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct. He has not  
14 been convicted for any crimes.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And he's currently licensed in  
16 several -- or he was currently licensed in two other  
17 jurisdictions and is currently licensed in New York?

18 MS. ALVARADO: I can't --

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Oh, Emily --

20 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: A clarifying question, if  
23 I may?

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure.

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Is it my understanding

1 that the licenses in the state of New York, Maryland,  
2 and Kentucky that were listed by the applicant are now  
3 all expired as of today?

4 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: I don't believe that's the  
5 case. I think about three of them are still active  
6 and maybe one, the Kentucky one, had expired at the  
7 time of the letter of license denial. We don't know  
8 either way whether it's been reissued. And then there  
9 was one more that has expired since the time of the  
10 letter of license denial. We can get that information  
11 if that's --

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So we don't know as of  
13 today whether -- Director Dillmore, do you want to  
14 comment on --

15 MR. DILLMORE: Yes. Joe Dillmore for the record.

16 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: -- how the licenses work,  
17 please?

18 MR. DILLMORE: According to the investigative  
19 report, the Kentucky license expired in '23. The  
20 Maryland license expired in '24, and the New York  
21 license will expire in '25. I don't know if that date  
22 is passed yet.

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And I know Ms.  
25 Alvarado is still looking up that information,

1 Commissioner Drago. Again, this is another voluminous  
2 file here, so bear with us, folks in the audience.

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: So that 2005 was falsifying  
4 business records. There was another one where he had  
5 used his father's name to get a license because his  
6 convictions were disqualifying to use our record. And  
7 then when his father died, he forged the equity  
8 issuance, did the application, and then this was a  
9 separate one.

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay. Do we know if he --  
11 I'm sorry.

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Do we know if he actually  
14 got the license back then under fraudulent  
15 circumstances?

16 MS. ALVARADO: All the information that we have  
17 on that is based on his waiver interview. There's not  
18 a lot of documentation from the courts on exactly what  
19 happened. So that's just little information that he  
20 gave in his waiver interview.

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I see.

22 MS. ALVARADO: From what I can see.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila?

24 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: He was given the license and  
25 then in a raid, it was discovered?

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: He was given the license,  
2 you said?

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: That's correct.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And --

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila?

6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And one of those felonies  
7 is insurance fraud.

8 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And that was recorded as  
10 a felony in the state of New York?

11 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I have a question for  
13 staff, if I may.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Please.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: In your recommendation  
16 for recommending granting a license, you took into --  
17 in developing your recommendation, you looked at the  
18 letters of reference for this applicant?

19 MS. ALVARADO: So the recommendation is from the  
20 hearing officer. We actually recommended denial at  
21 the hearing. And then the hearing officer recommended  
22 --

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Hearing officer  
24 recommended, just to clarify.

25 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.



1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. And the hearing  
2 officer is not here today.

3 MS. ALVARADO: She's not, no.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. When I look at the  
5 letters of reference, I see them from the lawyer for  
6 the applicant, for the accountant for the applicant,  
7 all candidates that are doing business with the  
8 applicant. Is that correct?

9 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: In his hearing, he had a  
10 neighbor also.

11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: A neighbor?

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I'm sorry?

13 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yeah, for about 20 years.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. I have some  
15 concerns on the long duration of the felonies and the  
16 type of felonies. Specifically, is it the lack of  
17 respect for government licensing here, and not to make  
18 light of the other attempted robbery, assault, and so  
19 forth. But I do understand the passage of time and  
20 rehabilitation. My last question is the applicant's  
21 age, is it 63 years old?

22 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: It's about 62 or 63, yes.

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay, still working.  
24 Okay. I have no further questions, but I have  
25 concerns about this application.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Hundersmarck, the position  
2     that the applicant, Mr. Cotrone is applying for is a  
3     trainer?

4           MR. HUNDERSMARCK: He wants to be an owner.

5           VICE CHAIR BROWN: I'm sorry, owner?

6           MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yeah.

7           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
8     questions or comments? My last question is, have all  
9     of the fines been -- in probation been fulfilled?

10          MR. HUNDERSMARCK: I believe so.

11          MR. TAUPIER: Marc Taupier for the record. Just  
12     to give you a little bit more information on the  
13     applicant's application to where it says facility,  
14     where employee and or doing business, it's the same  
15     exact auto body for the charges. So he has not left  
16     that auto body that resulted in the charges in New  
17     York.

18                 He, currently, from what he put on his  
19     application, is still working there. So I don't know  
20     if that makes any difference in your decision making,  
21     but he appears to have not removed himself from that  
22     auto body, which brought him all those charges -- that  
23     business.

24          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: He was working at that same  
25     place back in the 80s and 90s? Is that what you're

1 saying?

2 MR. TAUPIER: That same auto body was the auto  
3 body business that was identified in the convictions  
4 for auto fraudulent business records and things like  
5 that. And in his application, that is where he says  
6 he still currently works.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is he an owner of that auto  
8 body?

9 MR. TAUPIER: I'm not sure if he's an owner of  
10 it, but all I see is that he's still working there.

11 MS. ALVARADO: At the hearing, he did mention  
12 that he owns the auto body shop.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That would make sense.  
14 Commissioner D'Aquila?

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I have no further  
16 questions. Unless we're ready for a motion.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp, any  
18 questions?

19 COMMISSIONER REPP: No, none.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. We're ready for a  
21 motion. Commissioner D'Aquila.

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah. I'm going to make  
23 a motion to deny the application for the reasons that  
24 we've discussed.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

1 MS. VALENTINE: I apologize, commissioners.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Oh, sorry.

3 MS. VALENTINE: Just to clarify, because --  
4 concern is a recommended --

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Could you say your name? I'm  
6 sorry, for the record.

7 MS. VALENTINE: Elina Valentine. Because what is  
8 in front of you is a recommended order from a hearing  
9 officer, if you do not wish to adopt the findings of  
10 fact and the conclusions of law that are set forth in  
11 the recommended order, any motion would have to state  
12 that. And perhaps -- because it appears that -- you  
13 know, if you would like -- if you still do not find  
14 that there has been a demonstration of good moral  
15 character and rehabilitation for the applicant, that  
16 any motion that you would like to make would be to not  
17 adopt the findings of fact and the conclusions of law  
18 in the representative order to the extent that they  
19 find good moral character, rehabilitation, and  
20 recommend granting a license.

21 And then therefore, the filed order would deny a  
22 license, but it would substitute your findings from  
23 the recommended -- from the hearing officers.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila, you  
25 understood that? Lawyers.

1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I do understand it. So  
2 we could --

3 MS. VALENTINE: I can be more specific.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Please.

5 MS. VALENTINE: So the recommended order -- I  
6 apologize, I'm scrolling through. In the conclusions  
7 of law, in item 28 of the recommended order, the  
8 hearing officer stated that as a conclusion of law,  
9 that the petitioner established good moral character  
10 and rehabilitation. So the motion can say that you do  
11 not adopt the conclusion of law set forth in item 28  
12 and that you also would like to enter a final order  
13 denying the applicant's license.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: All right. So would it -  
15 - in order to deny the applicant's license --

16 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: -- suffice?

18 MS. VALENTINE: You do not adopt the conclusions  
19 of law.

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay.

21 MS. VALENTINE: Section 28 of the recommended  
22 order, you find that the applicant has not established  
23 good moral character and rehabilitation, and that you  
24 are voting -- making a motion to deny the applicant's  
25 license application.

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Got it?

2 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I got it. So moved.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Quick learner. Is there a  
4 second?

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll second.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any further discussion? I'm  
7 going to dissent from this. I do believe that I agree  
8 with the conclusions of law specified in the hearing  
9 officer's order, paragraph 28, that this individual  
10 has been rehabilitated.

11 And I do believe that based on the evidence of  
12 the past 20 years in the position for which he is  
13 applying for, that there will not be harm. And I just  
14 want to state that on the record. All those in favor  
15 for the motion, say aye.

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Aye.

17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Aye.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Opposed? Nay.

19 COMMISSIONER REPP: Nay.

20 MR. BROWN: So --

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Stalemate.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: -- stalemate. We've never had  
23 this. It's because we're here in Fort Lauderdale.  
24 We've thought about this. Director Marshman.

25 MR. MARSHMAN: Good morning. Ross Marshman for

1 the record. I would suggest then that we temporarily  
2 postpone this as we do not have a mechanism in law to  
3 break a tie.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. So we are going to  
5 go ahead and postpone this until the next meeting.  
6 And then I would direct staff, if there's any  
7 additional information that we can get that decipher  
8 over -- from the record, please come back and bring it  
9 to us. I will.

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Can I ask you a quick  
11 question?

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure.

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Can -- and I'm not saying  
14 this will happen or that Commissioner D'Aquila will  
15 want to, but can -- does he have the option to  
16 withdraw his motion in case of a second motion that  
17 would draw a different outcome? Is that an option for  
18 us at this point that he can withdraw his motion if he  
19 decides to?

20 MR. MARSHMAN: Yes, I think so, or there could  
21 just be a new motion in light of the most recent vote.  
22 I don't think we necessarily have to undo the previous  
23 motion. We're pretty far away from Robert's Rules of  
24 Order, just generally speaking, so.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's the way I like it.

1           MR. MARSHMAN: If there was a new motion on item  
2   6.2, I think that would still be appropriate at this  
3   time as it was adequately noticed in public and  
4   everyone has been given an opportunity to know this  
5   was happening today. So if the commission wanted to  
6   have another motion on this item before we moved on, I  
7   think that's -- strike that.

8           Item 6.3, I think that would be appropriate at  
9   this time. It's really up to you all.

10          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So --

11          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila?

12          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Question, Executive  
13   Director Marshman. Would an appropriate motion be to  
14   withdraw the motion but to allow more time for the --  
15   for more information to be gathered on the particular  
16   applicant or are we past the point on that?

17          MR. MARSHMAN: So two things on that. I wouldn't  
18   get too wrapped around the axle on undoing the  
19   previous motion. The motion was made and it failed  
20   just by tie. So I think that's done. To your second  
21   point, I think that's the more important part, which  
22   is what can be done now for the applicant.

23          We've already progressed through the process to  
24   where there's was the informal hearing, recommended  
25   order was issued, and now, you're in posture as a



1 commission on whether or not you want to adopt the  
2 conclusions of fact and conclusions of law or  
3 substitute your own and issue a final order matching  
4 what you all would vote to do. That's really the  
5 posture we're at. There's no second formal hearing,  
6 for instance.

7 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you for the  
8 clarification.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila? I  
10 mean, Drago?

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: That's my question. So has  
12 Commissioner D'Aquila's motion failed? Because you  
13 had mentioned earlier that we don't really have a  
14 mechanism for a tie. So has it actually failed or is  
15 it hanging out there? And do we have to -- that's why  
16 I'm saying, do we have to have that withdrawn and do  
17 another one? Because I'm not sure it has failed  
18 unless just because it's tied. That's my question.  
19 Has it actually failed? Because I don't want anything  
20 hanging out there that we didn't dispose of during  
21 this hearing -- this meeting, to be sure before we  
22 move on. That's all.

23 MR. MARSHMAN: Sure. I don't think the  
24 commission has taken any action that is going to haunt  
25 it in the future when it tries to take future action

1 on Mr. Cotrone's pending application. I think that  
2 there was a motion, and to me, motions either pass or  
3 fail, and the motion did not receive enough votes to  
4 overcome the nay. So to me, that's a fail.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay.

6 MR. MARSHMAN: So the motion did not go forward.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay.

8 MR. MARSHMAN: I don't think that Mr. Cotrone or  
9 anyone else would have a claim that because a motion  
10 failed and he is entitled to the license, I don't  
11 think that's an accurate argument that can be made.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay.

13 MR. MARSHMAN: Again, I would just suggest that  
14 item 6.3 be temporarily postponed, and that would give  
15 staff additional time to perhaps give you other  
16 options in the future on how to proceed. But I don't  
17 think you're going to be in a bad position today,  
18 given the events that have transpired so far.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Nor would we be in a bad  
20 position if we decided to take it -- to make another  
21 motion and vote on that.

22 MR. MARSHMAN: That's correct.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: That's an option. We could  
24 do that.

25 MR. MARSHMAN: There could be a motion today or a

1 future meeting that's publicly noticed.

2 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, moving forward  
4 right now, is there an appetite for considering  
5 another option, such as a temporary license or  
6 conditional license? And I assume, Director Marshman  
7 and Ms. Valentine, that we have that option as well.  
8 We could adopt the hearing officer's recommendation  
9 with the caveat that it would be a conditional  
10 license.

11 MR. MARSHMAN: Yes, that's true. You can impose  
12 additional conditions on the license. It would not be  
13 a temporary license.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's --

15 MR. MARSHMAN: There's a more -- a different term  
16 for it. But a conditional license, granting the  
17 application? Absolutely. If you make it contingent  
18 on things like any new law violation or new offense  
19 would cause the license to be immediately suspended or  
20 revoked. I'm sure Ms. Valentine has thoughts on that  
21 as well.

22 But if there are specific concerns that the  
23 commission thinks that it could address by making that  
24 a contingent part of the license, that's something  
25 that could be discussed today or in the future.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, is there an  
2   appetite again to consider something like that today?  
3   If not, we can go ahead and postpone this.

4           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'd like to consider it  
5   today and see where we can go. If there's no room to  
6   go and we don't move on, then we still have the option  
7   of postponing it to another one. But I think if we --  
8   if everyone else is interested in possibly getting  
9   this done today, I would be.

10          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp?

11          COMMISSIONER REPP: Yeah, I would be interested  
12   in considering it. I think there's already mechanisms  
13   in place to revoke licenses if he reoffends in the  
14   future. And I tend to agree with the hearing officer  
15   on this, that we have everything we need to meet the  
16   statutory requirements to grant the license. But  
17   that's something that I know the rest of the  
18   commission can consider, but that's where I'm at right  
19   now.

20          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila?

21          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'm fine with that.

22          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Ms. Valentine, if you  
23   have a suggestion, given the comments here on a  
24   conditional license, we would love to hear it.

25          MS. VALENTINE: Absolutely. One of the

1 conditions that you can place is that the applicant  
2 notify the commission within a certain amount of time  
3 -- five days, for example -- of any arrest or any  
4 charge, including any violation of administrative law.  
5 Another condition, in addition to the notification  
6 one, is that if there is another conviction, then the  
7 license is revoked. And that could also be another  
8 condition that could be placed into a final order.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. And again, Ms.  
10 Valentine, it would be approving the conclusions of  
11 law of the hearing officer with the issuing a  
12 conditional license. So that would be the motion,  
13 correct?

14 MS. VALENTINE: Yes, correct. It would be  
15 adopting the findings of facts and conclusions of law  
16 in the hearing officer's recommended order, and then  
17 placing additional conditions on the license, such as  
18 notification requirements, or in the event of a  
19 conviction, for example, as one option, is that the  
20 license would be terminated or would be deemed  
21 surrendered. Those are some of the conditions.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Could the applicant/licensee  
23 then also, if they are charged and convicted, could  
24 they be denied a license such as we've done in the  
25 past for, you know, not forever, but for 10 years

1 thereafter?

2 MS. VALENTINE: So typically, that's declared  
3 ineligible for a license. And I believe that that's a  
4 statute. In the past, we've had applicants agree to  
5 that consent order. That is also still a vehicle that  
6 is available to you if you would like to consider the  
7 resolution of this in lieu of going forward with a  
8 final order based on a recommended order.

9 You could authorize staff to perhaps negotiate  
10 with the applicant, and then the applicant could agree  
11 to certain conditions. You could agree to in the  
12 event of any future conviction, to be ineligible to  
13 even apply for a license for a period of years. That  
14 is also a third option that is available if you would  
15 like to consider that.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, who wants to  
17 take a stab? Commissioner Drago?

18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I think I would like to hear  
19 from Commissioner D'Aquila, see if he's interested in  
20 making a new motion or whatever he wants to do, or  
21 stick with what he has or his original motion. I'd  
22 like to give him an opportunity to do what he wants to  
23 do in that light since he's the one that made the  
24 motion.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure, but before that,

1 Commissioner Repp.

2 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yeah. I just want to say, I  
3 believe the meeting yesterday, I thought we had looked  
4 up and that his license is actually active in New York  
5 until September. Is that correct? I don't know if  
6 that helps or --

7 MS. VALENTINE: -- in here.

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: So he currently has a  
9 license.

10 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER REPP: Okay, thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Commissioner Repp.  
13 Commissioner D'Aquila, you want to --

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes, all right. I'll  
15 take that under consideration. And with the  
16 restrictions that you have outlined, Attorney  
17 Valentine. With those restrictions and giving us the  
18 time and the reporting, I would amend it or change the  
19 motion to reflect a conditional license under those  
20 conditions that you have outlined. And I have but one  
21 question, though. What is the term of the license  
22 that would be granted, the conditional license?

23 MS. VALENTINE: It's three years. Is that  
24 correct --

25 MR. MARSHMAN: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: So, Ms. Valentine, as part of  
3 Commissioner D'Aquila's motion, if you could just  
4 state on the record that those three conditions you  
5 outlined.

6 MS. VALENTINE: Okay. Just to clarify the  
7 condition license. The items I've discussed is  
8 notification within a certain period of time within  
9 the arrest, for example, 72 hours.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 24 hours.

11 MS. VALENTINE: Yes, 24 hours, because as a  
12 condition of the license, he has to inform us, as  
13 Director Marshman pointed out, within 48 hours of any  
14 arrest. So to make a shorter time period as a  
15 condition of 24 hours of an arrest to notify the  
16 commission of any arrest. And also, of any -- again,  
17 of any charge, including any allegation of violation  
18 of administrative or of any statutes in an  
19 administrative action.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That would be the first  
21 condition -- second condition?

22 MS. VALENTINE: The second condition could be  
23 that upon conviction of any violation, that he would  
24 be subject to license revocation. And then I think  
25 the third condition you discussed is that he would be



1 declared by the commission ineligible for licensure  
2 for a certain period of time.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: You got it?

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah. I can accept each  
5 three of -- each of those conditions, 1, 2, and 3,  
6 that you've outlined.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Would you like to insert a  
8 time frame for the ineligibility?

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll take Counsel's  
10 recommendation. What is a typical time frame in this  
11 situation as we have not had this come up before?

12 MS. VALENTINE: I think in the past, some of the  
13 time period that the commission considered in some  
14 negotiations was 10 years.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. I believe that's  
16 reasonable.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. So your motion is to  
18 adopt the hearing officer's findings of fact and  
19 conclusions of law and issue a conditional license  
20 based on the three items illuminated by -- highlighted  
21 by Ms. Valentine, correct?

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes, I'll amend the  
23 motion -- is it amending the motion or is it a new  
24 motion? Excuse me.

25 MR. MARSHMAN: I would suggest a new motion just

1 to be sure.

2 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. Then I'd like to  
3 make a new motion to accept the hearing officer's  
4 recommendation issuing a conditional license with the  
5 three conditions that have been outlined.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Perfect. Is there a second?  
7 Commissioner Repp, is there a second?

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion? All  
10 those in favor, say aye.

11 (Aye.)

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. That's how we do a  
13 tie. All right. Thank you for your efforts there.  
14 Moving on to 6.4.

15 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Item 6.4 is Pamela Sue Bruce,  
16 case 2024-045735. Petitioner Pamela Sue Bruce  
17 submitted an application for a card room employee  
18 occupational license. Following review of the  
19 application, the commission issued a letter of license  
20 denial and denied the request for waiver, notifying  
21 Petitioner of its intent to deny the application based  
22 on Petitioner's misdemeanor conviction.

23 Petitioner requested an informal hearing, which  
24 was held on March 18th, 2025. On April 25th, the  
25 hearing officer recommended denying Petitioner's

1 application. The division recommends the commission  
2 adopt hearing officer's recommended order and deny  
3 Petitioner's application.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Mr. Hundersmarck,  
5 the position for which Ms. Bruce is applying for, I  
6 was trying to recall it.

7 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Poker dealer.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Poker dealer. Has she  
9 currently held a license with any state regulatory  
10 body?

11 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: She had a Florida license. It  
12 expired. Her conviction was discovered in the process  
13 of reissuing it, and she also has a Mississippi  
14 license.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, do  
16 you have any questions on this item?

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I don't.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. If there are no  
19 questions, can I get a motion, please? Commissioner  
20 Drago.

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I make a motion to adopt the  
22 hearing officer's recommended order of deny.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

24 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in

1 favor, say aye.

2 (Aye.)

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. We are moving on  
4 to requests for waivers, 7.1 through 7.3.

5 MS. ALVARADO: Item 7.1 is 2025-011098, Edgar  
6 David Diaz. Here, the applicant applied for a card  
7 room employee occupational license. Upon review of  
8 the application, it was discovered that he had a  
9 disqualifying felony of aggravated battery of a  
10 pregnant victim out of Marion County, Florida, from  
11 July 14th, 2022. The applicant previously held a card  
12 room employee occupational license, which was revoked  
13 on May 5th, 2023, due to this felony conviction.

14 The applicant reapplied for a card room employee  
15 occupational license, which was denied at the October  
16 4th, 2024, commission meeting. The applicant  
17 conducted a waiver interview on February 26th, 2025,  
18 and that was documented in the meeting materials.

19 Here, the commission can decide to grant the  
20 waiver and issue the applicant the occupational  
21 license. And if you decide not to, I'd ask that you  
22 authorize a letter of license denial in this case.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado. We  
24 do have the speaker present, I believe. Mr. Diaz, if  
25 you're here?

1 MR. DIAZ: Yeah.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Please come to the podium and  
3 state your name for the record.

4 MR. DIAZ: Edgar Diaz for the record.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Diaz.

6 MR. DIAZ: Sorry, I just wrote something down.  
7 I'm not really good at public speaking. Good morning.  
8 Last time I was here or in Tallahassee, we discussed  
9 how the Gaming Commission preferred to see me complete  
10 my probation before considering my possible  
11 reinstatement of the license. And I'm proud to say  
12 that I successfully -- I've successfully completed my  
13 probation. I'm in good standing with the law in every  
14 sort of way.

15 I've completed all terms of my rehabilitation.  
16 And for what it's worth, I continue to maintain that  
17 the allegations were completely untrue. This  
18 experience has been truly transformative for me. I've  
19 grown as a person, and I hope that the growth is  
20 evident to you as well. I thank you guys for the --  
21 or I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to appear  
22 before you guys again here today, and I genuinely  
23 appreciate you guys' time and consideration.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Diaz.  
25 Commissioners, are there questions of Mr. Diaz?

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Mr. Diaz, have you -- you  
2 said you completed your probation, right?

3 MR. DIAZ: Yes, sir.

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Does that include the fees  
5 that you owed?

6 MR. DIAZ: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay. So everything is  
8 done. Everything is clear. You're not under  
9 probation any longer?

10 MR. DIAZ: No, no. I've been off for the past  
11 few months.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay. And when did you pay  
13 off the fees? Recently?

14 MR. DIAZ: It was October of last year, I  
15 believe.

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay. And how long have you  
17 been off probation you said?

18 MR. DIAZ: Since then.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Since then?

20 MR. DIAZ: Or since, I think a month after --  
21 since around November.

22 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay, thank you.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
24 questions? Thank you, Mr. Diaz.

25 MR. DIAZ: Thank you.

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All right,  
2 Commissioners, are there questions of staff? Okay.  
3 Now is the time to either discuss or make a motion.

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: If I could just --

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Please.

6 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: -- I guess a comment in  
7 terms of the way I'm thinking is that, I appreciate  
8 Mr. Diaz coming here and clarifying some things.  
9 Especially for me, it was the probation and the fines  
10 that were owed. So I'm glad that that got clarified.  
11 I still have the concern that this occurred -- what  
12 year did this occur?

13 MS. ALVARADO: 2022.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yeah. Such a short period  
15 of time, it's difficult for me to make a determination  
16 of whether or not Mr. Diaz has shown good moral  
17 conduct and rehabilitated since that time. So I think  
18 there would be -- for me, there would need to be more  
19 time since this offense occurred, especially when you  
20 think of the seriousness of the offense, which is.  
21 And I think we discussed that the last time.

22 The nature of the offense is such that it's very,  
23 very serious to all of us. I think when we sit up  
24 here and try to do what we think is best for  
25 protecting the citizens of the state of Florida as

1 well as being as fair as we possibly can and ensuring  
2 that people can work within the state of Florida. So  
3 my concern is that I don't think there's been enough  
4 time has passed, especially since the end of  
5 probation, but also since this offense occurred.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank You, Commissioner Drago.  
7 Are there any other comments, Commissioners?  
8 Commissioner Drago, with that, can you please make a  
9 motion?

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I guess my motion would be  
11 to deny the waiver, correct?

12 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So I'll make a motion to  
14 deny the waiver.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

16 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion? All  
18 those in favor, say aye.

19 (Aye.)

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. Passes  
21 unanimously. Thank you. Item 7.2.

