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FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING/WORKSHOP HEARING

LOCATION

Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 152  
4075 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

(Page Nos. 1 - 94)

Thursday, September 11, 2025

9:30 a.m. - 11:19 a.m.

BEFORE: Vice Chair Julie I. Brown  
Commissioner Chuck Drago  
Commissioner John D'Aquila  
Commissioner Tina Repp

Stenographically Reported By:  
I. Iris Cooper  
Stenographic Reporter

Job No.: 407417

1 APPEARANCES:

2

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

3

Vice Chair Julie I. Brown  
Commissioner Chuck Drago  
Commissioner John D'Aquila  
Commissioner Tina Repp

6

7 PARTICIPANTS:

8

- Emily Alvarado, Deputy Chief Attorney

9

- Joseph Call, Senior Attorney

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- Joe Dillmore, Acting Executive Director

11

- Christina Linton, Chief of Intelligence & Analytical  
Support

12

- Elina Valentine, General Counsel

13

- Marc Taupier, Deputy General Counsel

14

- Lisa Mustain, Director Of Administration

15

- Dixie Parker, Business Manager I

16

- Jamie Pouncey, Program Administration

17

- Karen Stelter, Chief of Revenue and Auditing

18

19 OTHERS PRESENT:

20

- Various Members of the Public

21

- The Florida Channel

22

- Lonny Powell, CEO & Executive V.P., Florida Thoroughbred  
Breeders' and Owners' Association

23

- Craig Simpson, Counsel for Christopher Wu

24

- Christopher Wu (Appears by Phone)

25

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1       Thereupon, the following proceeding began at 9:30 a.m.:

2               VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning. Today is  
3       September 11, 2025, and this is the Florida Gaming  
4       Control Commission meeting. I know we all woke up  
5       probably this morning with that same feeling of  
6       heaviness -- I know I did -- from the depravity  
7       events that occurred yesterday and with the  
8       knowledge that today marks such a profound moment  
9       in American history today on the anniversary of the  
10      September 11th attacks.

11              We do pause to remember the lives lost and the  
12      deep impact that they have on our nation and our  
13      world. We honor the memory of Charlie Kirk who was  
14      senselessly taken from the world yesterday, as well  
15      as those who lost their lives on this tragic day 24  
16      years ago.

17              If you all please stand with us for a moment  
18      of silence now to remember, reflect, and pray for  
19      the continued protection for those who serve to  
20      keep us safe in this country.

21              Thank you. Please join us for the pledge of  
22      allegiance, which will be led by Commissioner  
23      Drago.

24      (Pledge of allegiance.)

25              VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Commissioners,

1 and thank you all. We're going to get right into  
2 the meat of the work we have to do today. Starting  
3 with Item No. 1. I will note we do have three  
4 attorney-client sessions at the end of this  
5 meeting, so we'll get to that as we go moving  
6 forward.

7 So starting with number one, discussion of  
8 renewal application for slot machine licenses.  
9 Good morning, Jamie.

10 MS. POUNCEY: Good morning. Jamie Pouncey, for  
11 the record. Case No. 2025-059126 is the  
12 application for slot machine licensure for  
13 Gulfstream Park. They have submitted the required  
14 application.

15 They've satisfied all the requirements. We  
16 request approval for their license effective  
17 October 13, 2025 through October 12, 2026.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners,  
19 are there any questions on this item? If not, can  
20 we get a motion to approve the application for a  
21 renewal effective October 13, 2025.

22 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Make a motion to renew  
23 the application.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can I get a second?

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

3           (Multiple ayes.)

4           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And,  
5   Ms. Pouncey, we're going to take up 2.1 and 2.2  
6   together.

7           MS. POUNCEY: Yes, ma'am. Item No. 2.1, Case  
8   No. 2025-047772 is Tampa Bay Downs request to amend  
9   their performances for the '25/'26 year. They have  
10   submitted the required documentation.