22 MS. ALVARADO: Item 7.2 is 2025-011130, Kerrey  
23 Cobb. The applicant here applied for a PMW General  
24 Individual Occupational License. Upon review of the  
25 application, it was discovered that she had the



1 disqualifying offensive possession of methamphetamine  
2 out of Thomas County, Georgia, from October 1st, 2024.

3 A waiver interview was conducted on March 11th,  
4 2025, and is documented in the meeting materials here.  
5 The applicant answered yes to having been convicted of  
6 a disqualifying offense, enlisted the one felony on  
7 there.

8 The commission here can decide to grant the  
9 waiver and issue the occupational license, or they can  
10 decide not to waive the felony and issue a letter of  
11 license denial in this case.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
13 Commissioners, are there any questions? Yes.  
14 Commissioner Repp.

15 COMMISSIONER REPP: Is this individual still on  
16 probation or has that been resolved?

17 MS. ALVARADO: Yes, they're still on probation --

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I don't have any questions.  
19 Commissioners?

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Do we know when the  
21 probationary period ends?

22 MS. ALVARADO: September 9th, 2027.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Oh, wow.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And this -- it dates back in  
25 the interview, at least -- it dates back to 2015. She

1 references it.

2 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. The arrest happened in 2017.  
3 They postponed the case in 2018 and then reopened it,  
4 I guess in 2014 (sic). She was in a mental health  
5 facility during that time between 2017 and 2024.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Okay,  
7 Commissioners, can we get a motion on this item?

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to deny.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: The waiver. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER REPP: The waiver.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll second.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion? All  
14 those in favor, say aye.

15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Aye.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Aye.

17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Aye.

18 COMMISSIONER REPP: Aye.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Thank you. Item 7.3.

20 MS. ALVARADO: 7.3 is 2025-016286, Amber Brunt.  
21 Here, the applicant applied for a card room employee  
22 occupational license. Upon review of the application,  
23 it was discovered that she had a felony disqualifying  
24 conviction for possession of a controlled substance  
25 without a valid prescription out of St. Lucie County

1 from January 29th, 2015, as well as possession of  
2 oxycodone out of St. Lucie County from June 28th,  
3 2017.

4 The applicant here seeks a waiver of the felony  
5 offenses and issuance of the license. She did answer  
6 yes on her original application and included one  
7 felony and one misdemeanor. A waiver interview was  
8 conducted on March 20th, 2025, and has been documented  
9 in the meeting materials.

10 Here, the commission can grant the waiver and  
11 issue the occupational license. Or if not, we'd ask  
12 that you authorize us to issue a letter of license  
13 denial in this case.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any  
15 questions of Ms. Alvarado? Okay. If not, can we get  
16 a motion on this item?

17 COMMISSIONER REPP: I have just --

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure.

19 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'd like to make a -- I'm  
20 having -- I like the things that she wrote in her  
21 waiver interview and the things that she said she's  
22 done. I just would like to see -- out of these lists  
23 of all these things she's done to rehabilitate,  
24 there's no letters from anyone. There's no  
25 recommendations. She says she went back to school and

1 got a degree. There's really nothing to substantiate  
2 the information she's provided.

3 And in order to consider this particular request,  
4 I would like to see more. And therefore, I would deny  
5 this waiver.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. That sounds like a  
7 motion. And is there a second? Commissioner Drago?

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make a second for  
9 discussion.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All right,  
11 Commissioners, do you have any comments or questions  
12 of staff? I agree with Commissioner Repp. I mean, I  
13 would also like to see letters of support, given the  
14 charges, too, and for what she's applying for, and her  
15 candor also on the application. I would have been  
16 inclined to grant the waiver, but for rehabilitation  
17 purposes, it would bolster her application.

18 MS. ALVARADO: Just for clarification, after she  
19 receives a letter of license denial from us, if that's  
20 what you decide to do in this case, she would have a  
21 chance to request an informal hearing, where at that  
22 point, she could provide that additional information  
23 if she'd like to.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: There you go.

25 MS. ALVARADO: So that's just for your knowledge.

1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And may I?

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes, sure.

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And we will do that as a  
4 matter of course. Communicate that to her.

5 MS. ALVARADO: She will get the letter of license  
6 denial, and attached to it is a notice of rights page,  
7 as well as intellectual rights. That gives her all  
8 three options laid out for her so she can read what  
9 her options are there.

10 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah, I think that's  
11 important in this case because it -- as Commissioner  
12 Repp has outlined, when I got through this case, I had  
13 the same reaction, but I could not articulate it as  
14 well. But --

15 THE REPORTER: Excuse me.

16 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Too close?

17 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. Let's do that. I  
19 agree with that approach.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. So there's a motion on  
21 the floor. There's a second. Any other discussion?  
22 All those in favor, say aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are going to  
25 move on to license denials now, 8.1 through 8.3.

1 MS. ALVARADO: 8.1 is 2025-027883, Jose Antonio  
2 Hernandez. The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering  
3 received a completed application for Mr. Hernandez on  
4 May 2nd, 2025. The applicant is seeking a slot  
5 machine card room pari-mutuel combination occupational  
6 license. After review of the application, it was  
7 discovered that he was convicted of a felony offense  
8 of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute  
9 marijuana in the United States District Court,  
10 Southern District of Florida from October 9th, 1984.

11 He is currently licensed with the commission. He  
12 holds a pari-mutuel wagering general individual  
13 occupational license. And he has since 1986. And at  
14 that point, they did waive his felony conviction. He  
15 did disclose the offense on his original application,  
16 although he did list it as a misdemeanor on there. In  
17 the case -- sorry. So here, we'd ask that you issue a  
18 letter of license denial in this case.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any questions?  
20 And obviously, there -- he's off probation and he had  
21 a current -- he had a license. It just has not  
22 renewed.

23 MS. ALVARADO: He still has a current license.  
24 He's seeking to upgrade his license to a slot --

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Slot machine.

1 MS. ALVARADO: -- combo. Right now, he has a  
2 general pari-mutuel license.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And was it a misdemeanor in  
4 1984?

5 MS. ALVARADO: No, it was a felony.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It was a felony.

7 MS. ALVARADO: And since then, he did try to  
8 amend the application, but it was past the time period  
9 for him to send in the application.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any  
11 comments? I don't have a problem issuing this  
12 individual license, who's currently licensed with us  
13 as well.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No, I don't either. We're  
15 going back to 1984 and he's been a licensed -- he's  
16 been licensed with the state for many years as I  
17 recall. So I don't have any problem issuing the  
18 upgrade either.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely. So, Commissioner,  
20 any other comments?

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago, can you  
23 please make a motion to that effect?

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: What would be the exact  
25 motion?

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It would be to approve the  
2 application and issue a slot machine combo license.

3 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll second that motion.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in  
7 favor, say aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Item 8.2.

10 MS. ALVARADO: 8.2 is 2025-028901, Elvin James  
11 Stafford. The Division of Pari-mutuel Waivering  
12 received a completed application for Mr. Stafford on  
13 March 15th, 2025. Here, the applicant is seeking a  
14 slot machine card room pari-mutuel combination  
15 occupational license.

16 After review of the application, it was  
17 discovered that he was convicted of felony offense of  
18 carrying a concealed weapon from October 11th, 2018.  
19 He didn't disclose this on the original application,  
20 but did amend his application to disclose the felony  
21 conviction. Here, we'd ask the commission to  
22 authorize a letter of license denial in this case.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any questions  
24 of staff or comments? This is a offense that -- back  
25 in 2018.



1 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And no other offenses have  
3 been committed?

4 MS. ALVARADO: No, not since 2018.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: This was a firearm, correct?

6 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yeah.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp?

9 COMMISSIONER REPP: And I just want to confirm,  
10 this is a single offense. He has not had any others  
11 prior or after that.

12 MS. ALVARADO: He had a misdemeanor possession of  
13 marijuana in 2014, but no other offenses since 2018.

14 COMMISSIONER REPP: Okay.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, can we get a  
16 motion to approve the application rather than the --  
17 what staff is recommending here?

18 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah, I'll second that  
21 motion.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion? All  
23 those in favor, say aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. 8.3.

1 MS. ALVARADO: 8.3 is 2025-033615, Eric Del  
2 Castillo-Polo. Here, the Division of Pari-Mutuel  
3 Wagering received a complete application on April 1st,  
4 2025. The applicant is seeking a pari-mutuel general  
5 individual occupational license.

6 Upon review of the application, it appears that  
7 the applicant had previously used a false identity to  
8 apply for a license with the commission.  
9 Specifically, on September 2nd, 2024, the applicant  
10 submitted an application to the commission for a pari-  
11 mutuel wagering general individual occupational  
12 license, which provided a false name and false  
13 security -- Social Security number on that.

14 The commission may deny an applicant of any --  
15 the application of any person who submits an  
16 application to the commission upon which the applicant  
17 falsely sworn and is signed and under oath to a  
18 material statement under Section 16.7175 Florida  
19 statute. So here, we'd ask to issue a letter of  
20 license denial in this case.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners?  
22 The Social Security card that the individual  
23 submitted, did that Social Security -- I read his  
24 statement in the file. Did that belong to him  
25 actually?

1 MS. ALVARADO: No. It was his cousin's Social  
2 Security number that had his name as well he used on  
3 that application.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That is a crime. Have we  
5 notified authorities.

6 MS. ALVARADO: I don't know that.

7 MR. MARSHMAN: If there was any ongoing  
8 criminal investigation into his conduct, we would not  
9 be able to discuss it publicly.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Commissioners, this is  
11 a very serious offense, and I do believe staff should  
12 at least notify the authorities, if they haven't  
13 already, of this action.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yeah, I definitely agree  
15 with that. This is a very serious offense and he's  
16 already acquired a license under a false name in the  
17 past, and now, is asking for a license under his new  
18 identity. So this is -- to me, it's a no brainer and  
19 I don't --

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I agree.

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: There's not much more I can  
22 say other than, I would -- if it's the right time to  
23 make a motion --

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It is.

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: -- to authorize the issuance

1 of the letter of license denial.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Yes?

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that  
4 motion.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All those in  
6 favor, say aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. We are on to 9.1,  
9 which is a discussion of final order pursuant to  
10 request from the respondent.

11 MS. ALVARADO: Item 9.1 is 2024-047393, Mikhael  
12 Scott Bailey. In the case materials, you were  
13 provided with the administrative complaint alleging  
14 that respondent was observed participating in a game  
15 as a designated player while on duty at Orange City  
16 Racing & Card Club.

17 He is therefore subject to an administrative fine  
18 up to \$1,000 and/or suspension or revocation of his  
19 card room employee occupational license. We did hear  
20 this at a past meeting. You asked that I find a  
21 little bit more information on how the facility  
22 handled this incident.

23 He was provided a week's suspension from July  
24 31st, 2023, to August 8th, 2023, and he was given a  
25 final written reprimand that any other violation would

1 result in his termination. And he is still currently  
2 employed at Orange City.

3 The respondent did respond here with an election  
4 of rights, choosing option 3. And he did not dispute  
5 any of the allegations contained within the  
6 administrative complaint. He waived his rights to any  
7 form of a hearing and requested that the commission  
8 enter a final order in this case.

9 Therefore, we'd ask that you enter a final order  
10 imposing a fine up to \$1,000 and/or suspension and  
11 revocation of his occupational license.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners.  
13 Yes, Commissioner.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yeah. I mean, this is a  
15 serious offense for sure. And I realize the  
16 administrative fine can only go up to \$1,000, but I  
17 think it would warrant more than that if we were able  
18 to under the law. But I'm curious about what -- also  
19 what was done to prevent this from happening again?  
20 Do we have any information from the facility in terms  
21 of how they've changed their policies or what?

22 MS. ALVARADO: I don't, no. All I have is the  
23 document that he was given that just speaks of his  
24 suspension and possibility of termination if it were  
25 to happen again.

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And he was a supervisor --

2 MS. ALVARADO: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: -- as well, so.

4 MS. ALVARADO: Floor supervisor.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I don't know what the  
6 facility did to make sure this doesn't happen again or  
7 to deter future occurrences of this type of a thing.  
8 So I would recommend that we -- it's important that we  
9 make sure that we do send a message that this is not  
10 something that can be tolerated.

11 And I would suggest just opening the discussion  
12 here that we would propose a \$1,000 fine as well as a  
13 suspension. And I would start with at least a one  
14 week suspension along with that \$1,000 fine. And I'll  
15 just start there and hear what the other commissioners  
16 have to say.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner  
18 D'Aquila.

19 I would agree with you, although I do think the  
20 suspension should be more severe than that.

21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah, I agree and I agree  
22 with Chairman Brown. This attacks the integrity of  
23 our gaming industry and the state. The designated  
24 player, this is not an obscure rule and it really  
25 attacks the whole concept of legal and safe gambling

1 and fair in a card room, which is a privilege. A  
2 license is a privilege.

3 And I would consider this violation to be among  
4 the very top rules one shouldn't do. And it's not  
5 that it's his first year working. He's a supervisor  
6 and should know better and hasn't denied doing it. So  
7 I think it should be a suspension as well.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner Repp?

9 COMMISSIONER REPP: My thoughts on this also, the  
10 \$1,000 fine and a substantial suspension. Also with  
11 the caveat, if it happens again, it's just an  
12 immediate revocation. This is just something that  
13 should have never happened.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's a great additional  
15 point to make. And, Ms. Alvarado, we can include that  
16 in the -- oops. Ms. Valentine, we can include some  
17 language in that?

18 MS. VALENTINE: And I'm sure Ms. Alvarado can  
19 answer that very well. I just want to clarify, when  
20 we issue a final order that is not based on a  
21 negotiated conditions, it's not really possible to say  
22 that if it happens again, it would be immediate  
23 revocation.

24 If this licensee were to violate the rules and  
25 the statutes in the same way again, he would again be

1 issued administrative complaint. Something that could  
2 be in the final order is that should it happen again,  
3 the recommended penalty will be revocation.

4 But at that time, the commissioners would still  
5 have the opportunity to decide, is it revocation? Is  
6 it something else? But it would still be granted due  
7 process rights if it were to happen again, to contest  
8 the administrative complaint alleging that.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay, thank you.  
10 Commissioners, thoughts on the suspension period?  
11 Again, the facility gave a one-week suspension,  
12 correct? One week?

13 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: So I think it should be, as  
15 Commissioner Repp pointed out, something much more  
16 steeper.

17 COMMISSIONER REPP: I was considering to start at  
18 a 60-day suspension unless the commissioners had other  
19 thoughts on that to consider.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think 60 days is -- sends a  
21 message as well. Commissioner D'Aquila?

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I concur with that.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago?

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'm willing to go along with  
25 it. I would be satisfied personally with two weeks.



1 But if the general consensus of the commission is 60  
2 days, I certainly would go along with that.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner Repp,  
4 are you willing to make a motion?

5 COMMISSIONER REPP: Sure. I will make a motion  
6 to -- I guess I want to make sure I do this right --  
7 to approve a final order with \$1,000 fine and a 60-day  
8 suspension.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's good. Is there a  
10 second? Is that right? Ms. Valentine, anything else?

11 MS. VALENTINE: If you would also like to put in  
12 there that future violations would be subject to  
13 revocation, you can certainly do so just with the  
14 understanding that his license would not be  
15 immediately revoked upon an allegation from the  
16 commission of a future violation.

17 He can still have his due process rights. But  
18 that would signal that if he violates it again, it  
19 won't be a fine or a suspension. The penalty that the  
20 commission would be seeking is revocation.

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: And I amend that to include  
22 the caveat that there would be a revocation after due  
23 process --

24 MS. VALENTINE: A future violation --

25 COMMISSIONER REPP: Future violation.

1 MS. VALENTINE: -- would be subject to  
2 revocation.

3 COMMISSIONER REPP: With future violations.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That sounds like a great  
5 motion.

6 COMMISSIONER REPP: That's a motion.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes. Is there a second?

8 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that  
9 motion.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in  
11 favor, say aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Passes  
14 unanimously. We are moving on to discussion of policy  
15 and procedure. We have just one, 10.1. Director  
16 Mustain.

17 MS. MUSTAIN: Good morning.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Good morning.

20 MS. MUSTAIN: Lisa Mustain for the record. We  
21 have for you today the employee counseling and  
22 discipline policy. This policy establishes internal  
23 guidelines for administering counseling and  
24 disciplinary action so that it can be complied --  
25 applied, excuse me -- consistently within the

1 commission.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

3 MS. MUSTAIN: That's the policy.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And all employees  
5 will be given the policy -- the 11-page policy so that  
6 they're aware as well as their supervisors.

7 MS. MUSTAIN: That's --

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there training or required  
9 training that we can do with an email blast to all of  
10 our employees to make them aware that -- and just to  
11 train them?

12 MS. MUSTAIN: Yes, Commissioner. We also provide  
13 training online. We've had several Teams meetings  
14 that our HR staff is providing to everybody in the  
15 commission that's manager --

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

17 MS. MUSTAIN: -- that trains them on all of our  
18 policies, particularly this one.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner  
20 Drago?

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Can I ask one specific  
22 question if I could? There's a section -- it's  
23 actually -- just want to make sure I get it right.  
24 Section or Roman numeral III, section C under  
25 suspension. You see that, Lisa?

1 MS. MUSTAIN: Yes, sir.

2 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And then subsection 1 refers  
3 to employees covered by the agreement between the  
4 state of Florida and the Florida PBA may request  
5 special compensatory leave equal to the length of  
6 their suspension deducted from their leave balance in  
7 lieu of serving the suspension.

8 MS. MUSTAIN: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Is that taken from the PBA  
10 Bargaining Unit Agreement?

11 MS. MUSTAIN: Directly.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'm sorry?

13 MS. MUSTAIN: Directly from the collective  
14 bargaining agreement between the state of Florida.

15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So that means that --

16 MS. MUSTAIN: (indiscernible)

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: That means that any employee  
18 covered by the PBA agreement is able to -- has an  
19 option of picking compensatory time. But it's still a  
20 management decision as to whether or not they get  
21 compensatory time or actually have to take suspension?

22 MS. MUSTAIN: That's correct.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Okay, great. Thank you.  
24 Thank you.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any

1 other questions? I just have a question about the  
2 counseling down there. It says that it's not a form  
3 of discipline, but it will be documented and put in  
4 the record or record of counseling. So what is that?

5 MS. MUSTAIN: So typically, how that works is  
6 when you -- when the discipline is really not severe  
7 enough to put it in writing and you just initially  
8 want to bring to light that some adjustments need to  
9 be made, you would give a counseling session and you  
10 would document that.

11 And that's typically not used again, unless that  
12 particular cited deficiency was not corrected. And so  
13 it would be used -- and that oral discussion would --  
14 that paperwork would be used in a more formal  
15 disciplinary action.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: But it would not necessarily  
17 be part of that employee's record moving --

18 MS. MUSTAIN: Not until it became a written  
19 record.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay.

21 MS. MUSTAIN: Written record and a disciplinary  
22 action to be in writing.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And if I could say, that's  
24 very consistent around the country with bargaining  
25 unit agreements and police department policies as

1 well. So it's kind of common to find that in policies  
2 across the country.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
4 questions of Director Mustain? Seeing none, can we  
5 get a motion to approve the employee counseling and  
6 discipline policy as presented?

7 COMMISSIONER REPP: I will make that motion to  
8 approve the employee counseling and discipline as  
9 presented.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 MS. MUSTAIN: Thank you.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for your work on  
16 this. Now, into executive director update. Mr.  
17 Marshman.

18 MR. MARSHMAN: Good morning again.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning.

20 MR. MARSHMAN: Just as a road map of my portion  
21 of this is, first, I'd like to ask Director Herold to  
22 give an update on his team's activities and some  
23 recent highlights. Next, I'd like to acknowledge the  
24 employees of the month.

25 Afterwards, we also have some service awards for

1 certain 5, 10, 15, etc., years of service. And also  
2 talk about scheduling for the upcoming meetings, a  
3 reminder about this afternoon's workshop, and where I  
4 think the commission could go next in terms of it's  
5 rule making that would be less cumbersome and  
6 cashless. So with that, if I may, I'd like to turn it  
7 over to Director Herold.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And thank you for  
9 the roadmap. Warrior Herold.

10 THE REPORTER: Excuse me.

11 MR. HEROLD: I know you probably --

12 THE REPORTER: Excuse me. Can you sign up,  
13 please?

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Oh, he's an employee.

15 THE REPORTER: Sorry, oh, okay.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah, he's -- no, just say  
17 your name for --

18 MR. HEROLD: Carl Herold for the record. Thank  
19 you. I know you don't recognize me without my  
20 scooter, but I have graduated since then. Thank you  
21 for this opportunity to share some more information  
22 about the fantastic work of the Gaming Enforcement  
23 folks. And so I've got probably three or four  
24 categories of things that I would like to share.

25 The first one I would like to share with everyone

1 is the activity of the unit. I'll start with the  
2 analyst. This past month, our criminal analyst unit  
3 was involved in nine multi-agency meetings. And as I  
4 have said before, the multi-agency meetings are  
5 beneficial to help share actionable information plus  
6 intel info on current trends and criminal activity.  
7 And so that's very important.

8 Our analyst folks did 10 backgrounds on  
9 individuals and nine backgrounds on businesses for  
10 criminal investigations. They were involved in one  
11 search warrant. They actually went and assisted with  
12 a search warrant this past month, which is common.  
13 That's part of the overall team concept that we  
14 exercise in gaming enforcement, where the analysts  
15 come out and leverage their skill set with our agents.

16 We had three trainings this past month. The  
17 analysts were part of a financial crimes conference,  
18 which is extremely important. They attended a  
19 national gambling intel group, which is again very  
20 helpful. And then they were part of the internal  
21 training with HR on the fundamentals of HR and how  
22 that coordinates with our gaming enforcement.

23 And then lastly for the analysts, they helped  
24 with nine different forfeiture packets. You know,  
25 we're doing a lot of forfeitures and it requires a



1 great deal of interaction between the gaming  
2 enforcement folks and our office of general counsel.  
3 And Chief Christina Linton, as her folks, assisting  
4 with gathering all that necessary information for the  
5 forfeiture packets. And so we're very thankful for  
6 that.

7 And I kind of segue into the -- we've had a lot  
8 of conversation over the last couple meetings about  
9 slot machine storage and the dilemma that that creates  
10 for us. And we are actively working on getting some  
11 slot machines moved into the destruction category. I  
12 don't want to be too optimistic and say it's going to  
13 happen next month or whatever, but we are working on  
14 that.

15 We've recognized the importance of getting those  
16 machines that are involved in past activities and  
17 investigations, getting them destroyed and making room  
18 for additional storage.

19 Now, I'd like to talk about the law enforcement  
20 personnel. This last month, our law enforcement folks  
21 touched 95 different investigations. And this -- as  
22 I've said, and I'll say it again just for the benefit  
23 of anybody that's -- didn't hear me the last time. So  
24 those are investigations that, it may be that  
25 additional information comes in and they update the

1 file or they move it into a different category.

2 So that doesn't necessarily mean that 95  
3 investigations were completed. It just means that  
4 progress was moved forward on 95 investigations. And  
5 I'll say that 76 of those investigations are actually  
6 our investigations. We're lead on those  
7 investigations.

8 This past month we arrested 10 individuals. And  
9 out of that, there were two RICO charges, a money  
10 laundering charge, 22 cases or 22 arrests for keeping  
11 a gambling house, and 30 arrests for possession of  
12 slots. So with 9 -- 10 individuals arrested, some of  
13 them got multiple charges against them.

14 We were able to close eight establishments that  
15 were running slot machines within them. That includes  
16 smaller illegal casinos and businesses, maybe  
17 convenience stores, or some local bars or those kind  
18 of things like that. And we seized 209 machines and a  
19 total of \$67,900 and something this past month. Any  
20 questions about activity?

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners? Just again,  
22 stupendous, I mean, work on your team's behalf.

23 MR. HEROLD: Absolutely. And they do a  
24 phenomenal job. I did want to also touch on the fact  
25 that Governor DeSantis's leadership on immigration

1 enforcement policy, the Gaming Enforcement Unit is  
2 progressing. We've accepted the challenge to be a  
3 part of that and we look forward to participating.  
4 And we have already made application to the federal  
5 government and we are on their pending list.

6 They have provided us the next level of tasks  
7 that we need to perform to be fully involved in that.  
8 And so we are progressing on with that. And I'll let  
9 you know -- I'll give you an update when we're fully  
10 invested in it and have our credentials.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And, Director Herold, just for  
12 the public here, just so that they're aware, what that  
13 means is that our law enforcement officers are also  
14 charged with dual -- additional tasks.

15 MR. HEROLD: And yes. I'm sorry for  
16 interrupting. But I mean this means that they will be  
17 full partners with our federal agencies in trying to  
18 create some impact on illegal immigration in the state  
19 of Florida.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think it's great synergy.

21 MR. HEROLD: Thank you. Thank you. Any  
22 questions beyond that?

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners?

24 COMMISSIONER REPP: No.

25 MR. HEROLD: Ken, K.J., Marc, Mike, and Parise,

1     come on up.

2             THE REPORTER: I need everyone to sign in.

3             MR. HEROLD: Yeah, just -- thank you. On  
4     Thursday, April 17th of 2025, at Florida State  
5     University Campus in Florida in Tallahassee faced a  
6     tragic and dangerous active shooter incident that  
7     threatened the lives of students, faculty and the  
8     broader community. As law enforcement officers from  
9     across the region mobilized to respond, four members  
10    of the Florida Gaming Control Commission's Division of  
11    Gaming Enforcement answered the call without  
12    hesitation.

13            Special Agent Supervisor Ken Parker and special  
14    agents Marc Kjellin, Parise Adams, and Mike Kreager  
15    each assigned to the North Regional office,  
16    were among the first to respond to the unfolding scene  
17    without regard for their personal safeties -- personal  
18    safety, these agents joined a coordinated law  
19    enforcement effort to secure the campus, protect  
20    innocent lives, and render aid to those affected.

21            Their actions reflect the highest ideals of  
22    public service and the enduring commitment of our  
23    division to support our fellow officers and protect  
24    the people of Florida in times of crisis.

25            While the primary mission of the Division of

1 Gaming Enforcement is to investigate and evade illegal  
2 gambling across the state, our sworn officers are,  
3 first and foremost, law enforcement professionals  
4 ready to serve whenever and wherever they are needed.

5 On that day, they embodied what it meant -- what  
6 it means to wear the law enforcement badge. We extend  
7 our greatest gratitude and pride in our four agents.  
8 Their courage on April 17th is a testament to their  
9 character and a powerful reminder that duty to  
10 commitment always comes first. Please join me in  
11 recognizing these young men.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Gentlemen, we are  
13 absolutely in awe and admire the work that you've  
14 done. And on behalf of the Commission, Commissioner  
15 Drago is going to present you with a commission  
16 commendation for all of your efforts and sacrifices to  
17 our state and the agency. Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Could we all step down?

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure.

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Carl, if you would read off  
21 their names and have them come up.

22 MR. HEROLD: We'll start with Special Agent  
23 Supervisor Ken Parker. Special Agent Marc Kjellin.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Good job.

25 MR. HEROLD: Special Agent Mike Kreager.

1           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Good job. Thank you very  
2 much.

3           MR. HEROLD: And Special Agent Parise Adams.

4           MR. HEROLD: Commissioner Drago, I missed two of  
5 the guys to get the picture receiving the award.

6           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: This is too important.

7           MR. HEROLD: Any additional words?

8           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I just want to say, I mean,  
9 I'm extremely proud of these guys. Everybody that knows  
10 anything about law enforcement knows that you never  
11 know what's going to happen that day. It could be  
12 quiet, boring, sit and drink coffee and talk to the  
13 shop owners all day, or you could be risking your life  
14 to save innocent people fleeing from a crazy active  
15 shooter.

16           And the thing is that the officers know how to  
17 respond, do respond, don't hesitate. They could have  
18 stayed in their offices and been perfectly safe and  
19 nobody would have said anything. They're not even on  
20 the scene and not there. But they did. They got out.  
21 They ran out. They risked their lives. Active  
22 shooting situation.

23           You don't know what you're running into. Could  
24 be multiple shooters, could be anything happening.  
25 You don't know where they are. You're going into

1 buildings blind, basically. So I just really commend  
2 you guys. This is really a great thing that we did.  
3 It's great for the state of Florida. It's great for  
4 the students and everybody at the college. And I  
5 really do get it and appreciate what you guys did very  
6 much. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Squeeze in here. I'm with  
8 the big guys. I feel very comfortable.

9 MR. HEROLD: Everybody smile.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Thank you again.

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you so much, guys.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Director.

13 MR. HEROLD: Thanks all I have.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
17 comments to Director Herold? Okay. Thank you for  
18 your report. Back to you.

19 MR. MARSHMAN: Thank you. So we do have some  
20 employees of the month that I'd like to take time to  
21 acknowledge, starting with the Division of  
22 Administration with Ms. Pamela Harrell. She's the  
23 Staff Development Administrator. If you've taken any  
24 training in People First, she's the one that  
25 coordinated and created that.

1           Pamela Harrell is Administration's Employee of  
2     the Month for May. This will be Pamela's last month  
3     before the Gaming Control Commission as well. She has  
4     worked for Pari-Mutuel Wagering since 2008,  
5     transitioned to FGCC administration in 2022.

6           In administration, Pam has been instrumental in  
7     creating and providing training on People First site,  
8     ensuring all policies are placed in the learning  
9     management model. Pam is commended for her excellent  
10    service and appreciated for her contribution to the  
11    Pari-Mutuel Wagering and Administration. Pam's  
12    presence will be missed.

13          VICE CHAIR BROWN: She is not here today, but I  
14    wish her well.

15          MR. MARSHMAN: Next is from the general counsel's  
16    office, Mr. Hundersmarck, who seated at the table with  
17    me. He is a senior attorney in the Litigation Unit.  
18    After onboarding with OGC in December, Justin hit the  
19    ground running by immersing himself in the subject  
20    matter and quickly acquiring the knowledge necessary  
21    to prosecute violations of governing statutes and  
22    rules and to present matters in front of the  
23    Commission.

24          Justin is a hard worker with excellent research,  
25    writing, and issue spotting skills. His dedication to



1 his work and willingness to go the extra mile make him  
2 OGC's employee of the month.

3 For Gaming Enforcement is Special Agent Marc  
4 Kjellin. Special Agent Marc Kjellin is the employee  
5 of the month in recognition for his exceptional  
6 leadership initiative and dedication during a period  
7 of supervisory transition.

8 During the current supervisory vacancy, Agent  
9 Kjellin has proactively stepped in supporting the  
10 acting special agent supervisor by taking on a range  
11 of critical supervisory and non-supervisory  
12 responsibilities. Marc has played a key role in  
13 ensuring operational continuity by assisting with  
14 personal training, managing DGE equipment, and  
15 overseeing the inventory of all weapons and  
16 ammunition, all while maintaining his regular  
17 investigative workload.

18 His efforts have been instrumental in keeping the  
19 team organized, mission focused, and well equipped.  
20 And as you saw earlier today, it should be noted that  
21 he was one of the agents that responded to the active  
22 shooter situation at FSU with three other agents from  
23 the Northern District. His ability to lead by  
24 example, take initiative to support both leadership  
25 and colleagues alike underscores his commitment to the

1 agency's success. Agent Kjellin's contribution during  
2 this time have gone above and beyond expectations and  
3 are worthy of recognition.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely.

5 MR. MARSHMAN: Next is from the Office of  
6 Information Technology, Mr. Brett Williams, who's  
7 seated to my left at the table. Brett joined IT in  
8 December as our application development manager and  
9 quickly made an impact. His skills in project  
10 management and application development have been  
11 invaluable as we implement new systems and  
12 technologies, including the IT service management  
13 system and the creation of applications to address the  
14 commission's operational needs.

15 Brett established standards for application  
16 development, and management, streamlining the team's  
17 processes. He has also found ways to use resources  
18 more efficiently, and Brett recognizes business needs  
19 and proactively works to address them.

20 Brett is always willing to assist regardless of  
21 the nature of the task. He has been a valuable  
22 addition to the IT team, and I'm pleased to have him  
23 as the IT employee of the month.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Excellent.

25 MR. MARSHMAN: And last but not least is the

1 Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering, and it's Michelle  
2 Futrell. Michelle Futrell is an integral part of the  
3 operations team based in the Fort Lauderdale regional  
4 office. She is proficient in all of her  
5 administrative duties and goes above and beyond  
6 expectations to support the team, customers, and  
7 mission of the commission.

8 Michelle ensures that our regional satellite  
9 office needs are properly supported, and provides  
10 administrative support for the operations and  
11 investigation staff for more than 20 years. Her  
12 annual performance review is always exceptional, and  
13 Michelle goes above and beyond in everything she does  
14 for us.

15 Her consistent performance, exceptional teamwork,  
16 innovation, outstanding customer service, leadership  
17 qualities, reliability, and positive attitude  
18 consistently represent the commission's values and  
19 image in a positive, professional manager -- manner.  
20 She projects a warm, cheerful attitude to colleagues,  
21 licensees, and stakeholders alike. And she's the  
22 Pari-Mutuel Division employee of the month.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Michelle, stand up, please.  
24 Wonderful. Thank you. Thank you, Director Marshman.

25 MR. MARSHMAN: Next, we have a series of

1 employees to recognize for their years of service to  
2 the state. Starting with 5 years and going to 10, 15,  
3 and even ending at out much higher than that. So  
4 without further delay, starting at 5, first is Mr.  
5 Randall Lazala Badia. He's in IT. That's 5 years.

6 Next is Mr. Marcus Brooks, also for 5 years.  
7 Next is Sharon Dunkle (phonetic). Next is Maya Jones,  
8 Randa Samson, and Cheryl Stubbs.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Good.

10 MR. MARSHMAN: I should have said this in the  
11 beginning. Some of these employees are in  
12 Tallahassee, some are in Central Florida, and some are  
13 here in South Florida. So for those of the employees  
14 that I do call out, if you would just stick around, we  
15 would like to have a group photo, hand out  
16 certificates and some pins that acknowledge your years  
17 of service.

18 Next, I have Ms. Mayana Bravo-Santos, Ms. Lerrah  
19 Clark, Cayelan Cwirka (phonetic), Cyntoria Harris,  
20 Lacy Musgrove, and Pedro Polanco. Those have all  
21 served the state for 10 years.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Nice.

23 MR. MARSHMAN: Next, at the 15 year mark, I have  
24 Mr. Jose Cuevas, Renee Harkins, Noel Haynes, Yashwanti  
25 Ragoobir, William Smith -- Bill Smith, Carlos -- well,

1 Bill Smith is the last one in 15 years.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Nice.

3 MR. MARSHMAN: At the 20 year mark, I have Carlos  
4 Gaitan and Katie Young. For 25 years of service is  
5 Ms. Jamie Pouncey. And finally, for 30 years of  
6 service in the state of Florida, Ms. Kellie Wilcox.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Awesome.

8 MR. MARSHMAN: And again, if you're here today  
9 and your name was called, please stick around. We've  
10 got a certificate and we'll take a photo.

11 Next on my list, I have the schedule of the  
12 upcoming meetings. We have meetings already scheduled  
13 for June, July, August, and September. I don't know  
14 if you want to go ahead and start talking about  
15 October or not.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure, let's go. October, the  
17 week of October 6th?

18 MR. MARSHMAN: I believe so.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, does October  
20 9th work?

21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes, it does.

22 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes. Okay. Does that work,  
25 Joe?

1 MR. DILLMORE: Yes.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Do we want to go further out?

3 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yeah, I think we should do  
4 at least to --

5 MR. MARSHMAN: Thanksgiving?

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah, could we do that?

7 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: November 6th?

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Does November 6th work for you  
9 all?

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: November 6th. Why don't we  
14 just close out the year.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: December 4th?

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. That way, we could book  
17 the rooms. December 4th?

18 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yeah.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: December 4th?

20 MR. DILLMORE: December 4th?

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mm-hmm.

22 MR. DILLMORE: Yes.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Perfect. Great.

24 MR. MARSHMAN: So going back to October, if we  
25 could, I think that's the same week as G2E, Global

1 Gaming Expo in Las Vegas. I'm not sure if any of the  
2 commissioners are going to be traveling. I know staff  
3 will likely be traveling.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah.

5 MR. MARSHMAN: So perhaps we consider another  
6 date in October?

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure. Does the October -- the  
8 week of October 13th work any particular day?

9 MR. MARSHMAN: There is a slot machine license  
10 that's up for renewal on October 12th, which is the  
11 Sunday.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: What about October 2nd?

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Does October --

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Does that work?

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It's Yom Kippur.

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Oh, is it?

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah, it's a religious  
18 holiday.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Sure, it is. Yeah.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah.

21 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: If we don't want to do that,  
22 that's fine.

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: What about October 16th?

24 MR. MARSHMAN: I think that would be too late for  
25 the --

1 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Oh, because of the 12th.

2 Yeah.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We could schedule it for  
4 October 16th and just do a zoom for the license  
5 renewal the week before.

6 MR. MARSHMAN: Yes. Yes.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Does October 16th work?

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And we could always modify it  
12 at the next meeting if it doesn't. All right.

13 Director Marshman, is that all of the business?

14 MR. MARSHMAN: Just a reminder, this afternoon in  
15 this room at 1:30, we'll be having a workshop that was  
16 previously noticed. There is going to be a discussion  
17 of the cashless rule draft. If anyone is interested  
18 and doesn't have a copy of the rule already, it is  
19 posted on our website if you'd like to review that  
20 before.

21 And we discussed this individually yesterday but  
22 staff has been thinking about what next to tackle in  
23 rulemaking. And I think everyone would agree that the  
24 slot machine gaming rules continue to need updates and  
25 improvements. So I think that will be the next thing



1 that I bring to you all at the June meeting for  
2 suggestions.

3 One of the subjects that's come up is the key to  
4 credit concept. Just generally speaking, if someone  
5 wins a jackpot over \$1200, then a W2G form has to be  
6 issued. That's when the attendant comes over and has  
7 to start filling out paperwork, getting information  
8 from the customer.

9 Other jurisdictions have come up with situations  
10 where you basically pre-register, and if you hit that  
11 amount, then that allows you to cash out your own  
12 jackpot. I know I'm simplifying this, but it is  
13 something that I think we could do here in Florida and  
14 be within the statutory requirements.

15 So staff's going to continue to look at that,  
16 maybe a few other items for us to adjust. And our  
17 next meeting, I think the goal for the next round of  
18 rulemaking at the staff level, provided the  
19 commissioners agree, is to tackle a series of smaller  
20 lifts perhaps simultaneously, but it would still be  
21 much less than the year plus that we've taken to get  
22 the draft out of cashless.

23 So I think that would result in faster rules,  
24 faster improvements that perhaps the industry could  
25 implement a lot quicker than some other things. So

1 with that, that's the end of my portion.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: On the rulemaking side, from  
3 start to finish, what would be your ideal time frame  
4 for these low hanging fruit kind of rules that we can  
5 tackle?

6 MR. MARSHMAN: As fast as we could.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Three months?

8 MR. MARSHMAN: Hopefully, before the end of the  
9 year. There are certain statutory timelines that we  
10 have to adhere to, but those are usually measured in  
11 weeks, not months. And again the lift on this would  
12 be adding a few words or striking through words, not  
13 creating 10 plus pages from whole cloth. So I think  
14 we could measure the progress in months, not a year.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay, great. Commissioners,  
16 any questions of Director Marshman?

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: No? Okay. On our agenda, we  
19 have public comment and then we have item 13 in which  
20 we have a speaker. So I'm going to go right to public  
21 comment. Is there anybody in the audience here that  
22 would like to address us today? Yes, please come to  
23 the podium and state your name.

24 MR. BLAND: Patrick Bland, the chief technology  
25 officer of Acres. And sorry, I didn't fill out my

1 little form. There was a very strategically placed  
2 accident right on 595. So I was a little bit late  
3 getting here, but --

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Well, thank you for making it.

5 MR. BLAND: Just wanted to say thank you to the  
6 commission and Bill and Dennis. You know, we're a  
7 little over -- you're bringing a little over a year of  
8 bringing our new technology to market here. And so  
9 you guys have been a pleasure to work with. And just  
10 want to say thanks and looking forward to the cashless  
11 workshop this afternoon.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Excellent. Thank you. I  
13 appreciate you taking time to come out of here.  
14 Anybody else from the audience that would like to  
15 address us? Feel free to come on up. If not, we are  
16 going to move on to item 13. Ms. Alvarado.

17 MS. ALVARADO: The Office of General Counsel  
18 requests the commissioners to close the meeting so  
19 that the Office of General Counsel may seek advice  
20 from the commissioners in a closed meeting concerning  
21 litigations titled Florida Gaming Control Commission  
22 v. PPI, Inc., FGCC case number 2024-031374, and  
23 Florida Gaming Control Commission v. PPI, Inc., case  
24 number 2024-057184.

25 This advice relates to litigation strategy and

1 settlement negotiations and may therefore be discussed  
2 in private pursuant to Sections 16.716 and 286.01184  
3 statutes. Before we close, I'd ask you about Mr.  
4 Zachem, who represents PPI. I think he had a few  
5 comments.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yeah, I was just -- thank you.  
7 Yes. Mr. Zachem, come on up.

8 MR. ZACHEM: Thank you very much. My name is  
9 Jonathan Zachem and I represent PPI in these matters.  
10 I'll be very brief. I know you all have a session  
11 pertaining to the settlement agreements before you. I  
12 want to thank your counsel for working with us on them  
13 and kind of carry over from last meeting that I  
14 believe Vice Chair Brown mentioned.

15 As far as trying to create consistency in some of  
16 the agreements and terms, we proposed some ideas  
17 before you all that we hope are satisfactory to the  
18 commission, but look forward to working with you all  
19 in them. Hopefully, we can end up having some of  
20 those terms as the consistency starts working its way  
21 out in the future, go in better ways. Just briefly,  
22 you can see that there were two underage incidents,  
23 both of which we took action to try and train our  
24 staff and work with them so that they're aware of  
25 what's going on. But we thank you all very much for

1 your time. We understand you're going to have a  
2 session pertaining to it. We look forward to working  
3 with you on a good resolution for you.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Zachem. Okay.  
5 It is 11:16, and I have a little spiel that I have to  
6 read according to our Florida Statutes and in  
7 compliance with that. So we are going to recess and  
8 then we will go back on the record after our brief  
9 recess. But in connection with the performance of the  
10 commission's regulatory duties, it is necessary for us  
11 to hear information that is exempt or confidential.  
12 Specifically, commission counsel will be discussing  
13 litigation strategy and settlement negotiations with  
14 the commissioners related to the litigation that was  
15 previously mentioned.

16 The closed meeting is scheduled for approximately  
17 30 minutes. Those in attendance will be myself, Julie  
18 Brown, Commissioner Chuck Drago, Commissioner Tina  
19 Repp, and Commissioner John D'Aquila. Acting  
20 Executive Director Ross Marshman, Division Director  
21 Joe Dillmore, General Counsel Elina Valentine, Deputy  
22 General Counsel Marc Taupier, Chief Attorney Emily  
23 Alvarado, and senior attorneys Justin Hundersmarck and  
24 Shireen Anbardan. Brandy Humphries, Dixie Parker, and  
25 our certified court reporter who is here today,

1 Shelley Kelly. Great name.

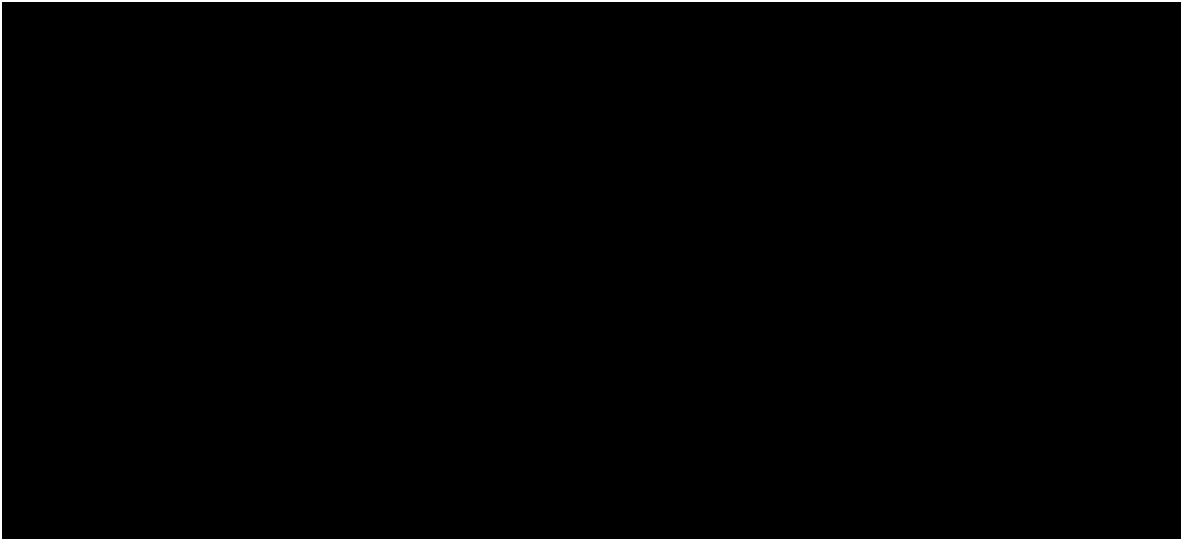
2 In accordance with Section 16.716 and 286.011,  
3 Subsection 8C, Florida Statutes, the closed meeting,  
4 including the necessity for closure and those specific  
5 reasons for such necessity will be recorded by our  
6 certified court reporter. No portion of the closed  
7 meeting will be off the record.

8 The court reporter's notes will be fully  
9 transcribed and filed with the clerk of the  
10 commission. The transcript will be made public upon  
11 conclusion of the litigation. And for the record, the  
12 time is now 11:18 a.m., and we will just -- we will  
13 recess for 30 minutes.

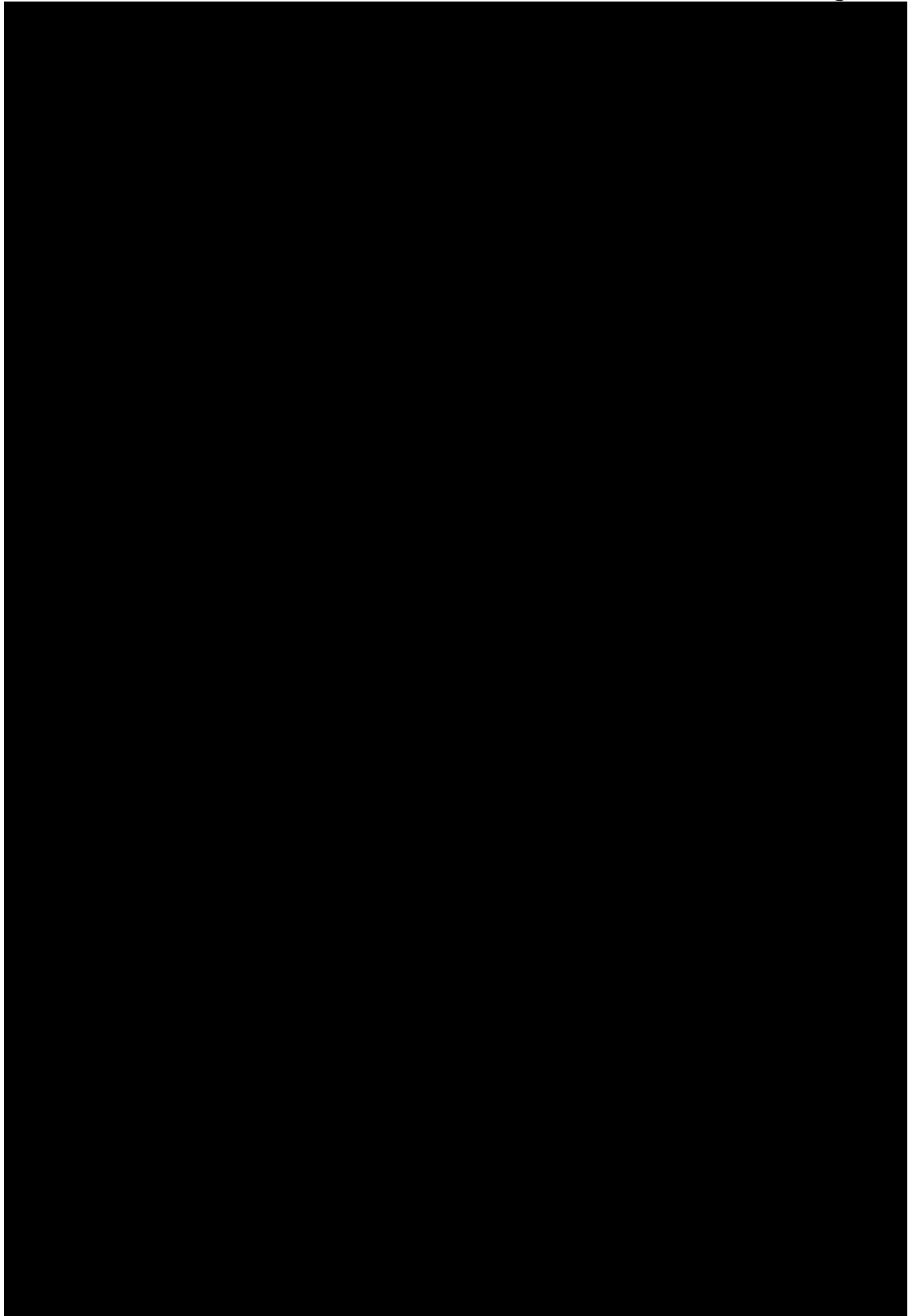
14 So just thank you all for coming. We'll be back  
15 on the record in 30 minutes as well. I don't want to  
16 say goodbye, but see you later.

17 (The meeting was recessed.)