11          In addition, Item No. 2.2 is Case No.  
12   2025-057684. That is Dania Entertainment, who is  
13   also requesting to amend their operating dates for  
14   the '25/'26 year. They have submitted all the  
15   required documentation, and we request approval of  
16   all of these amendments.

17          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Seeing that  
18   they have satisfied all the requirements by law,  
19   Commissioners, can we please get a motion to amend  
20   the 2025 operating license schedules on both items.

21          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

22          VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second, please.

23          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We're moving on  
3 to our discussion of FTBOA amended 2025 plan. We  
4 do have a speaker, after staff introduces the item.

5 MS. STELTER: Good morning.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning.

7 MS. STELTER: Karen Stelter, for the record.  
8 Item No. 3, Case No. 2025-062708 as outlined in the  
9 meeting materials is a request from the Florida  
10 Thoroughbred Breeders' and Owners' Association,  
11 FTBOA, to amended its 2025 annual award plan.

12 Section 550.2625(3)(h) Florida Statutes  
13 requires the FTBOA to assess a uniform rate and  
14 procedure for the payments of breeders' and  
15 stallions' awards annually. The Commission  
16 approved the 2025 annual plan at a meeting held on  
17 October 2, 2024.

18 On August 22, 2025, a request was received  
19 from the FTBOA to amend its annual plan, 2025 plan.  
20 The request seeks to decrease the uniform rate from  
21 20 percent to 15 percent based on an unforeseen  
22 change in funding.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for the  
24 introduction.

25 Commissioners, before we get to the speaker,



1 are there any questions of our staff? Okay. Thank  
2 you.

3 Mr. Ronnie Powell, welcome back.

4 MR. POWELL: Thank you, Madam Chairman and  
5 Commissioners. Good to see you. Good morning.  
6 What a difference a year makes, not always a good  
7 difference. We stand before you today -- we've  
8 done this once before during my times here -- to  
9 amend the existing plan, as was very well  
10 articulated, to stay within the statutory confines,  
11 but to take breeders and stallion awards to 15  
12 percent from the current 20 percent that has been  
13 offered this year and actually the year before and  
14 I believe the year before at the highest level of  
15 statute.

16 As you know, when I appeared before you the  
17 last two years, this was a time of smiles and  
18 happiness because my organization has not been  
19 charged in the first year with no help from really  
20 anyone in the industry to get this financial  
21 investment package for everybody, for the tracks,  
22 for the horsemen, for ourselves.

23 And never would we have thought that a track  
24 after that would opt to proceed decoupling so fast.  
25 And that's the biggest reason why we're impacted

1 right here because we have consistently fought  
2 decoupling for 14, 15 years.

3 We're the tip of the spear. Legislative  
4 action was done. This is almost a parallel  
5 universe thing where our portion of the funds were  
6 allocated to the two tracks that wanted to be  
7 decoupled because it makes a lot of sense, not.

8 But it's supposed to go towards Florida-bred  
9 incentives. Since you'll have no authority over  
10 that, we have no authority over that, we can only  
11 count on the tracks doing the right thing with that  
12 money because it shows a major increase in Florida  
13 racing incentives.

14 If not, I don't know what it did. But that  
15 causes enough of a delta. We have that money  
16 budgeted for the whole year of this plan. And all  
17 of a sudden with that dropping off for the last  
18 three months of our year, we've been using just the  
19 one fund and burning the balance down.

20 So really our company today is out of  
21 necessity because we won't have a balance enough at  
22 the end of the year for breeders' awards. The 15  
23 percent will correct the situation where it's  
24 manageable.

25 And, you know, we'll be coming forward again

1 looking for that same thing continuing on through  
2 the year '26, unless there's some legislative  
3 substantial things that happen. There's more to  
4 this than the legislative funding part of it,  
5 though.

6 It's something -- Commissioner, I think we had  
7 an exchange this last year at this very meeting  
8 because you were on to something, and we had known  
9 for some time.

10 We get audited a couple times a year. Our  
11 auditors always praise us, you're such a great  
12 non-profit. You're spending more than you're  
13 bringing in on your breeders' awards.