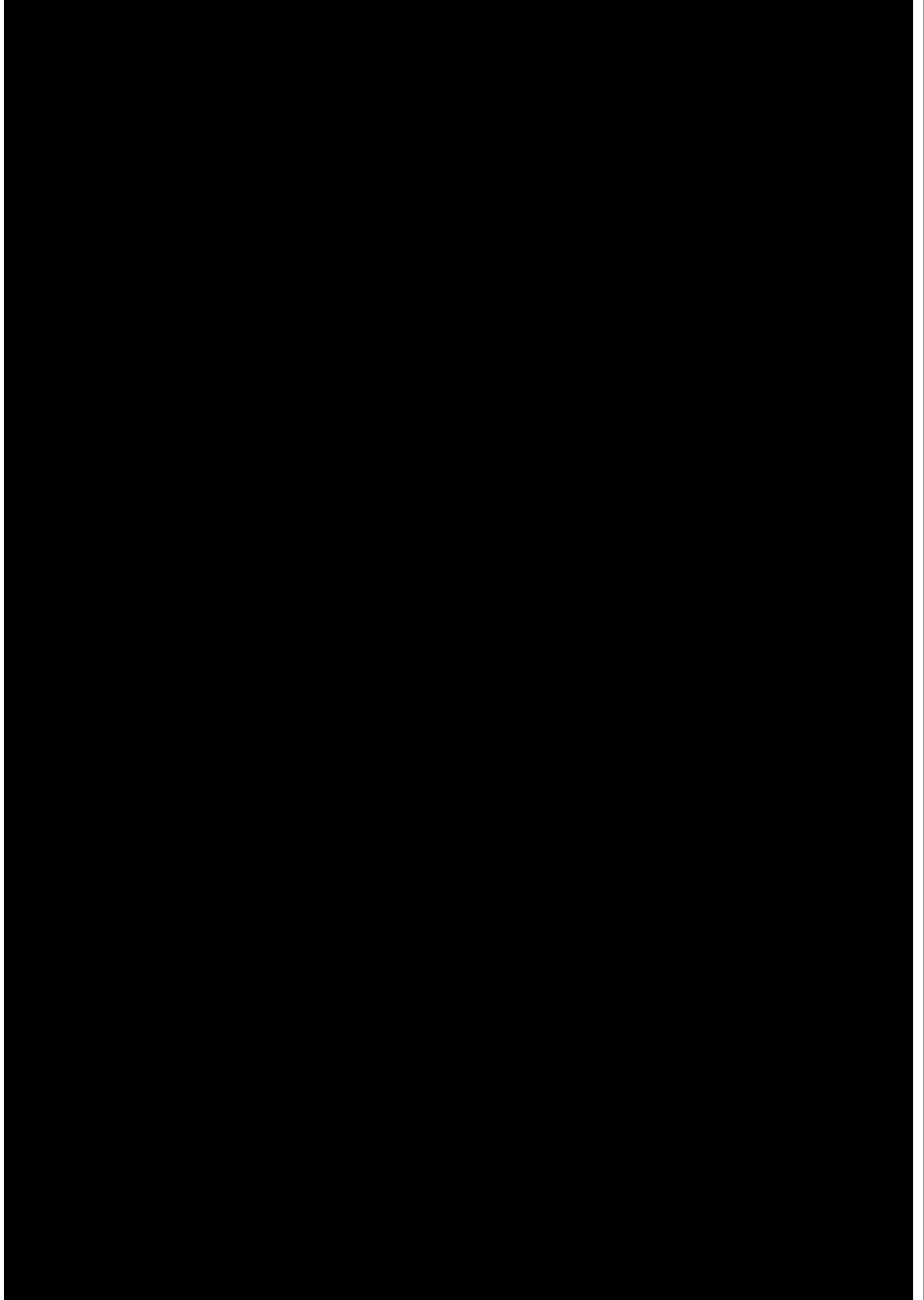
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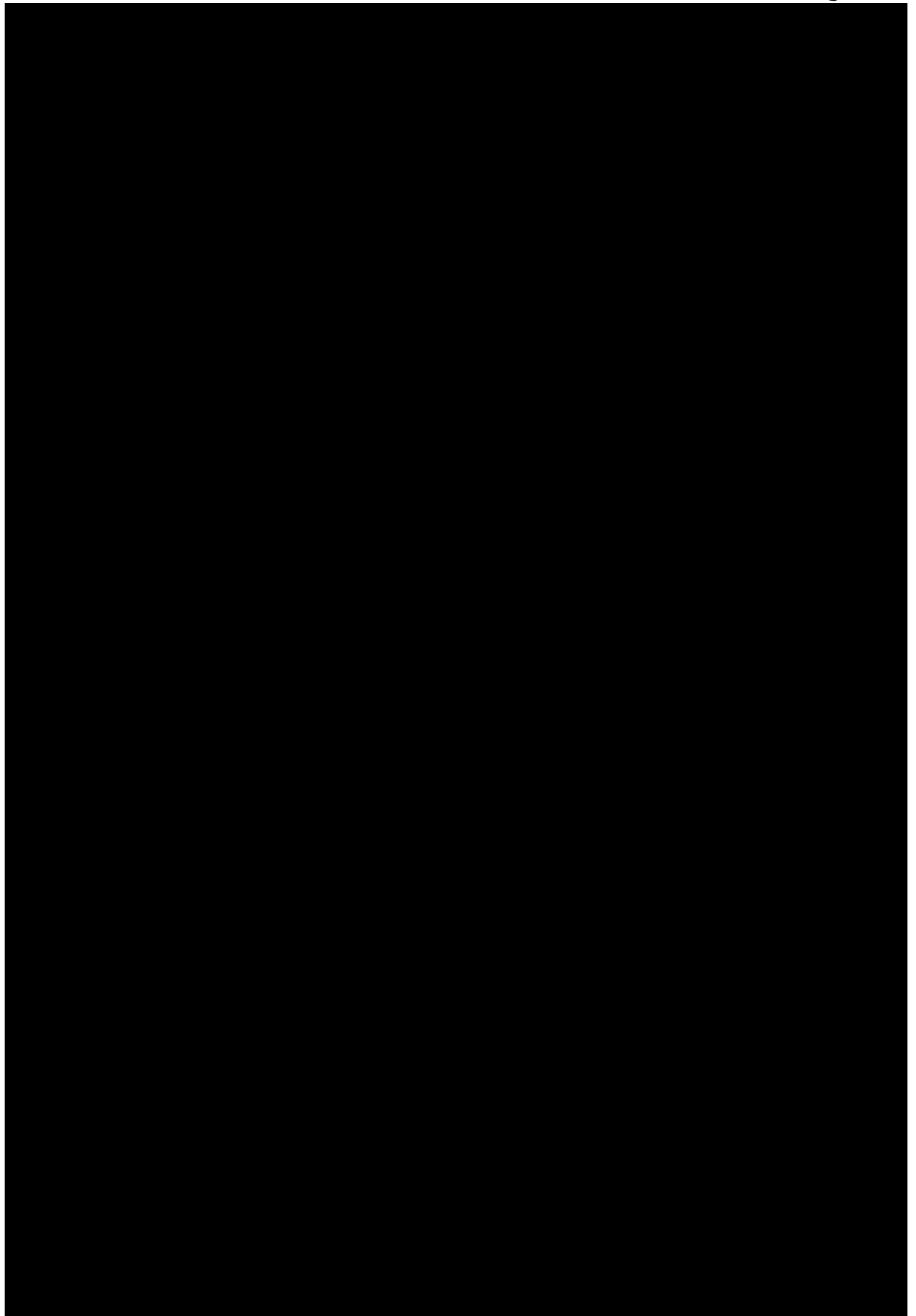


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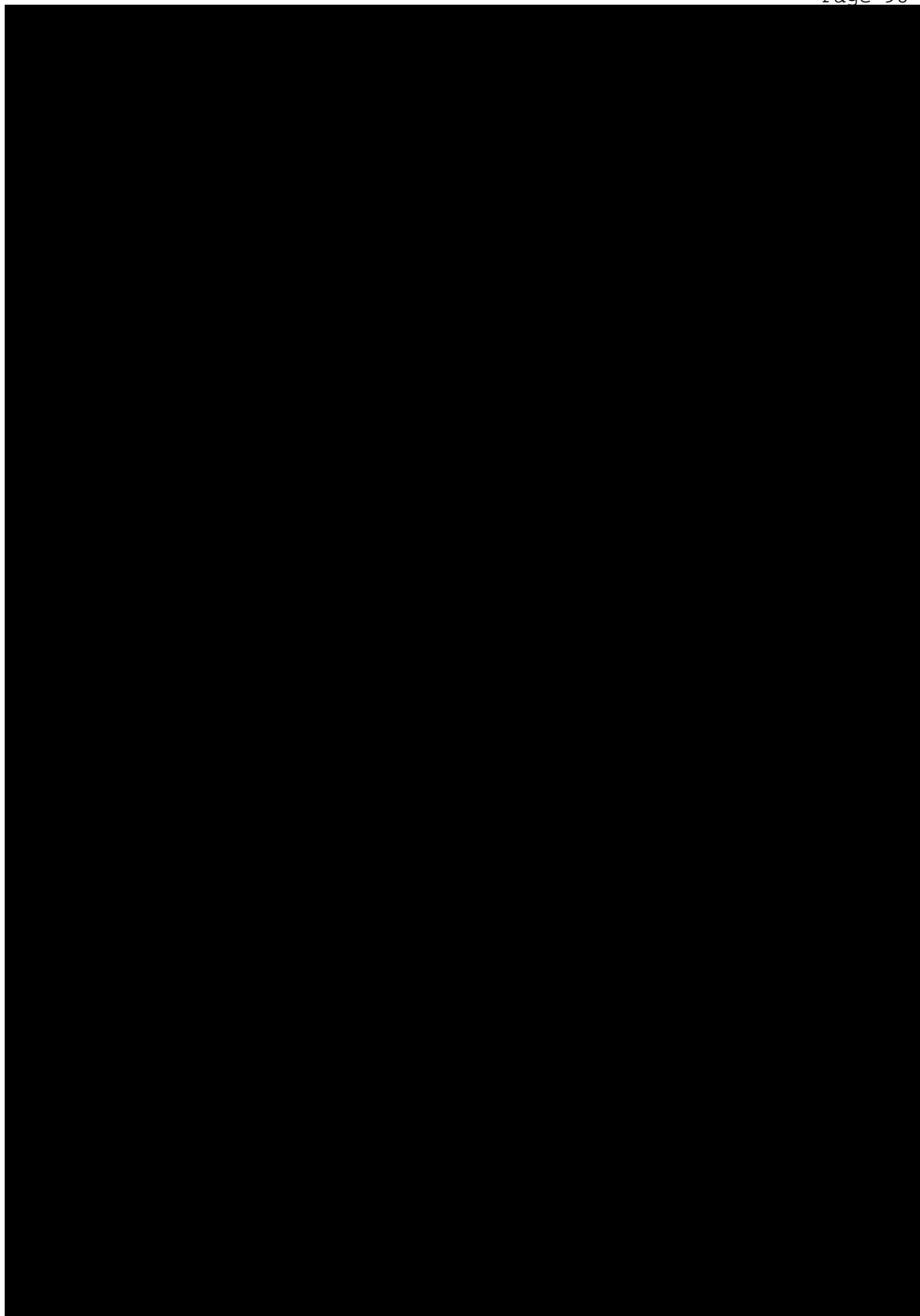




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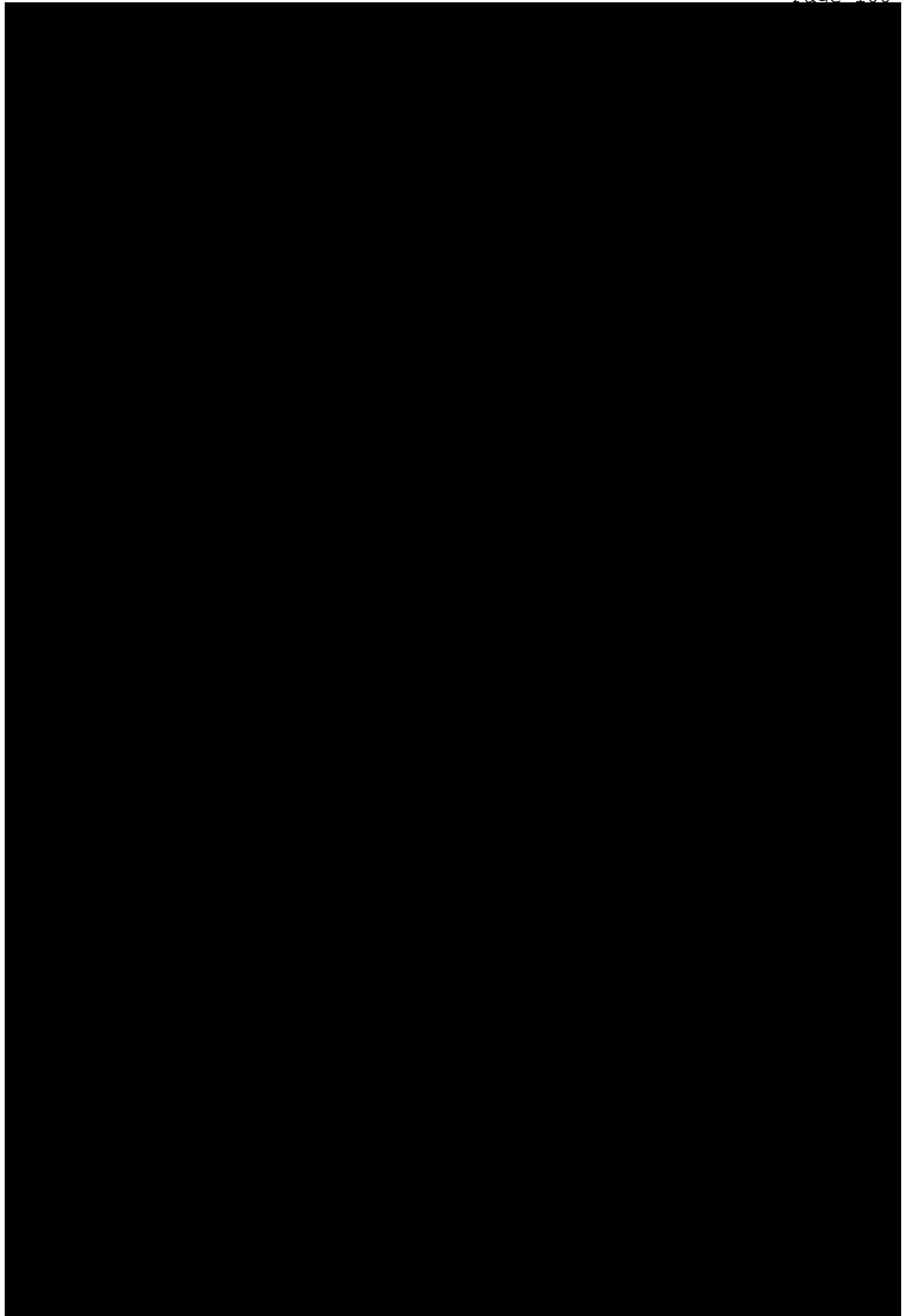
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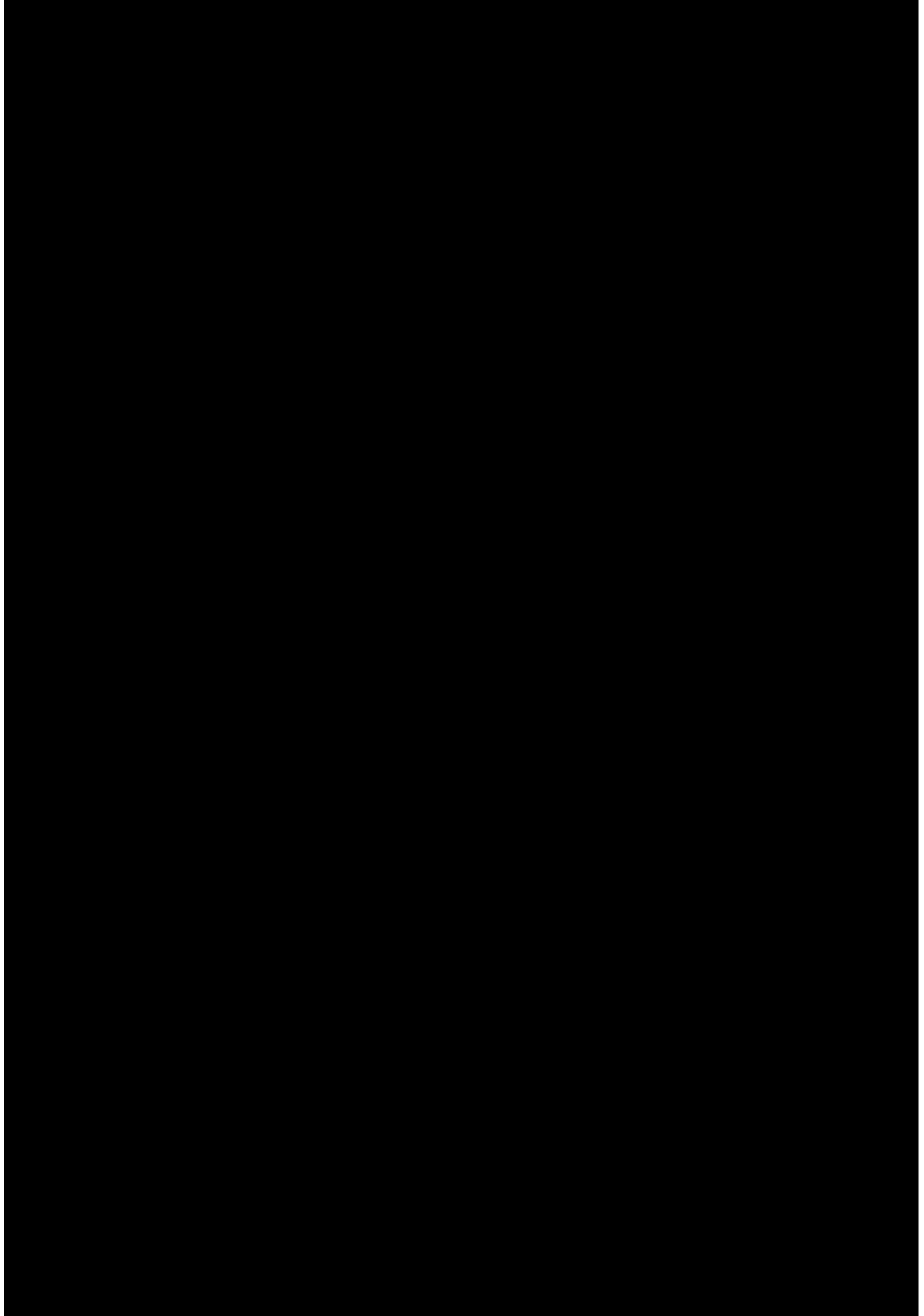
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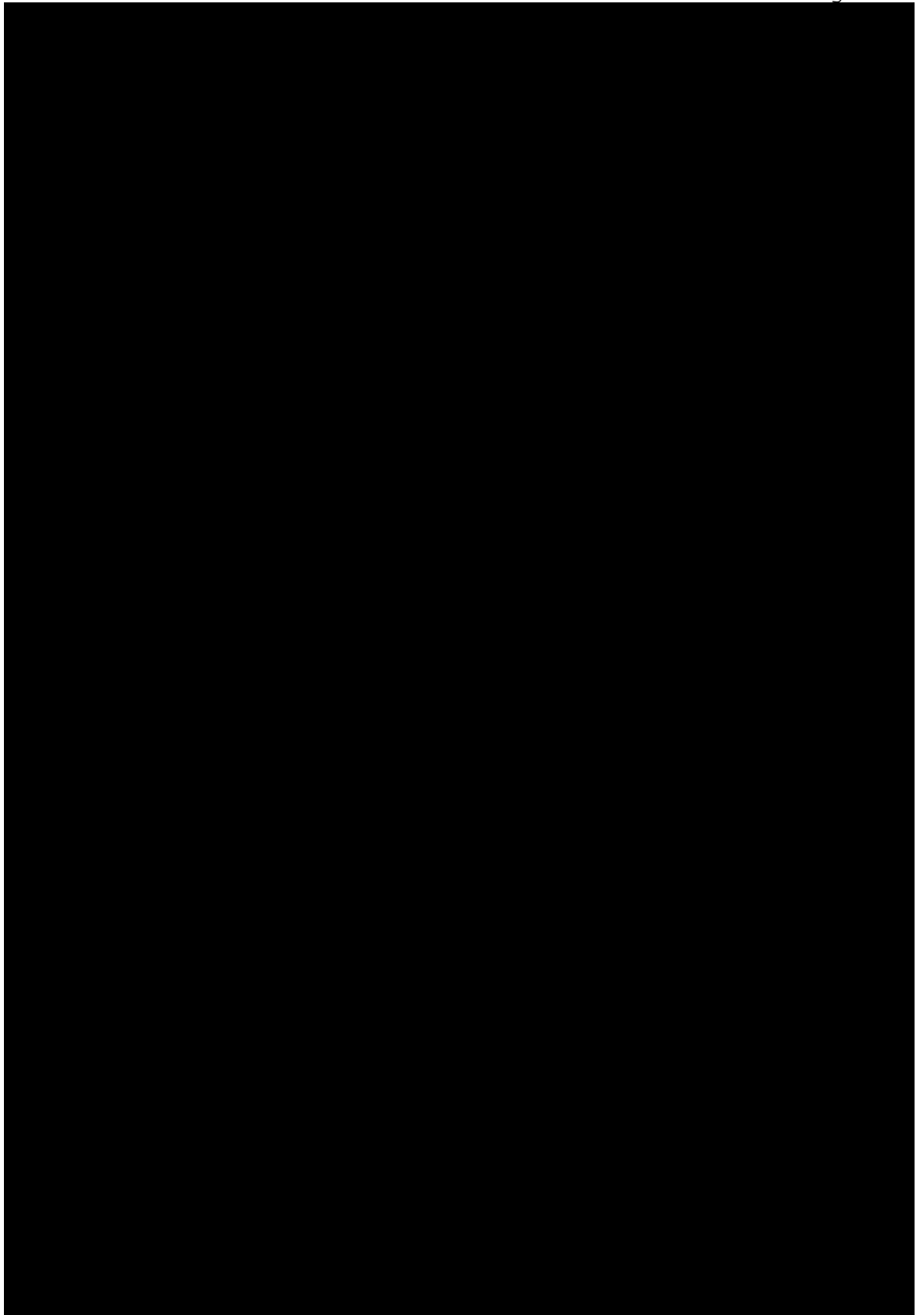
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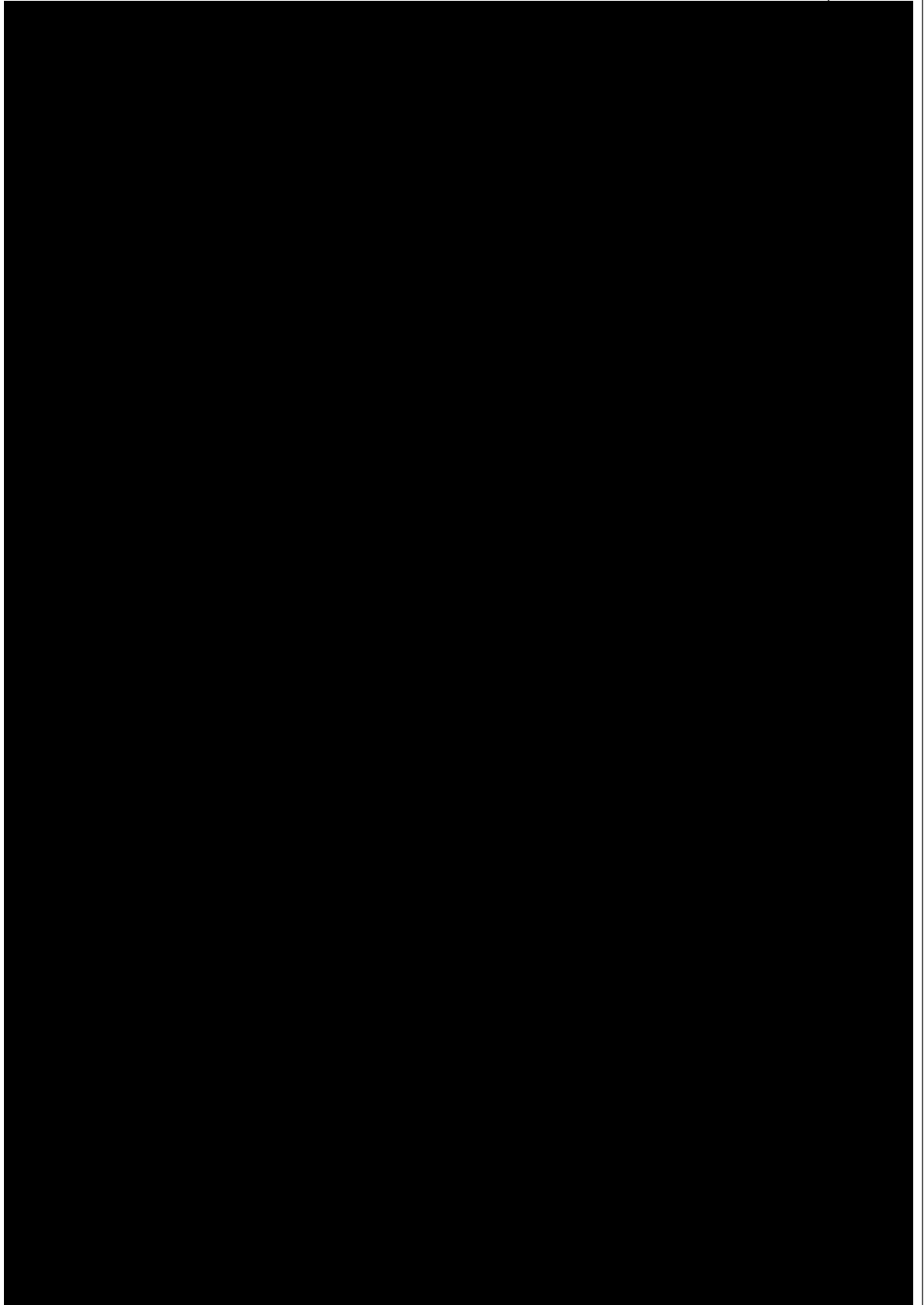
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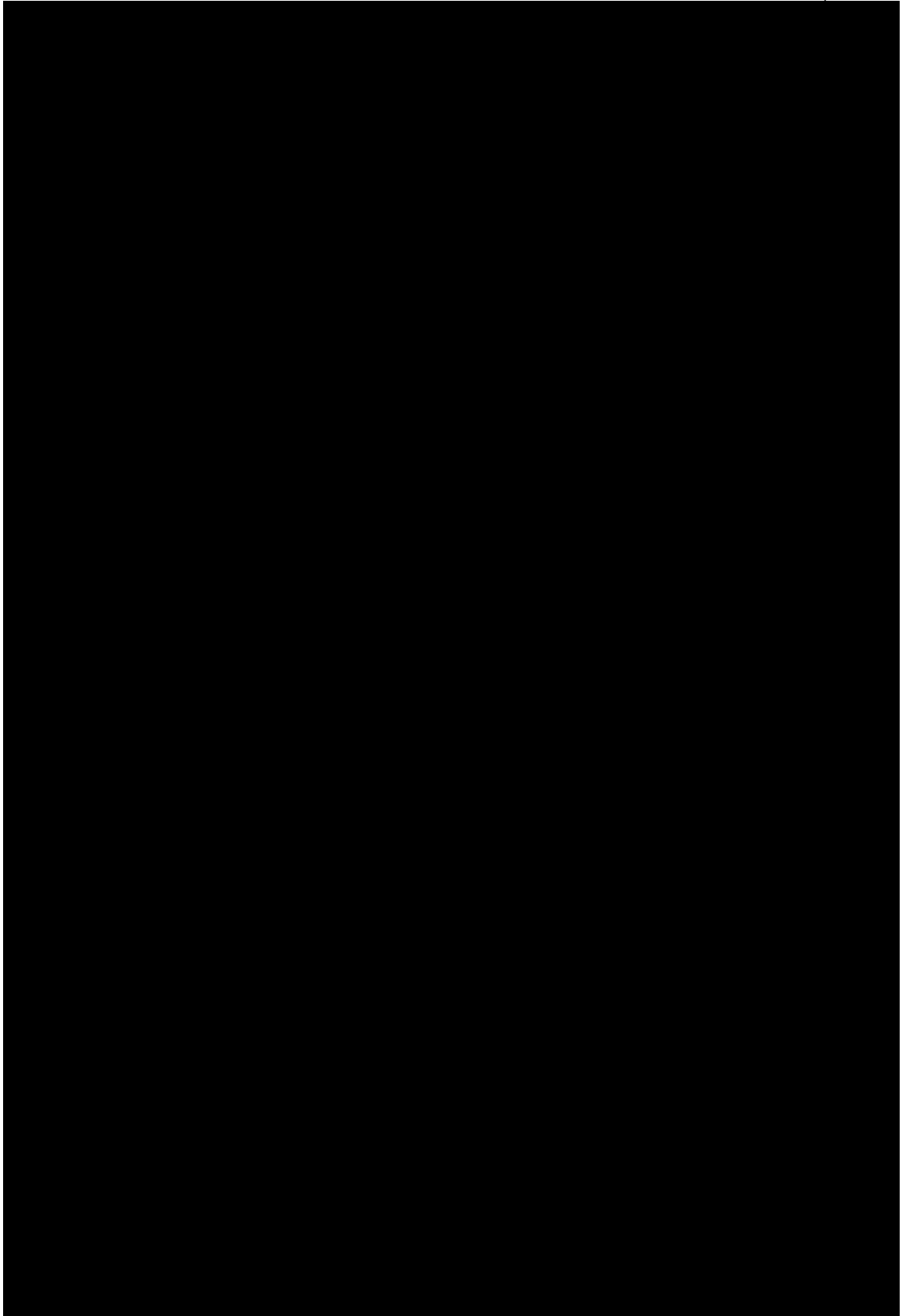
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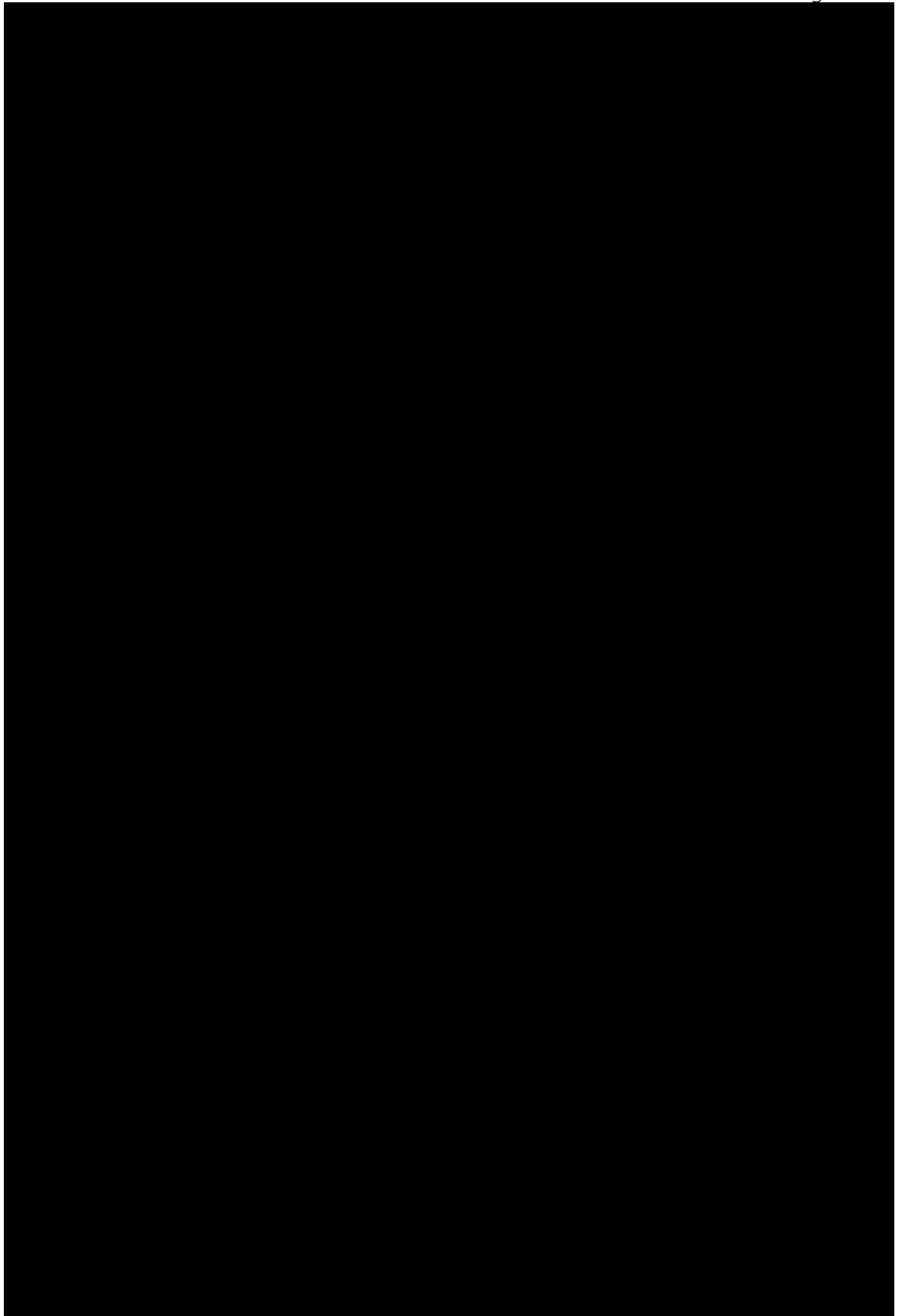


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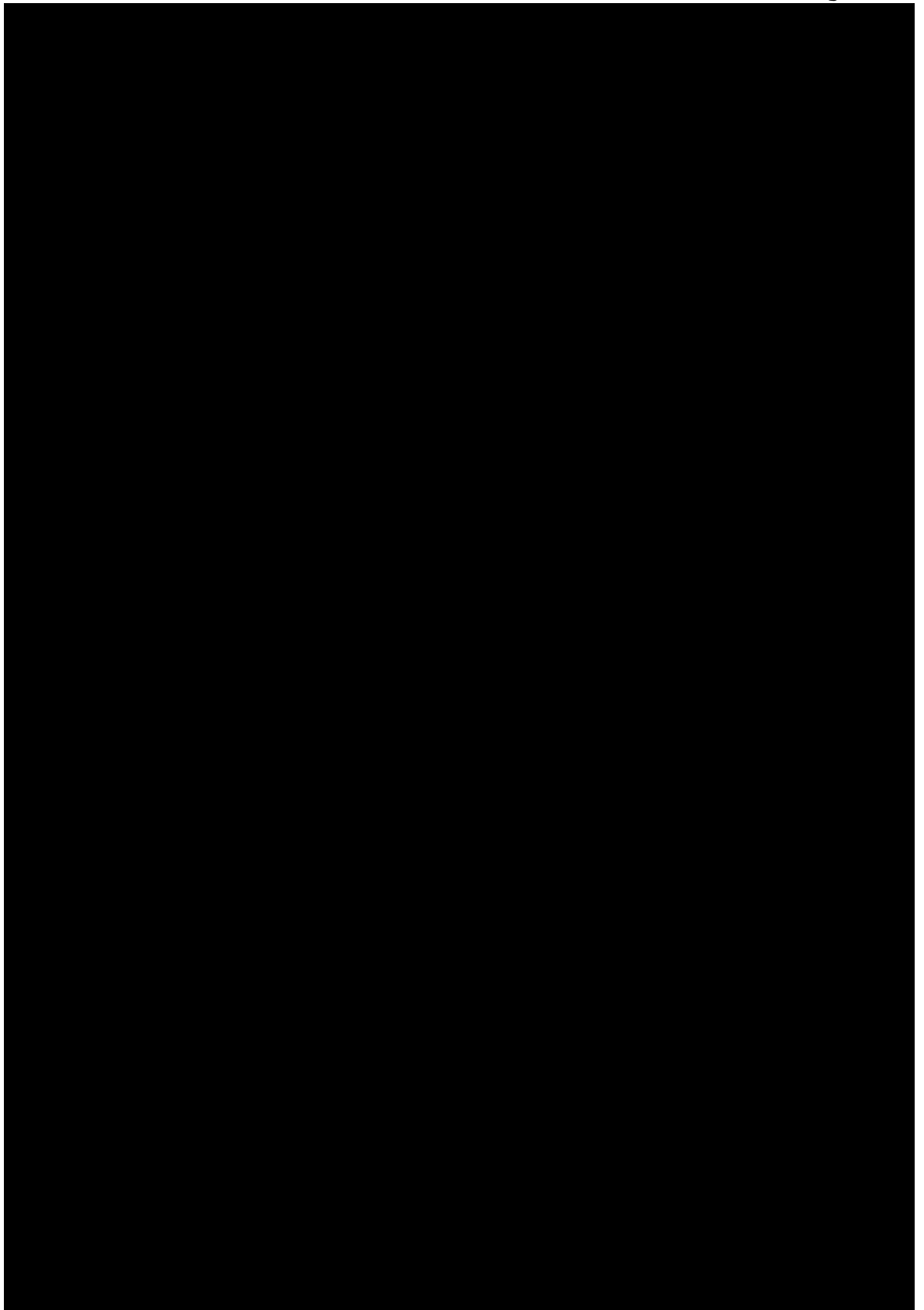




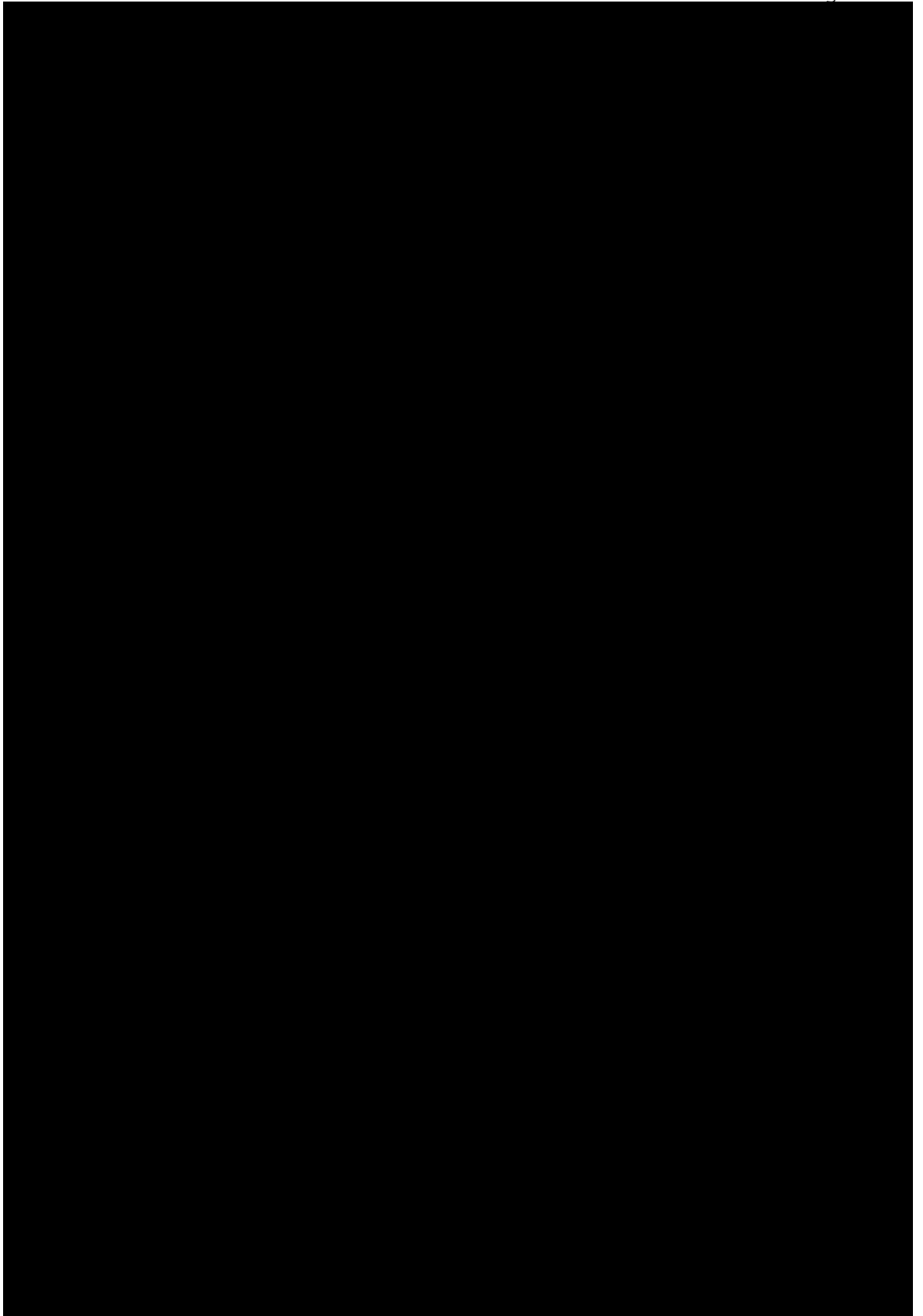
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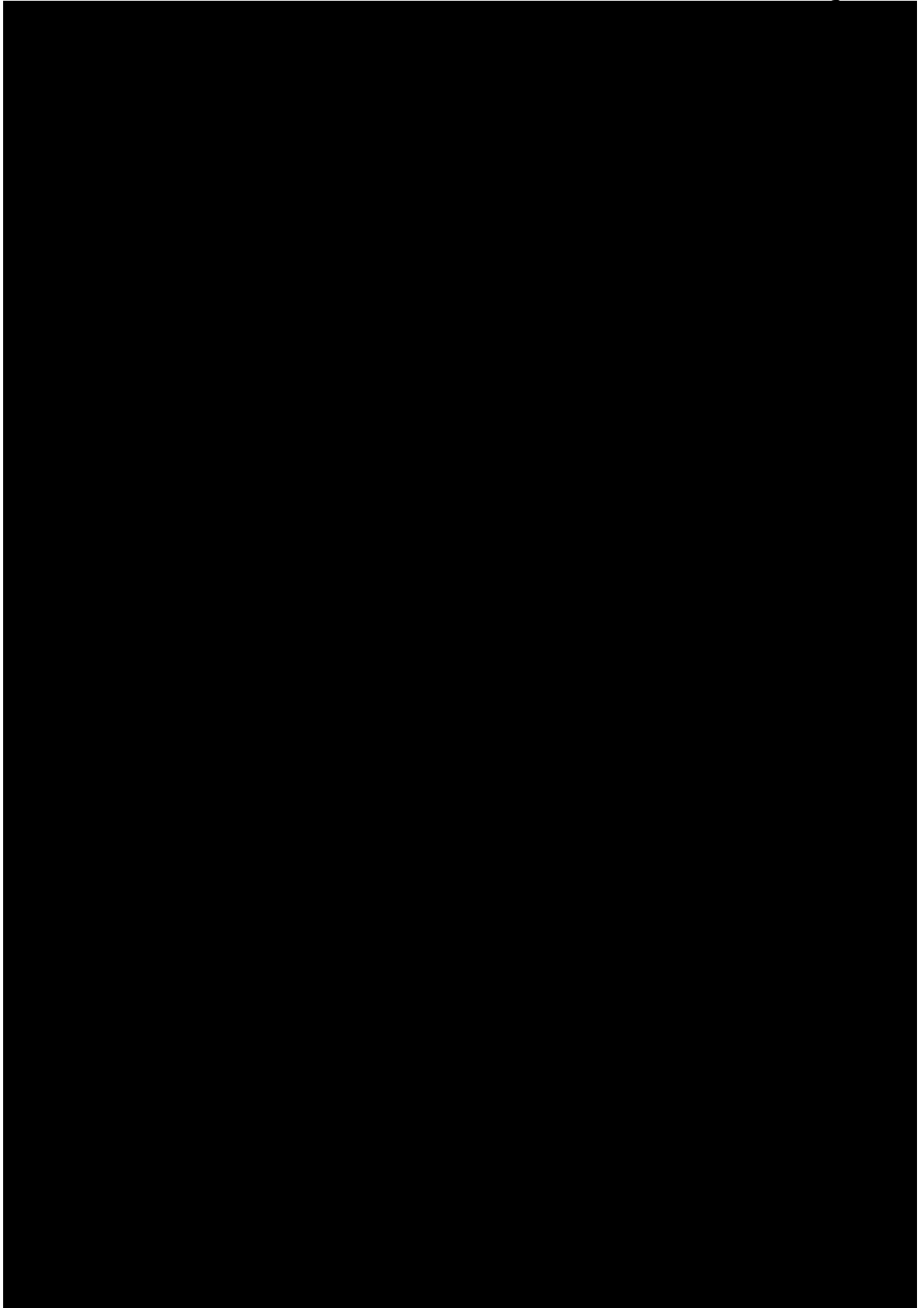
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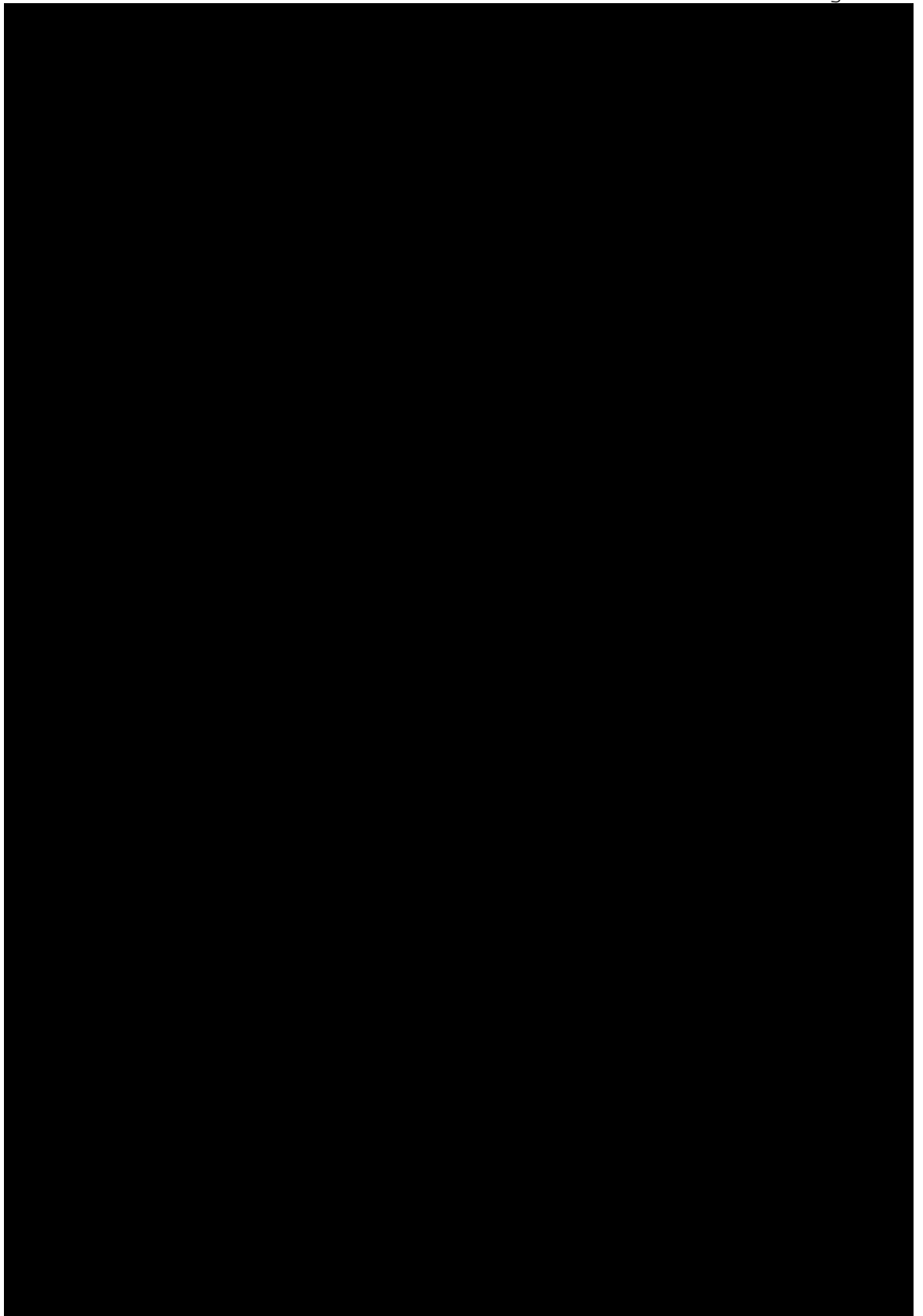
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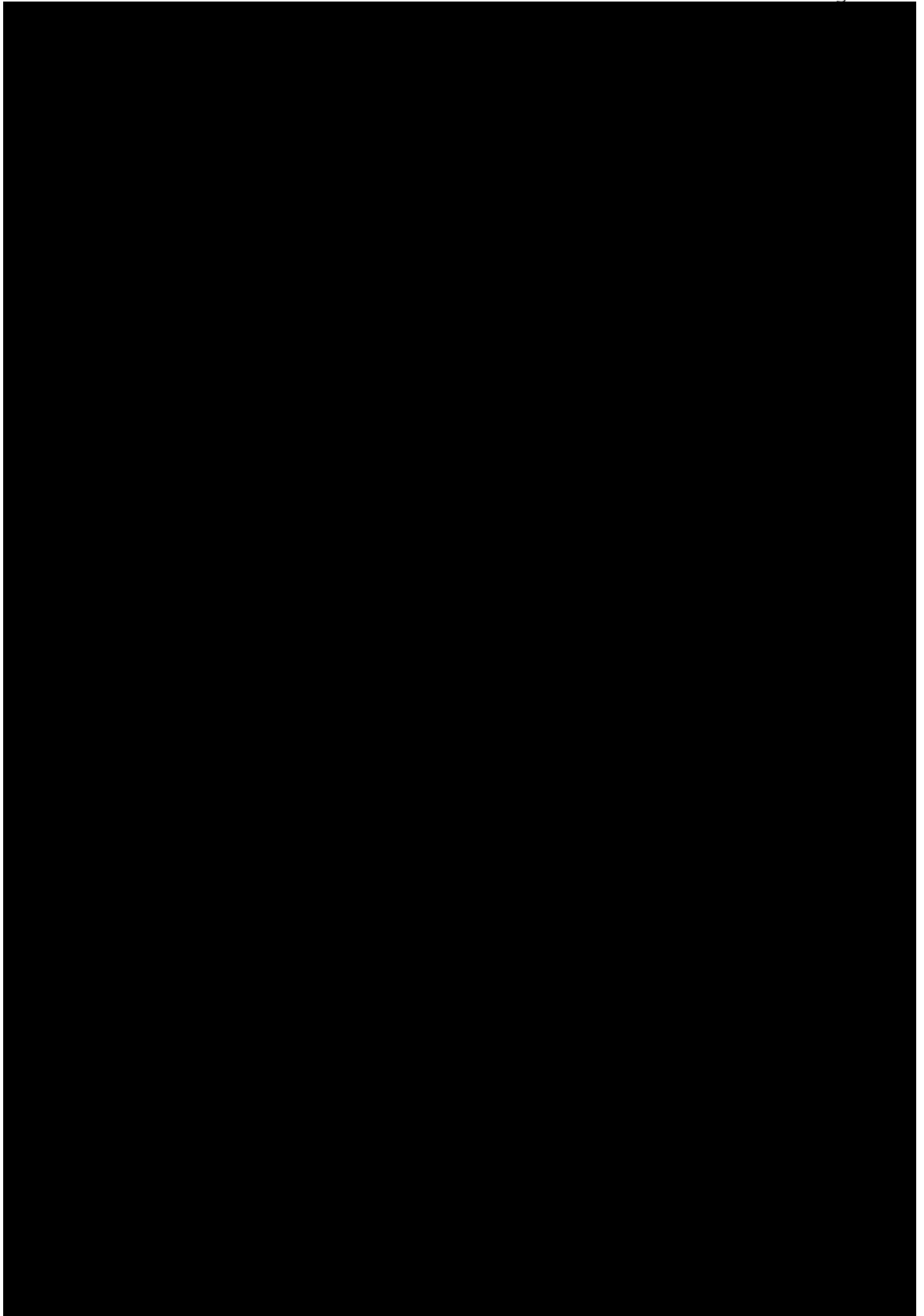
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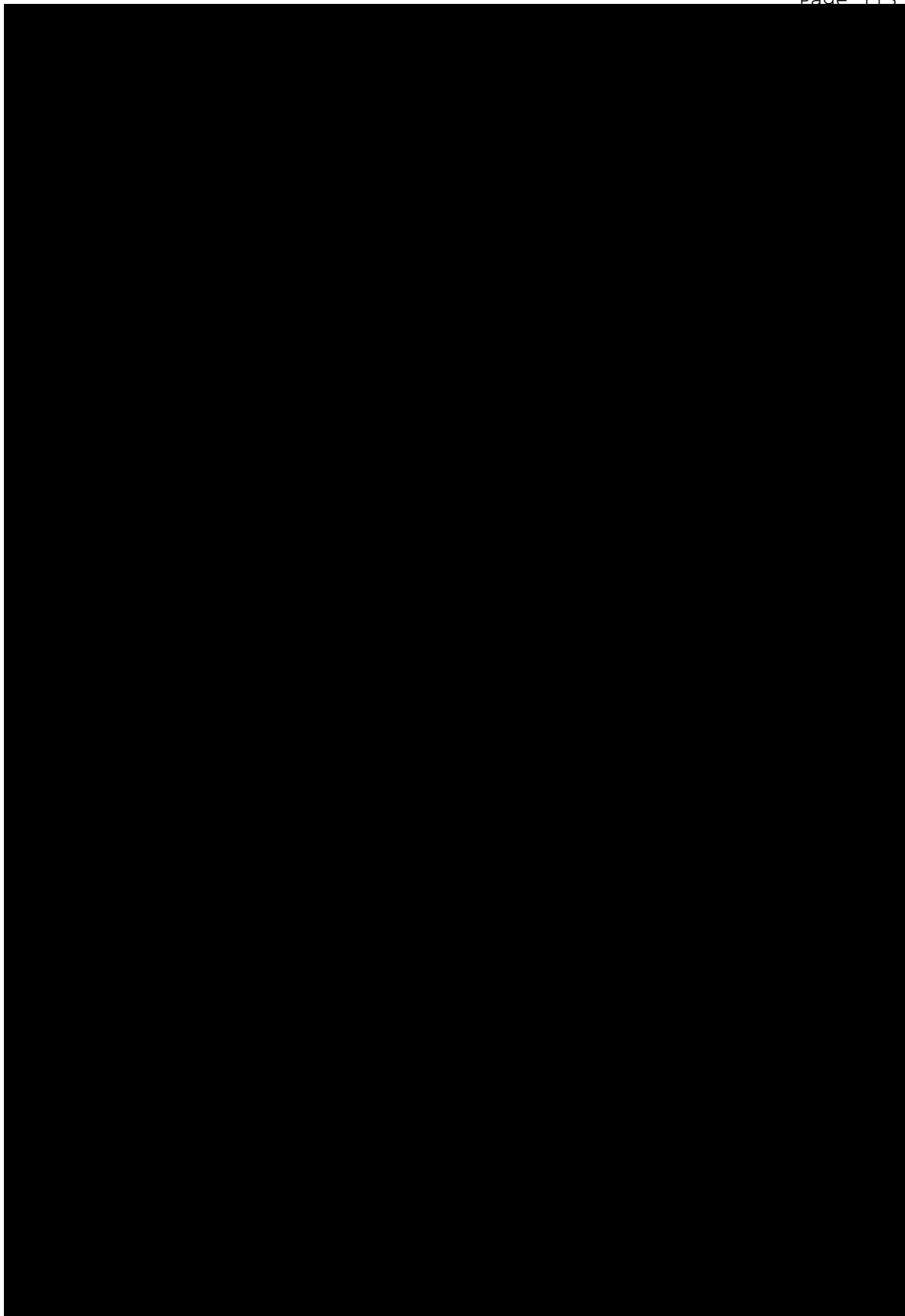