14 This 550 didn't quite always get it there, but  
15 we always found ways to make it happen. And  
16 certainly, this last boost of financial assistance  
17 from the legislature that was -- Sunset was removed  
18 on a year ago. That provided that boost.

19 But now you're looking at plain and cold what  
20 does 550 do for the industry. And this is where if  
21 things do fall into the state's court and in your  
22 courts. One of the number one reasons why 550  
23 doesn't work, Statute 550.

24 Look at its age, and look how much the  
25 industry's changed. 90 percent of the wagering is

1     done virtually by simulcast and really  
2     advance-deposit wagering. We don't even have rules  
3     here.

4             I don't believe anybody in the state can tell  
5     you how much is waged if you don't have  
6     advance-deposit wagering or where those people are  
7     from or the computer -- I'm sure the companies can.

8             I come from the ADW world. I was in charge of  
9     compliance, policy, and public affairs at ADW many  
10    years ago. So I know the world. And part of what  
11    I do is with the regulators, and this was always  
12    looked upon as a soft state.

13            And I think the softness is showing itself  
14    because the breeders get not one dime off of that  
15    money. In fact, at ADW it's taking place on the  
16    racetrack themselves because people are encouraged  
17    why go to the window because we hardly have many  
18    people at windows anyway.

19            Bet the ADW. And what that does is short  
20    change us out of the process altogether. That's  
21    not the only broken part of 550. This is almost  
22    comical. The breeders are funded to a percentage  
23    of on-track -- this after we just found out that  
24    ADW is almost on again.

25            So what did we think on-track -- would do.

1 Well, I don't rely on the folks with the tracks  
2 that are based in Florida. I don't rely on what's  
3 based in Toronto. I have relied on the adviser  
4 that reports directly to the chairman and the owner  
5 of the company.

6 Those on-tracks are about 2 percent now. So I  
7 think 550 might be very broken because there is a  
8 direct relationship to that than the ADW that I  
9 just talked about. On top of it all, this  
10 situation creates a situation.

11 Like right now with money that we would use  
12 for breeders' awards. And we're glad. We're the  
13 ones that pushed that we do racing awards. But  
14 nonetheless, the way this paradigm shift takes  
15 place, 550 has no controls.

16 The breeders' award money can be spent away,  
17 and we have no control over it because that money  
18 being spent at the racetracks will drive up our  
19 breeders' awards, and we're the ones responsible  
20 for the breeders' awards.

21 That's really one of the flaws in what  
22 happened in the shifting of the funds this year.  
23 So that's just a few of the many ways 550 -- before  
24 I moved here, I would refer to it -- I taught  
25 racing law at the University of Arizona.

1           As one of the absolute worst statutes in the  
2   country -- and the only one that was worse was  
3   Louisiana, and try to figure either one out. And  
4   I've got to lived with it for 15 years, and my  
5   opinion of it hasn't changed.

6           At the same time, we're not all about just  
7   complaining. We look forward to having those  
8   discussions suggesting forms and solutions. That's  
9   what we try to do.

10          And, you know, under your good governance,  
11   thankfully, we're going to progress on, and we'll  
12   see some good things happen. We do have some other  
13   good news to talk about because the governor and  
14   the senate in seeing our predicament were very kind  
15   to us at the end of session.

16          And because of their contribution to us  
17   through a private ad fund similar to what we used  
18   to have, but not the same. We're going to be able  
19   to do something. We're really excited about it,  
20   and our members are going to be excited about it.

21          This is the first time in history in Florida.  
22   The thoroughbred industry is doing it because we're  
23   going to for the first time have an out-of-state  
24   export win incentive program.

25          So if you're campaigning Florida, but it's --

1 and some people, believe it or not, shift out of  
2 state because when you have two tracks -- when you  
3 have racetracks wanting to be Enos, not base Enos,  
4 (phonetic) it doesn't give everybody a lot of warm  
5 and fuzzies about hanging around.

6 Our horses are having a banner year all over  
7 the country this year, I think one of the best  
8 ever. We wanted to start rewarding those people,  
9 too. Hey, no matter what they do down in  
10 Gulfstream or what they do in Tampa, your Florida  
11 breders can go campaign for money elsewhere as well.