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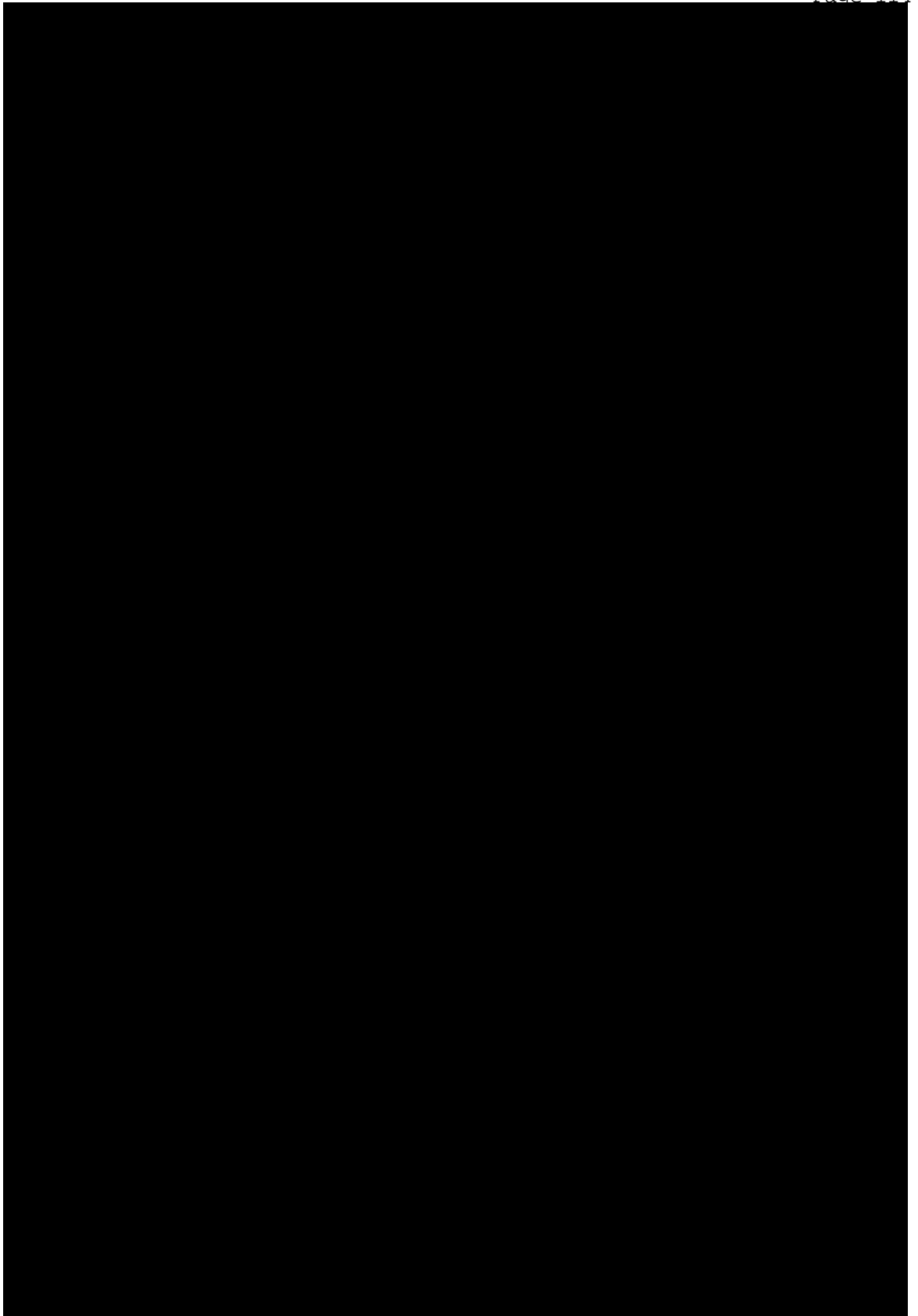




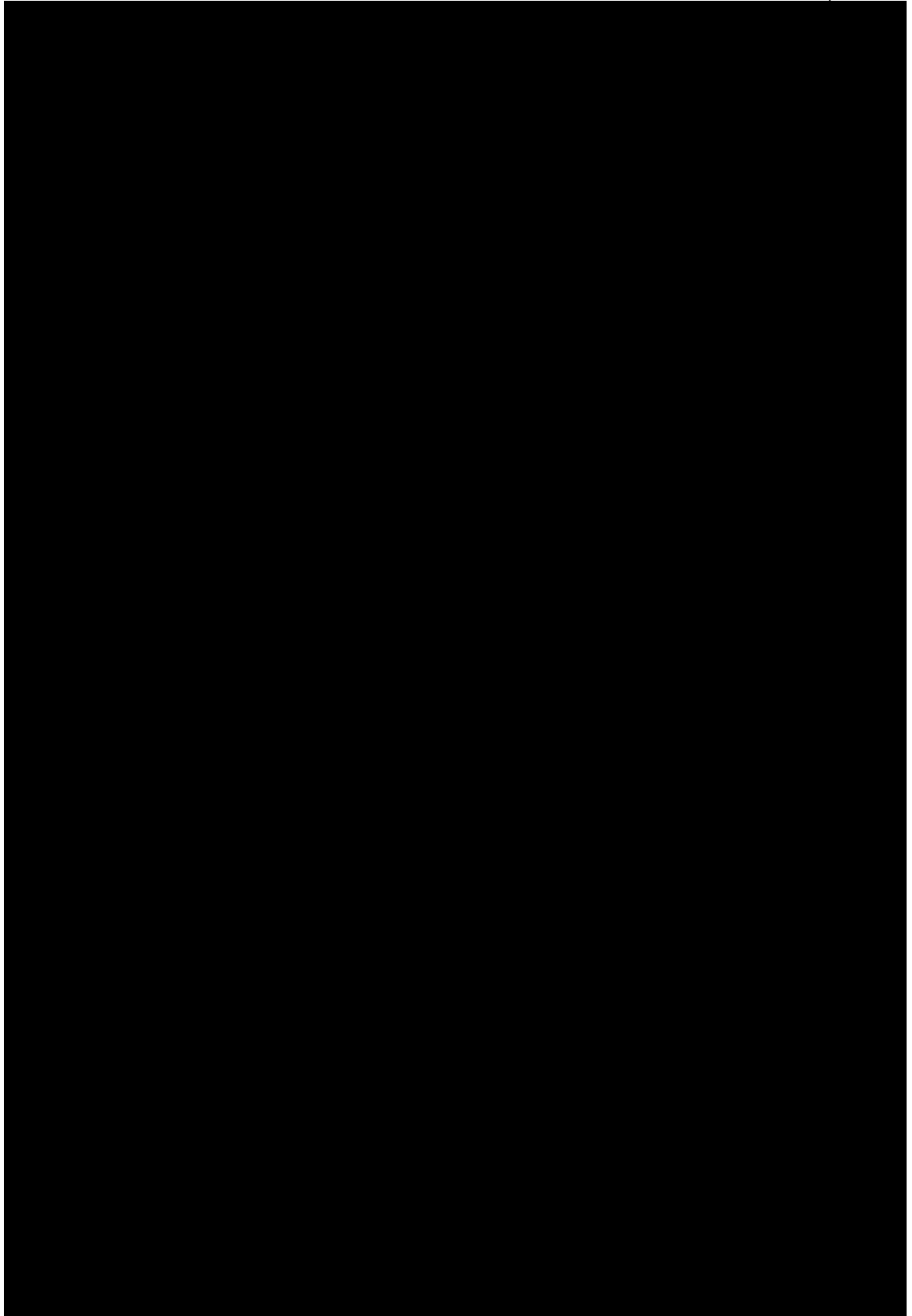
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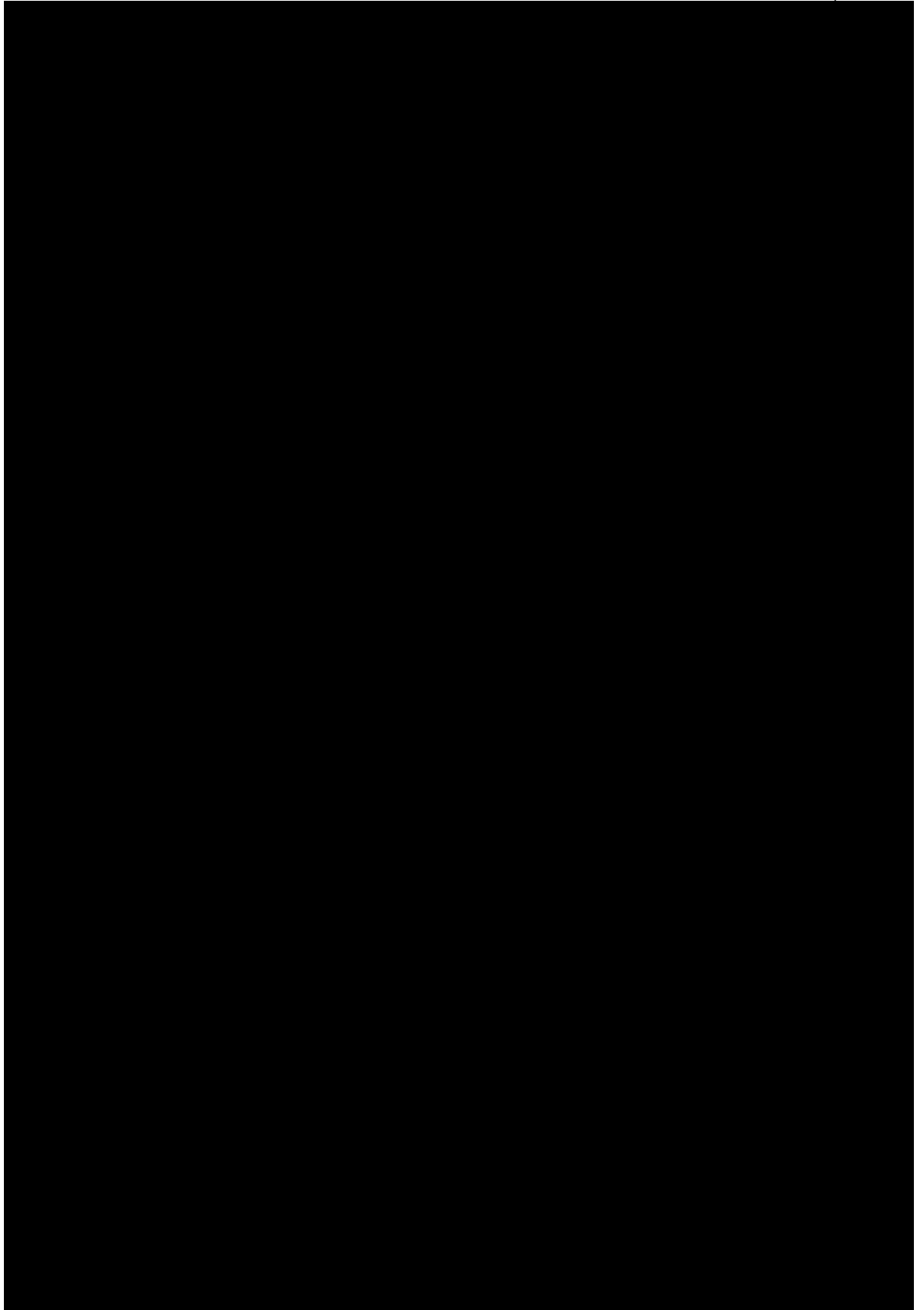
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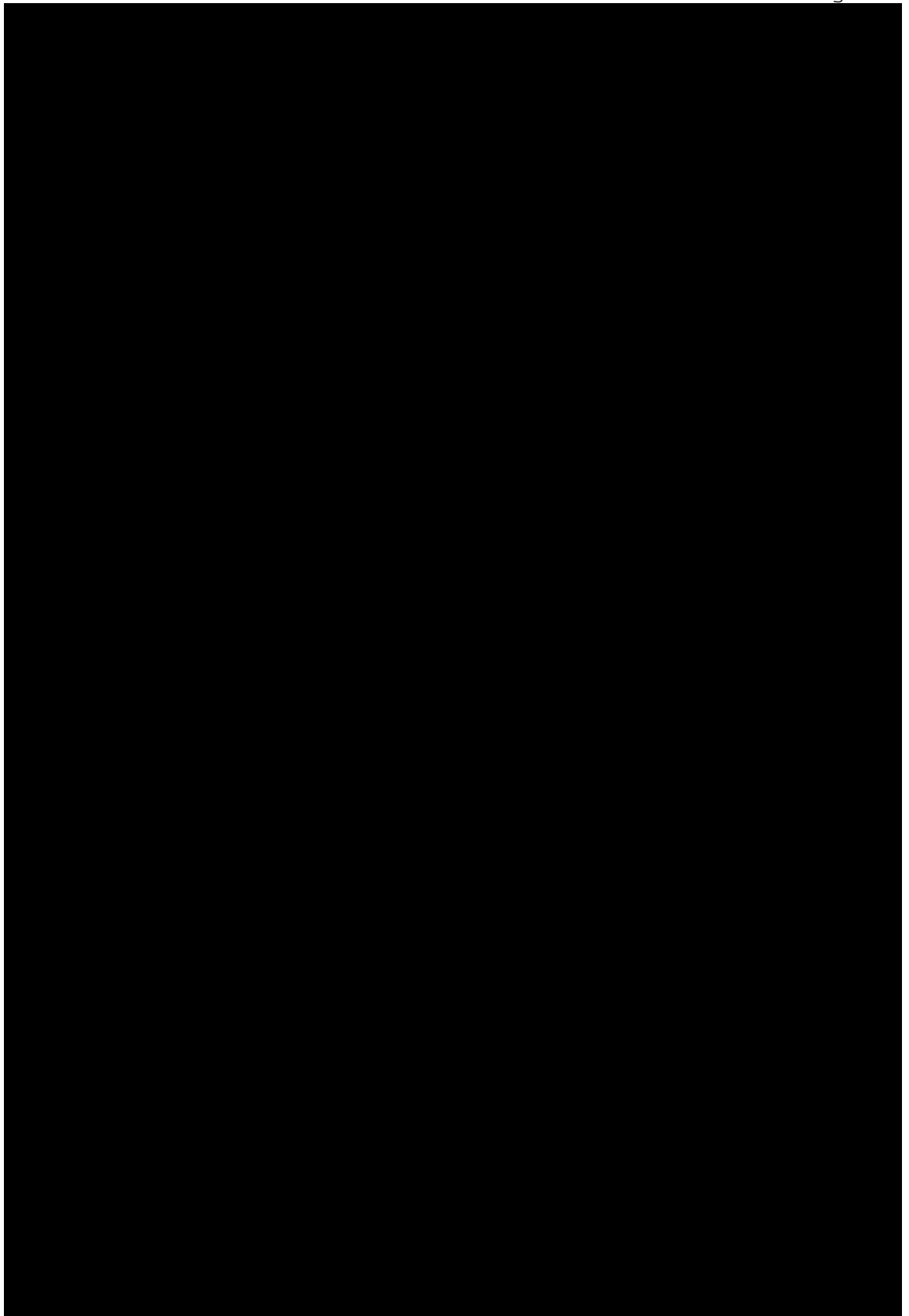
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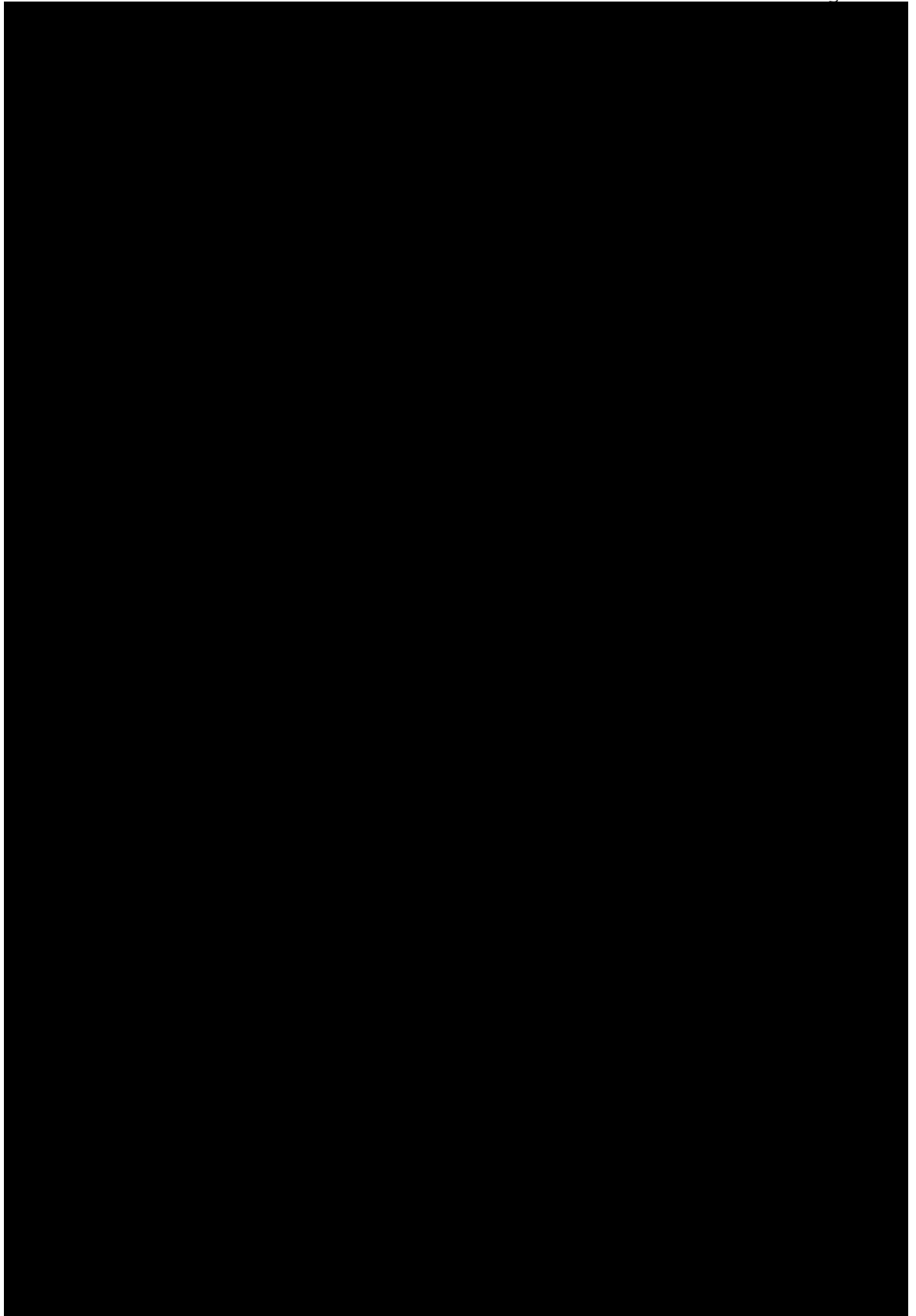
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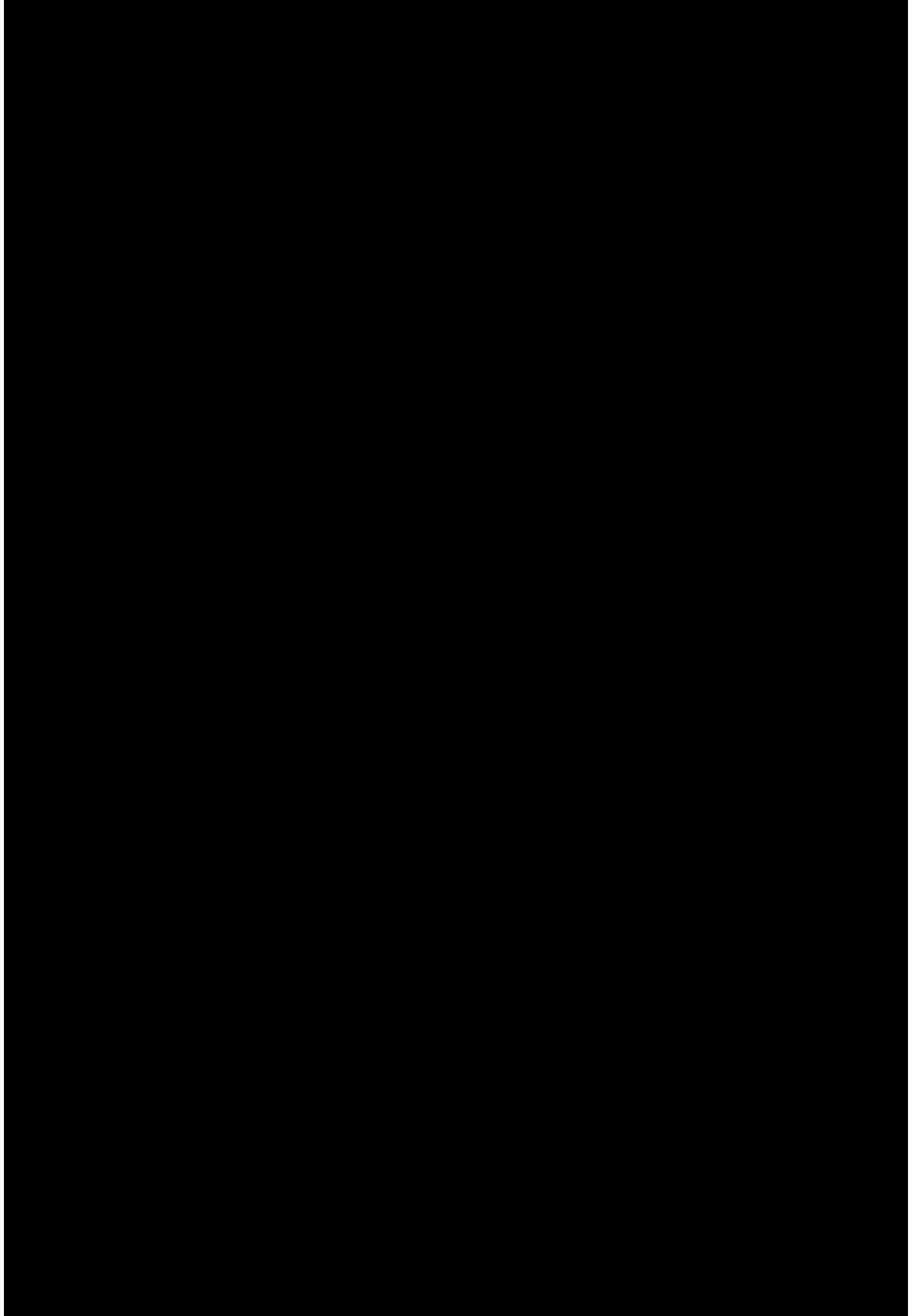
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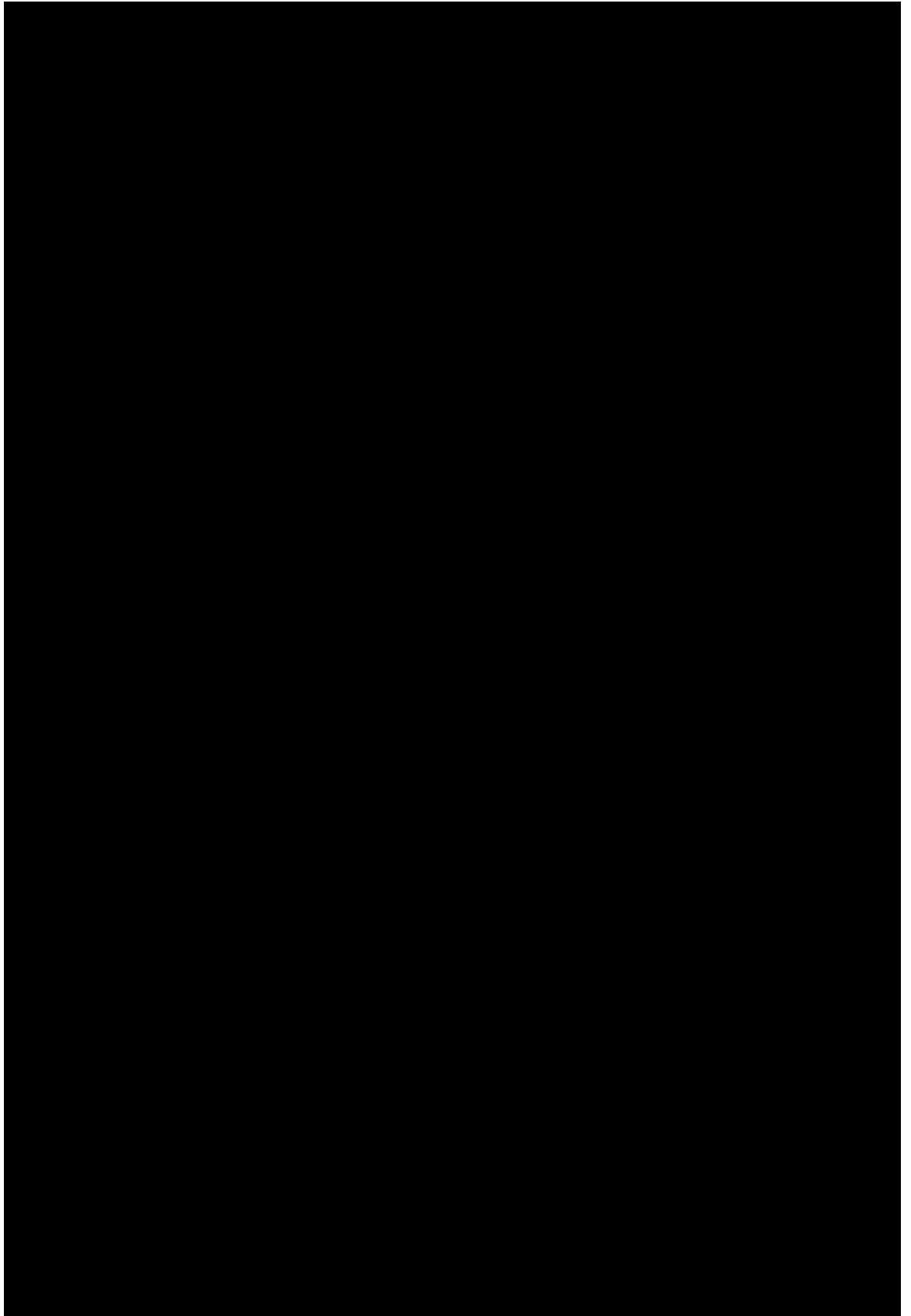
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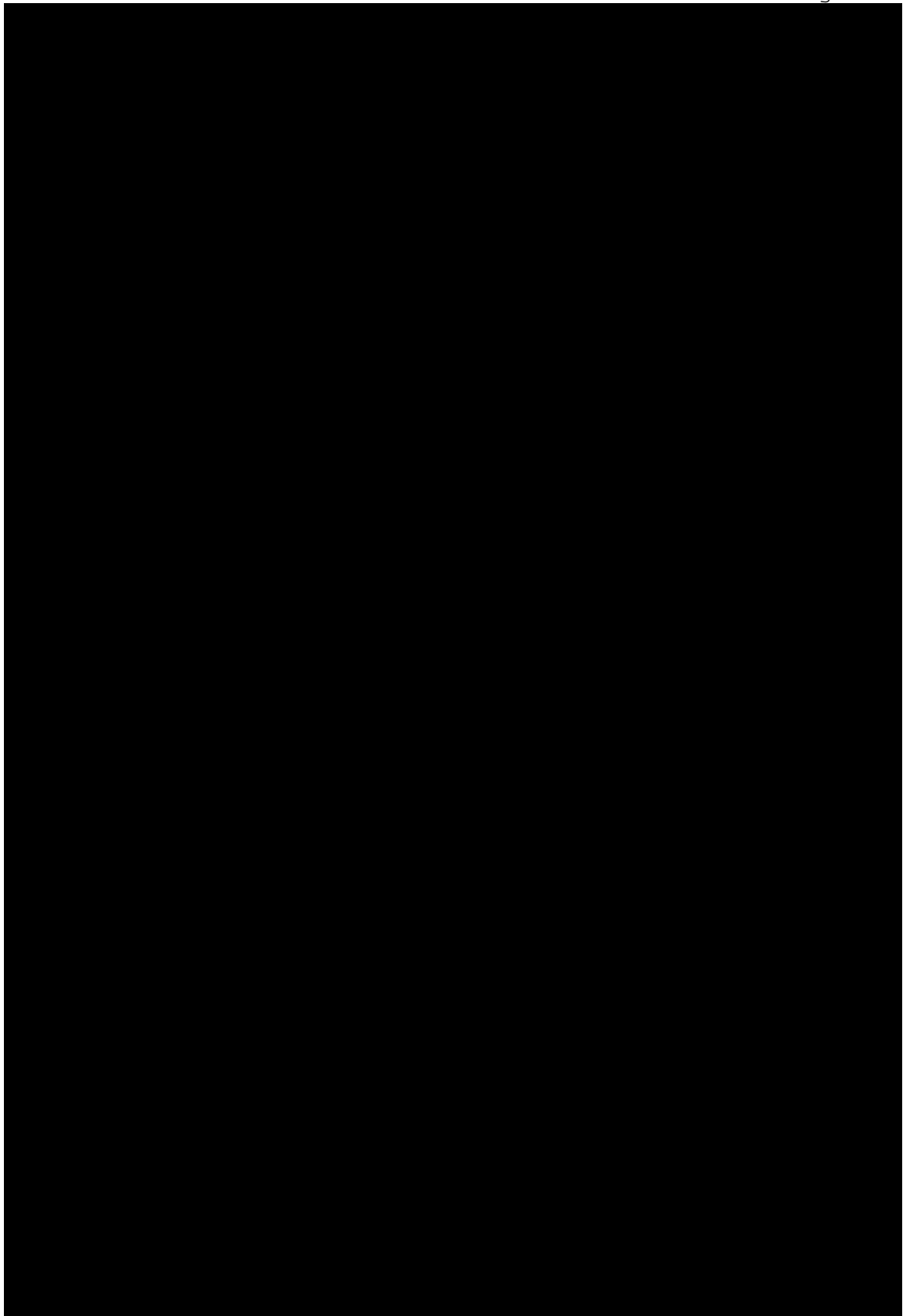


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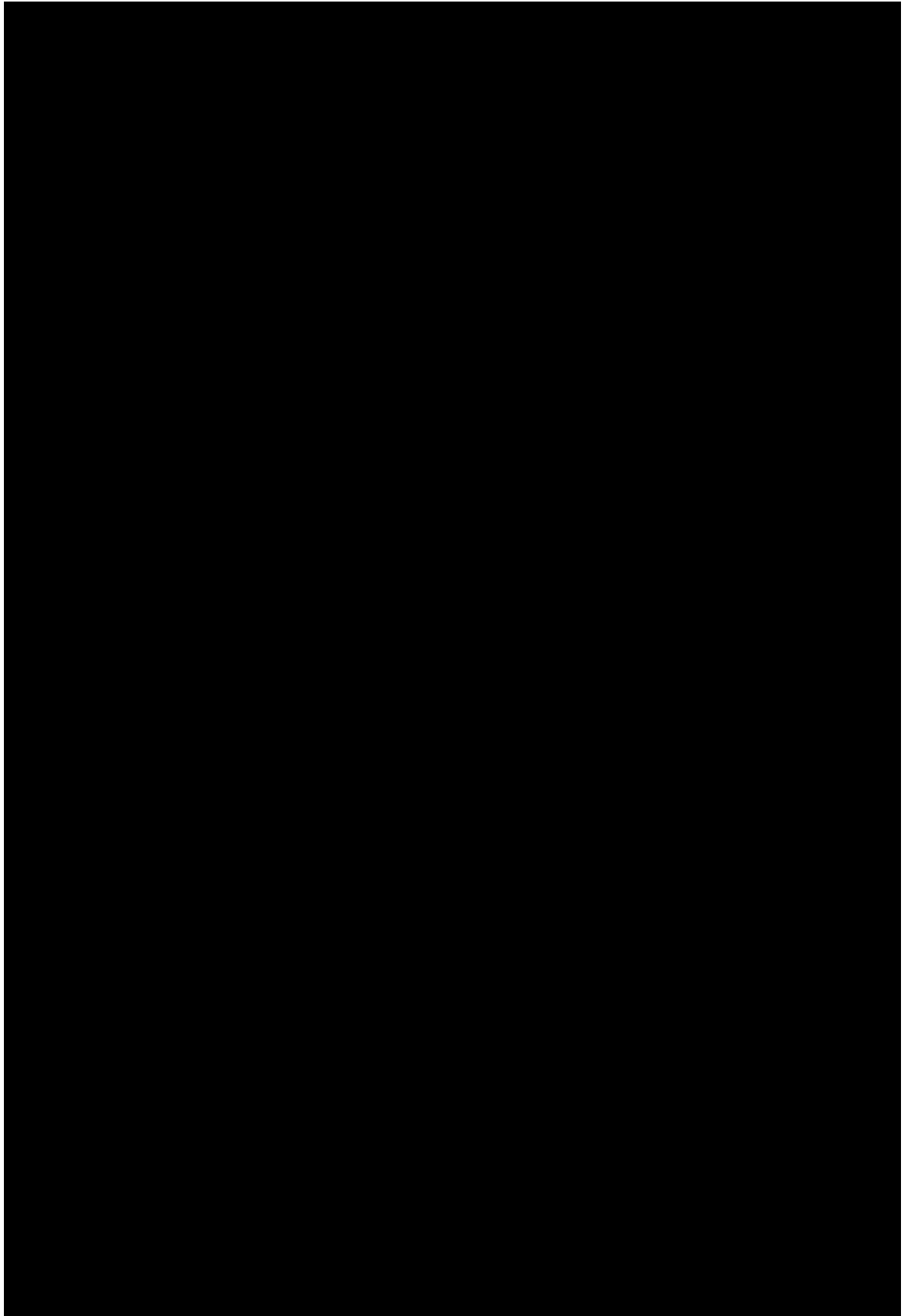