12 And so we're going to roll that out on January  
13 1. We've also taken away registration fees for  
14 foals. We're trying to do that as kindness and  
15 relief to our hardworking Florida horse people.

16 We've got a number of things going on,  
17 including we still have the only not deployed yet  
18 thoroughbred racing permit left in the state.  
19 That's a non-profit. And between all those states,  
20 we hope we're part of the solution.

21 There's a much bigger thing going on with our  
22 industry than these components. But I will say the  
23 things I mention to you now would apply not only to  
24 the current industry, they would apply to a new  
25 model of industry under different ownership.

1 I mean, these basic concepts that I just  
2 talked about apply. I'm sorry. I had a lot to  
3 say. It's been a long time since being under the  
4 mic in front of the legislature. I can't wait to  
5 do it again.

6 And I've got Peggy Yost, our CFO, and Steve  
7 Koch, our VP and economist with me here to bail me  
8 out if you have any real difficult questions.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much. I  
10 always appreciate, Mr. Powell, your honesty, your  
11 candor, your perspective, and your insight. You  
12 gave us a lot of great information.

13 I like the future, too, the plans that you're  
14 rolling out January 1st. That's very exciting.  
15 I'm supportive of your proposal from the beginning.

16 You stated it back in your September 3, 2024  
17 letter that the reason why the 2025 plan was -- it  
18 was 20 percent was very contingent on that dual  
19 funding source.

20 So it's very clear that this meets that  
21 statutory change. I'm going to defer to some of my  
22 colleagues here who may have questions or comments.

23 Commissioners.

24 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you for all you  
25 do for the industry.



1           MR. POWELL: Thank you very much. We  
2    appreciate what you all do. We know it's not an  
3    easy world. We're all in it together.

4           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.  
5           Commissioners, any other comments or  
6    questions?

7           Thank you, Mr. Powell.

8           With that, I think we are ready for a motion,  
9    Commissioners.

10          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I make a motion to  
11    approve the budget as presented.

12          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

13          Can I get a second?

14          COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

15          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All those in  
16    favor, say aye.

17          (Multiple ayes.)

18          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Passes  
19    unanimously. We're going to move on to discussion  
20    of default final orders. We're going to take up  
21    4.1 and 4.3 together.

22          MR. CALL: Would it be 4.1 as well?

23          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes. 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

24          MR. CALL: 4.1 is Johnny Valentin,  
25    2025-001642. 4.2 is Miguel Brito, 2025-001659.

1     4.3 is Mirna Guadalupe Aguilar, 2025-001672.

2             In the case materials you've been provided  
3     with an administrative complaint alleging that the  
4     respondents were excluded from Casino Miami on  
5     December 24, 2024.

6             They are subject to exclusion from all  
7     pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
8     state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
9     551.112 Florida statutes.

10            Respondents were served with an administrative  
11    complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
12    Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
13    order finding that respondents were properly served  
14    and failed to respond within 21 days, that the  
15    factual allegations in the administrative complaint  
16    are accepted as the facts in the case.

17            And concluding that respondent shall be added  
18    to the permanent exclusion list for all pari-mutuel  
19    and slot machine facilities in the state of  
20    Florida.

21            The recommendation is to enter a final order  
22    permanently excluding respondents from all  
23    pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
24    state of Florida.

25            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I do want to

1 note that these three individuals also worked in a  
2 coordinated sting with Mr. Alvarez, who is in 5.2,  
3 so we'll get to that as we move down the line here.

4 But, Commissioners, are there any questions on  
5 this? If not, can we please get a motion as  
6 reflected by staff.

7 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to have  
8 the final order entered permanently excluding  
9 respondent from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
10 facilities in the state of Florida.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Commissioner  
12 Repp. Can I get a second?

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

16 (Multiple ayes.)

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We're moving on  
18 to 4.4.