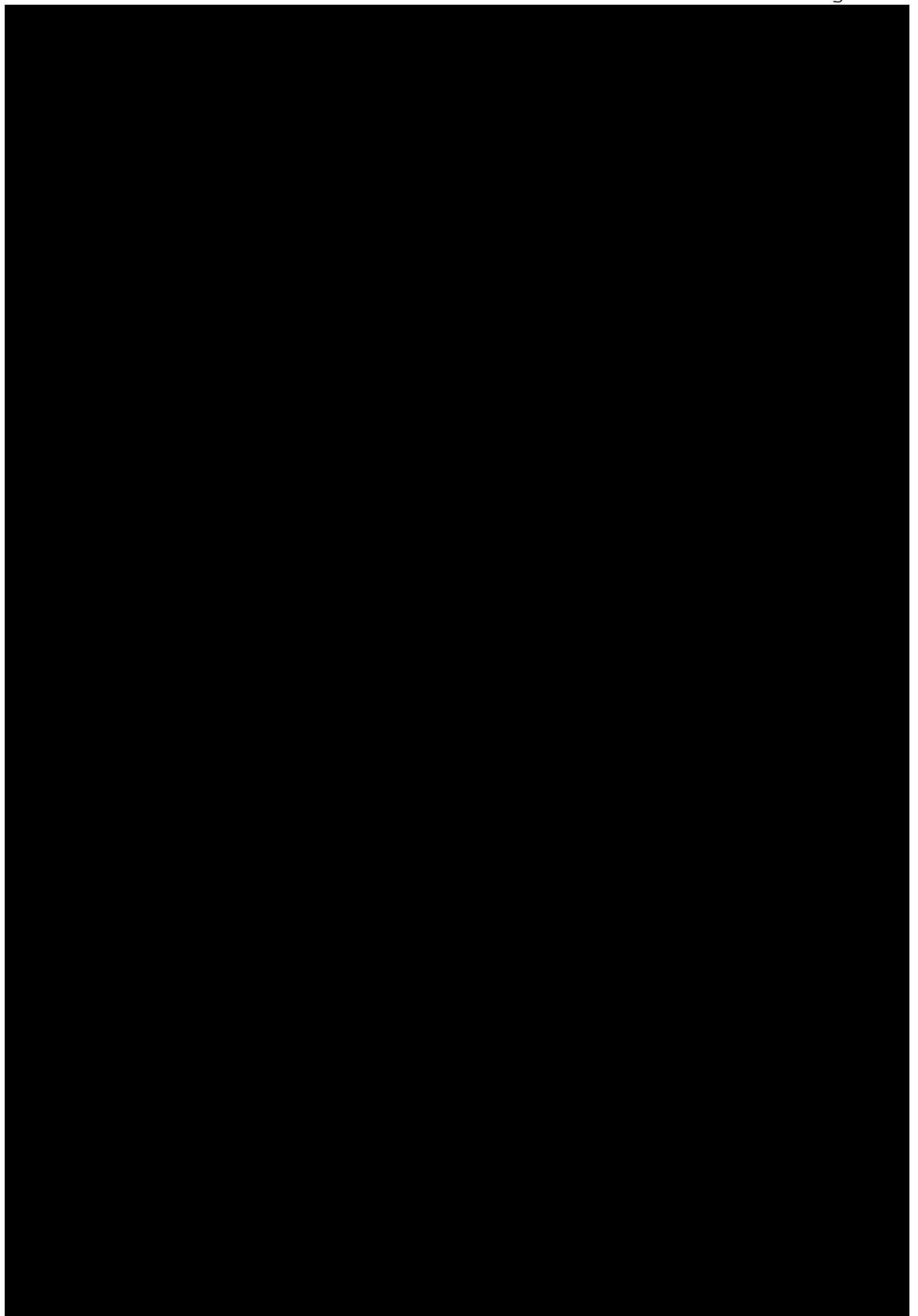
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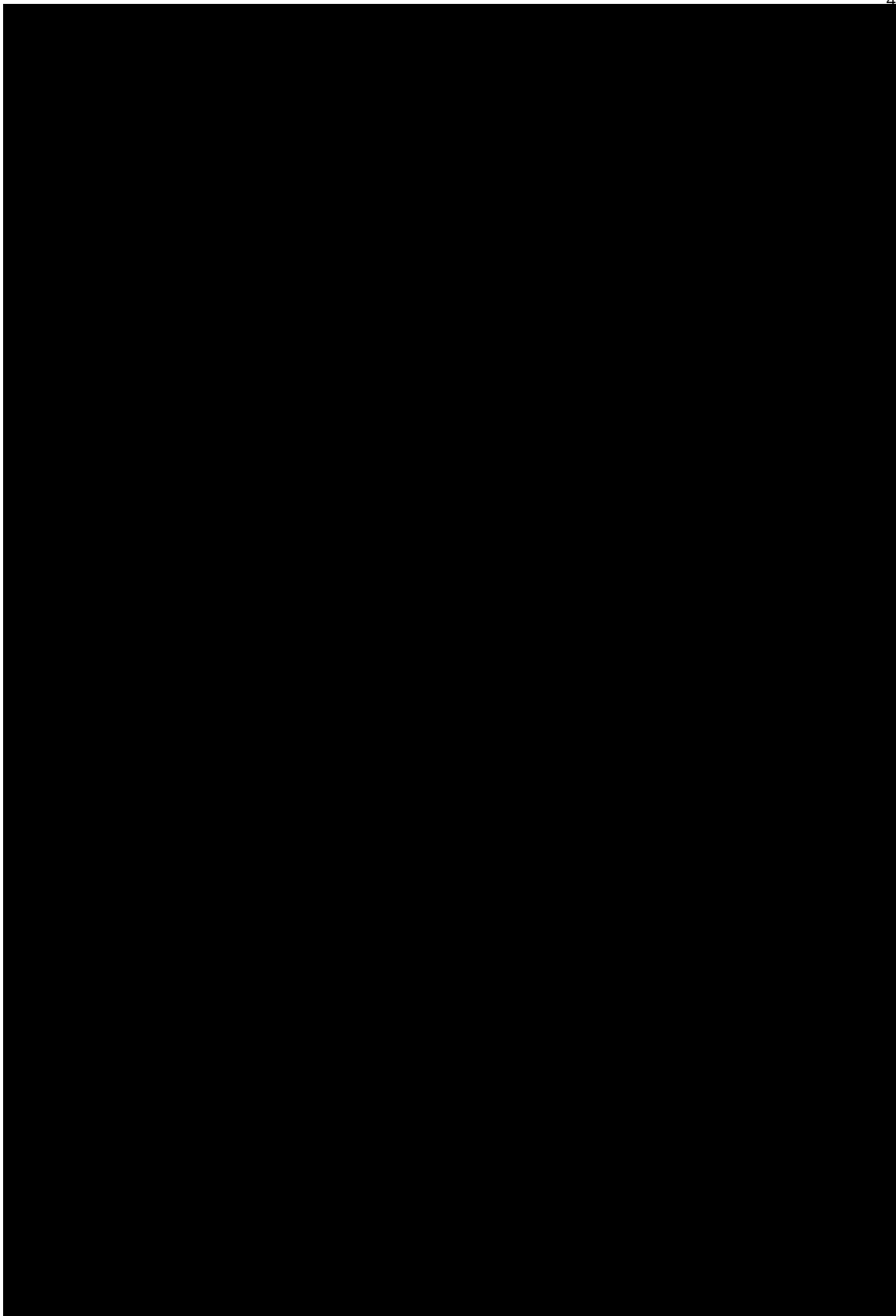
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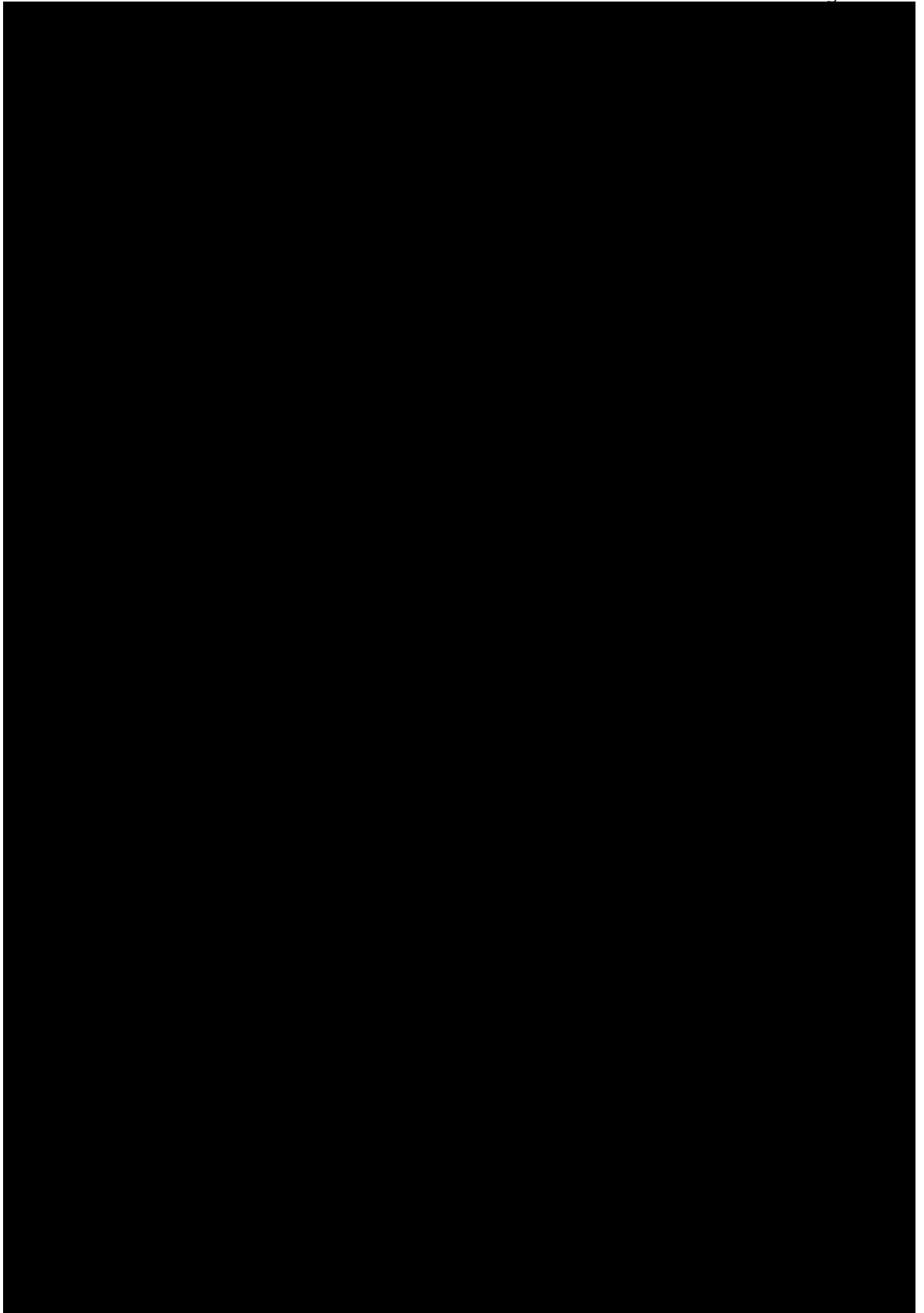
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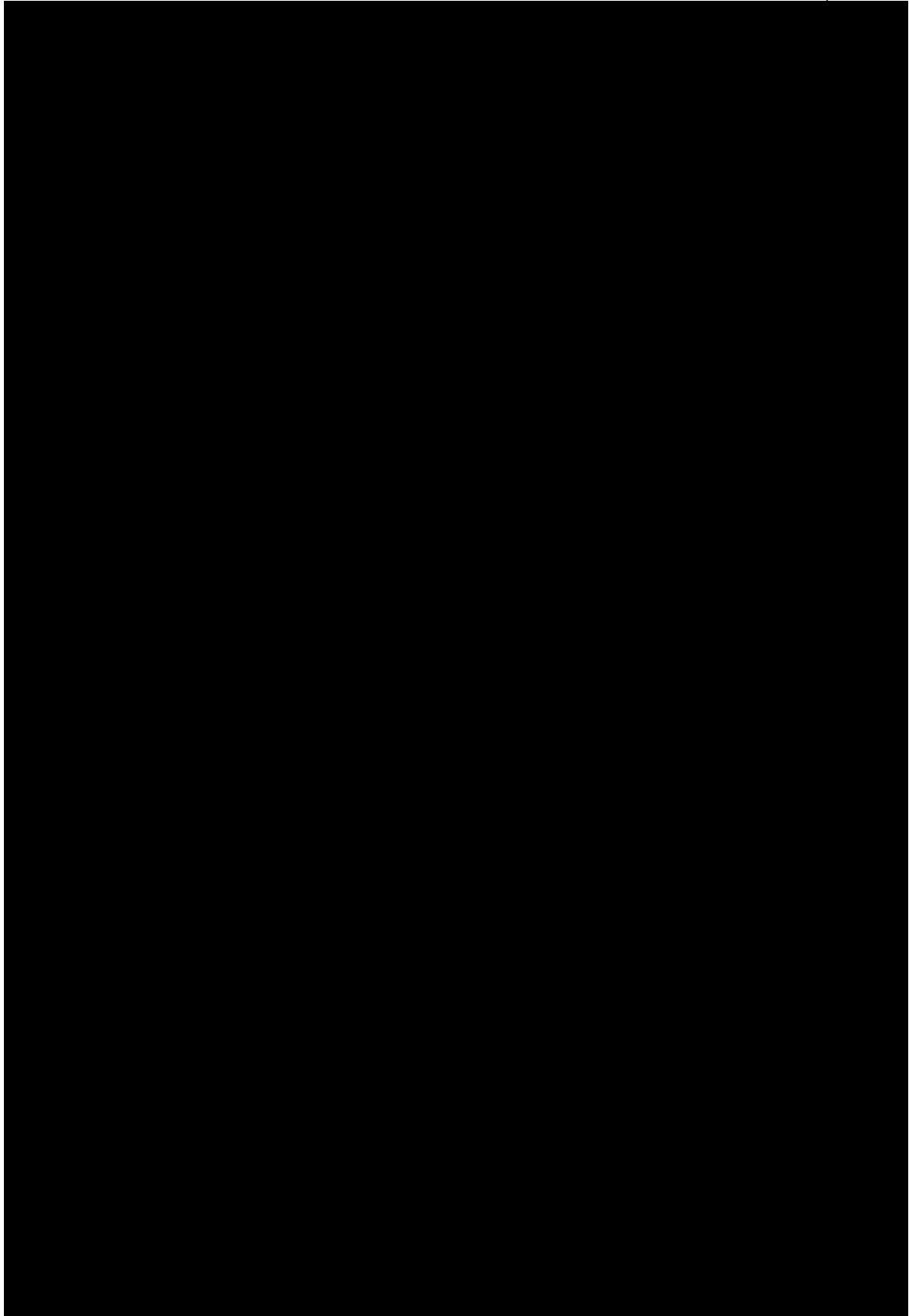
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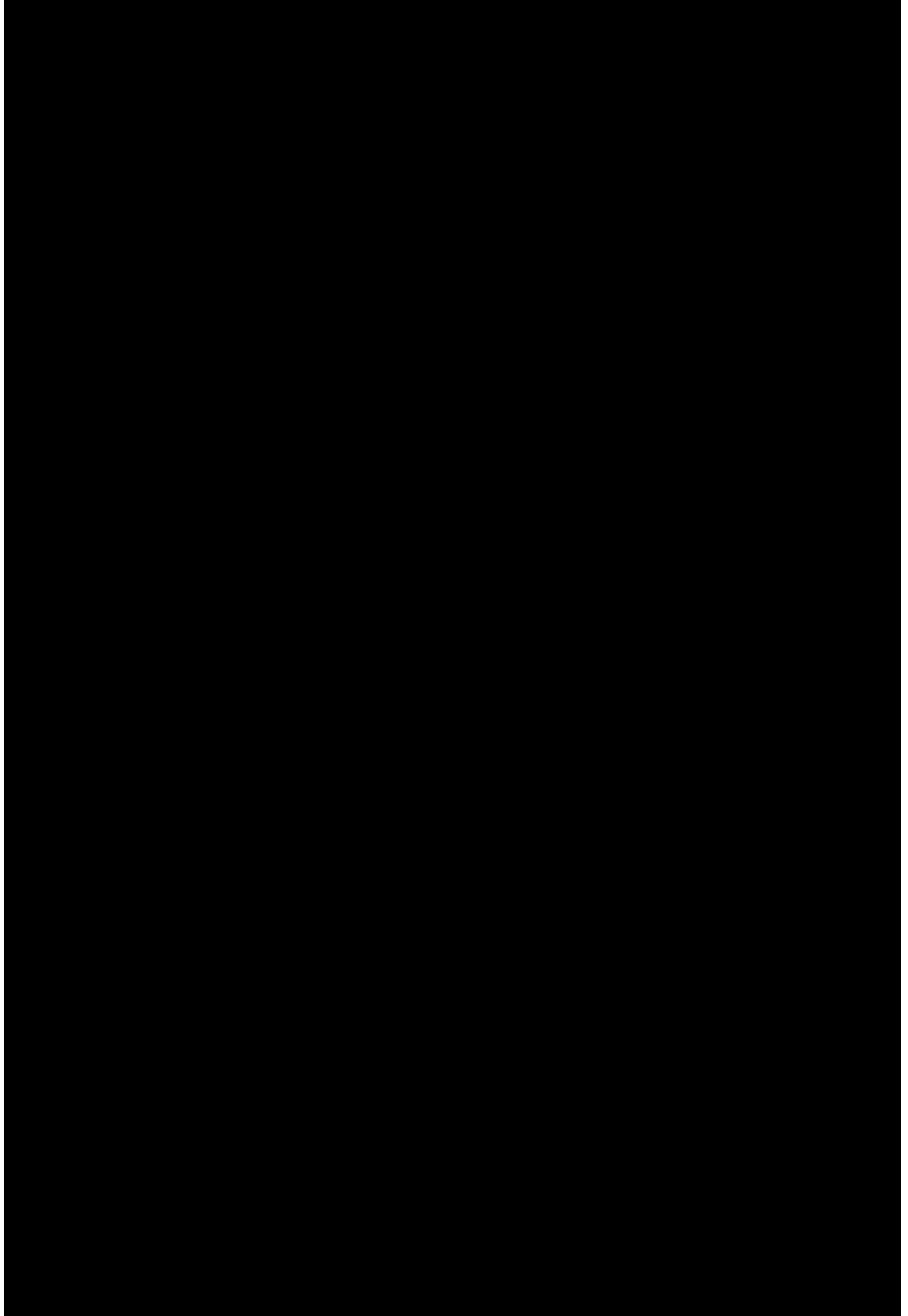
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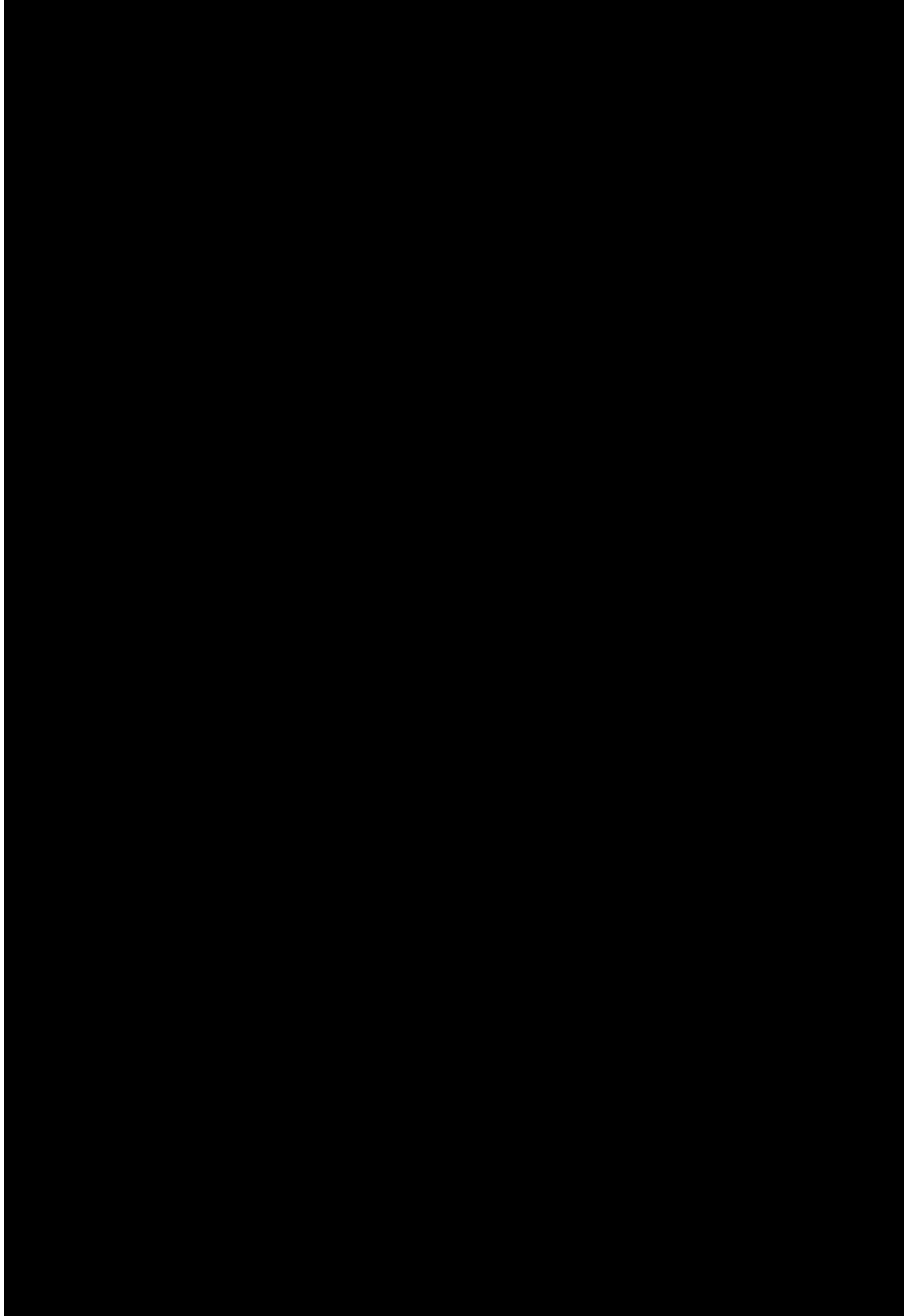
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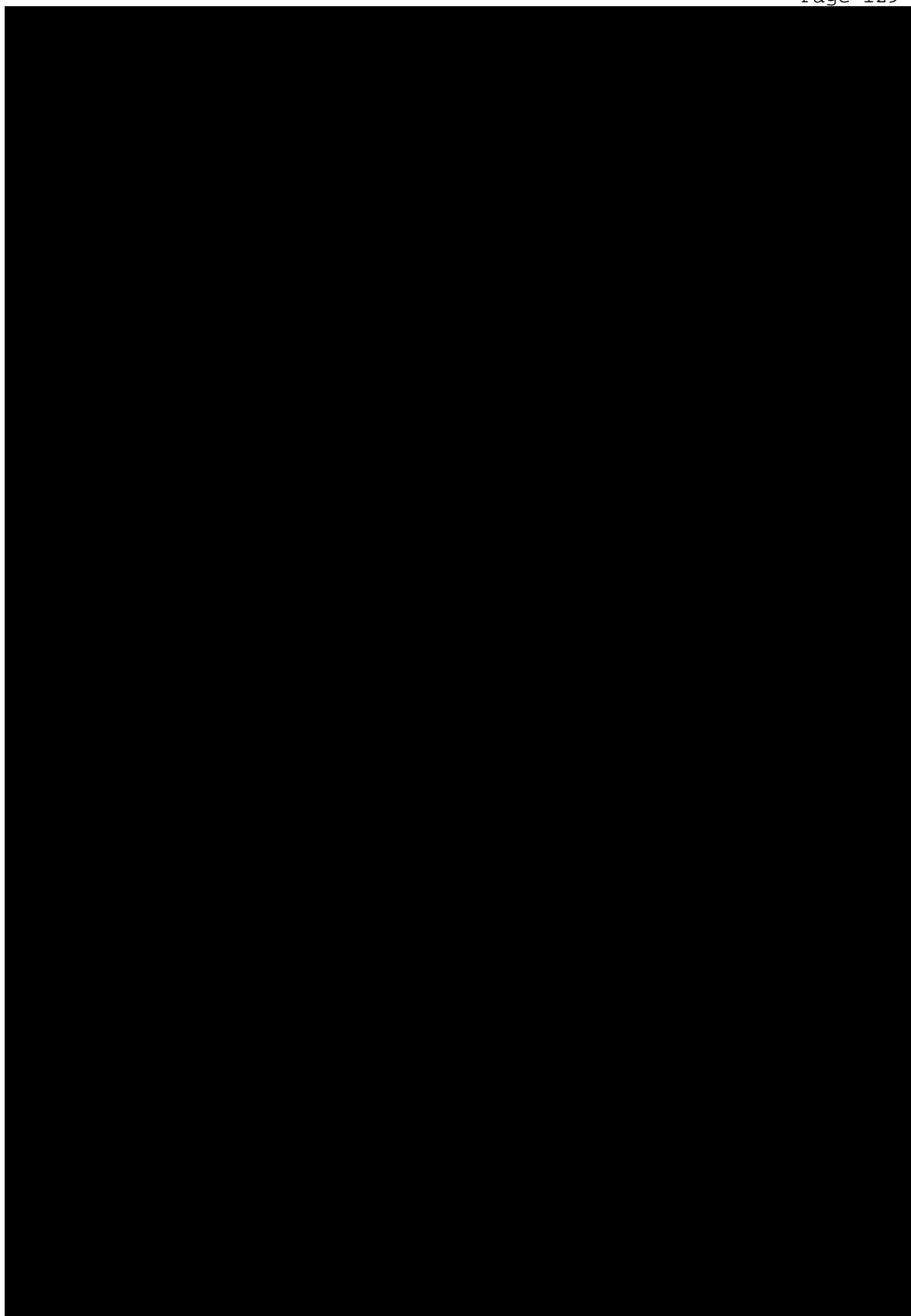


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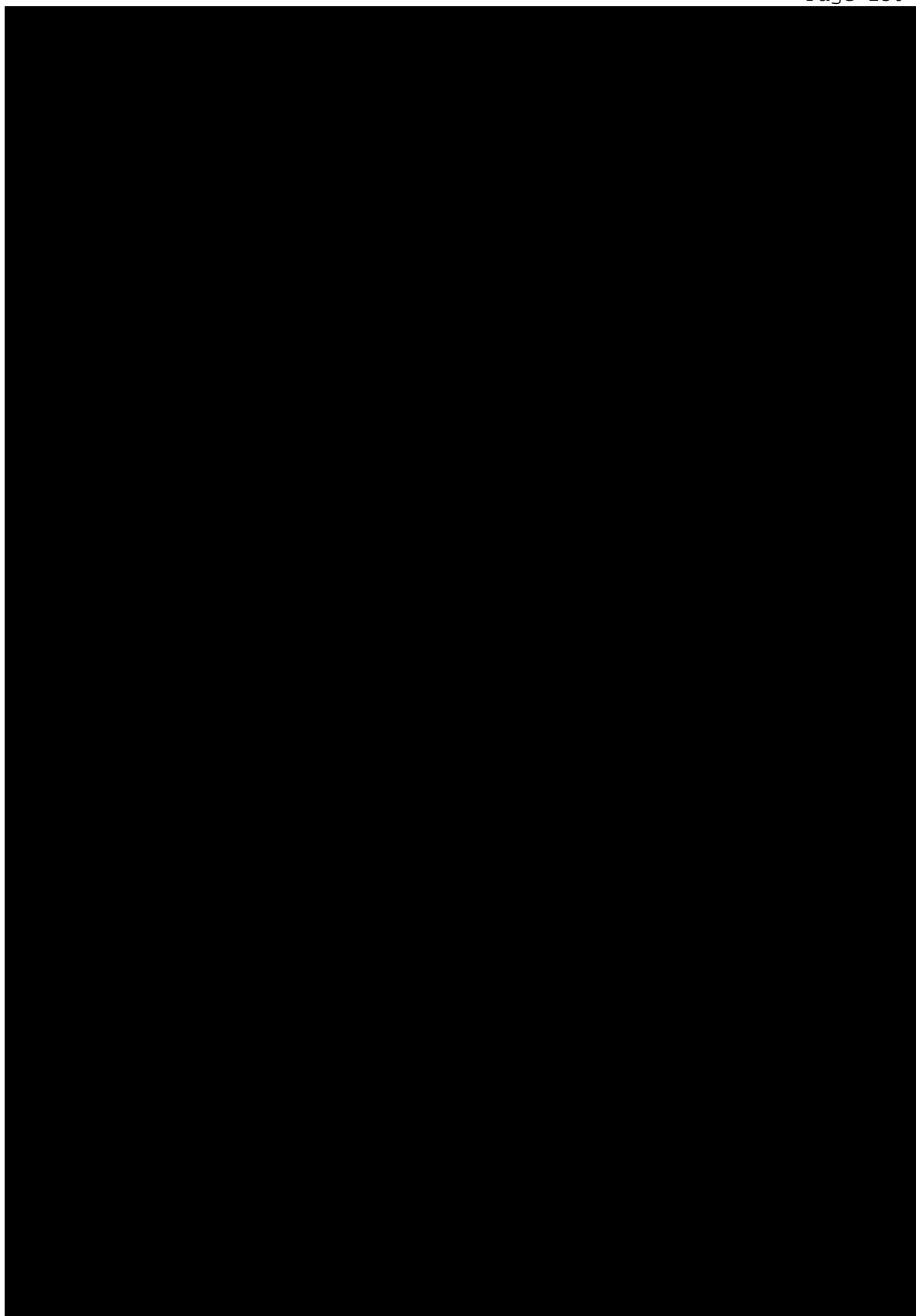




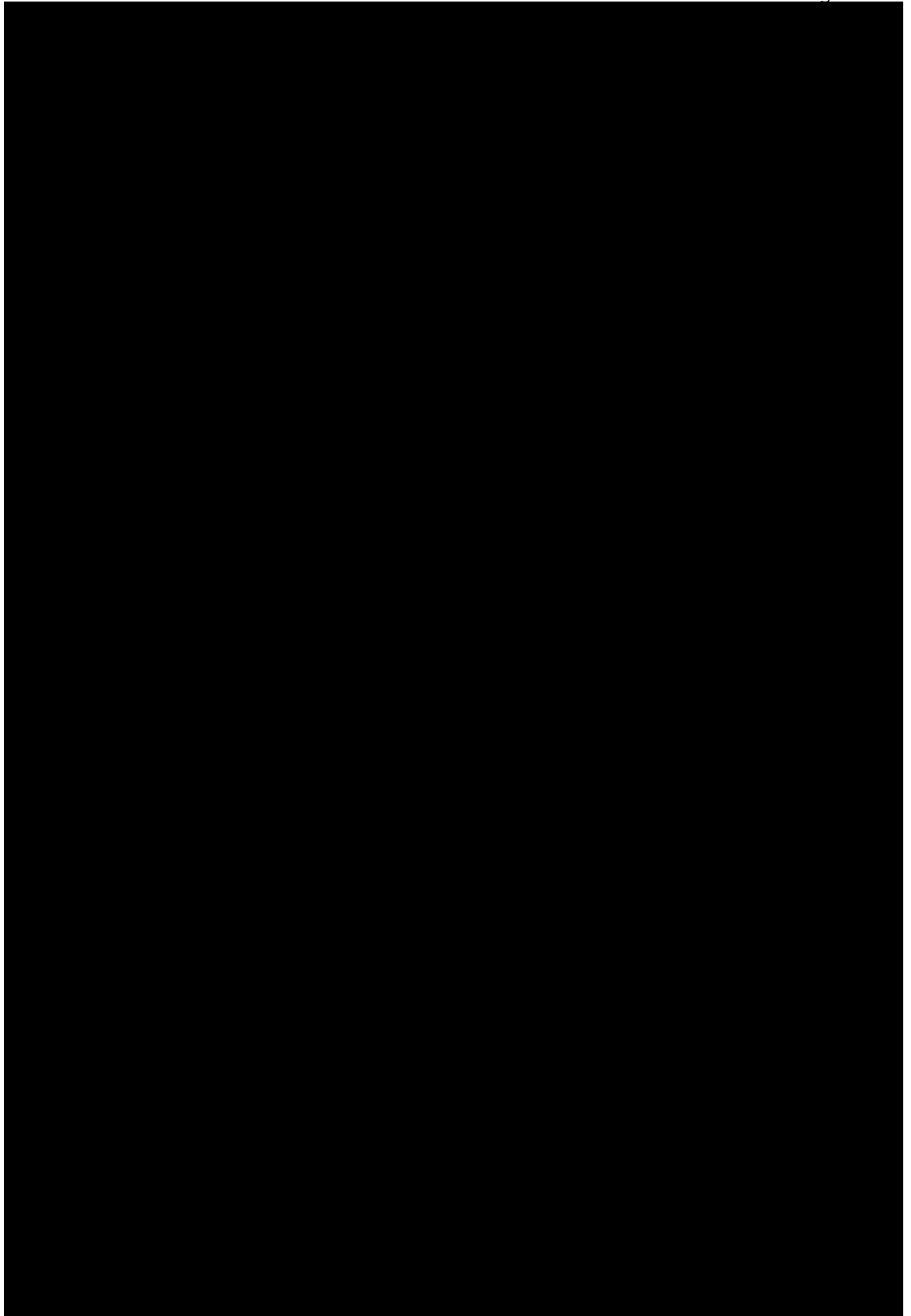
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(The meeting was recessed.)

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VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good afternoon. The time is now 12:08 p.m. and the closed meeting session is terminated and the public meeting is now reopened. We are addressing items 13.1 and 13.2. Commissioner, may I get a motion on those two items?

10

COMMISSIONER DRAGO: (indiscernible) the language.

11

12

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VICE CHAIR BROWN: The motion that I would suggest is to reject the settlement offer and authorize staff to continue negotiations with PPF.

14

COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make that motion.

15

VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

16

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

17

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VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye.

19

(Aye.)

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VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Thank you. And looking at the rest of the agenda, looks like that concludes our meeting today. Thank you all for joining us. Have a great day. We will begin our catch list waging rulemaking workshop -- meeting workshop at 1:30 in this room.

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CERTIFICATE OF DIGITAL REPORTER

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I, SHELLEY KELLY, a Digital Reporter, do hereby  
certify:

That the foregoing proceeding hereinbefore set  
forth was accurately captured with annotations by me  
during the proceeding.

I further certify that I am not related to any of  
the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and  
that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this  
matter.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
this 13th day of May, 2025.

  
Shelley Kelly