19 MR. CALL: 4.4. is Javier Diaz Ruiz,  
20 2025-002261. In the case materials you've been  
21 provided with, an administrative complaint alleging  
22 that respondent was excluded from Hialeah Park  
23 Racing & Casino on December 28, 2024.

24 He is subject to exclusion from all  
25 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the

1 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
2 551.112 Florida Statutes.

3 Respondent was served with administrative  
4 complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
5 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
6 order finding that respondent was properly served  
7 and failed to respond within 21 days;

8 That the factual allegations in the  
9 administrative complaint are accepted as the facts  
10 of the case and concluding that respondent shall be  
11 added to the permanent exclusion list for all  
12 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
13 state of Florida.

14 Recommendation is enter our final order  
15 permanently excluding respondent from all  
16 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
17 state of Florida.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Call. Just  
19 a question, a factual question. This was a  
20 designated putting green. The individual  
21 respondent cheated, and he won \$600. Did the  
22 designated player receive the money back? How was  
23 that handled?

24 MR. CALL: I am unsure of that fact.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: It was not clear in the

1 record. Nonetheless, Commissioners, are there any  
2 questions on this? We can proceed with moving  
3 ahead.

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make a motion to  
5 accept the staff recommendation.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can I have second, please?

7 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

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

10 (Multiple ayes.)

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are moving on to 4.5.

12 Also, Commissioners, just make sure you speak  
13 -- and folks in the audience here, move very  
14 closely into the microphone. Thank you. Item No.  
15 4.5.

16 MR. CALL: Chris Krishna Manohar, 2025-030096.  
17 In the case materials, you have been provided with  
18 an administrative complaint seeking suspension of  
19 respondent's pari-mutuel professional individual  
20 occupational license due to an outstanding debt  
21 related to horseracing in Florida pursuant to  
22 Section 550.1057 Florida Statutes.

23 Respondent was served with an administrative  
24 complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
25 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final

1 order finding that respondent was properly served  
2 with an administrative complaint, and they failed  
3 to respond within 21 days;

4 That the factual allegation in the  
5 administrative complaint are accepted as the facts  
6 of this case, concluding that respondent's  
7 pari-mutuel professional individual occupational  
8 license shall be suspended until the Commission  
9 receives confirmation that payment has been  
10 satisfied.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

12 Commissioners, seeing no questions, can we  
13 please get a motion for a final order suspending  
14 the occupational license until the unpaid financial  
15 obligations are paid.

16 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to  
17 suspended the order until the obligations are paid.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
19 second?

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

23 (Multiple ayes.)

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. And  
25 4.6.

1           MR. CALL: Carlos Lugo, 2025-038094. In the  
2 case materials you've been provided with an  
3 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
4 was excluded from Casino Miami on January 11, 2025.

5           He is subject to exclusion from all  
6 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
7 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
8 551.112 Florida Statutes.

9           Respondent was served with an administrative  
10 complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
11 Therefore, the Commission shall enter a final order  
12 finding the respondent was properly served and  
13 failed to respond within 21 days; that the factual  
14 allegations in the administrative complaint are  
15 accepted as the facts of this case; and concluding  
16 that respondent shall be added to the permanent  
17 exclusion list for all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
18 facilities in the state of Florida.

19           Recommendation is enter a final order  
20 permanently excluding respondent from all  
21 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
22 state of Florida.

23           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

24           Commissioners, if there are no questions, can  
25 we get a motion to approve staff recommendation.

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second?

3 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

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

6 (Multiple ayes.)

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

8 We're moving on to 4.7.

9 MR. CALL: 4.7 is James Lee Whitley, Jr.,  
10 2025-042285. In the case materials, you've been  
11 provided with an administrative complaint alleging  
12 that respondent was excluded from The Big Easy  
13 Casino on May 5, 2025.

14 He is subject to exclusion from all  
15 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
16 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
17 551.112 Florida Statutes.

18 Respondent was served with an administrative  
19 complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
20 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
21 order finding that the respondent was properly  
22 served and failed to respond within 21 days;

23 That the factual allegations in the  
24 administrative complaint are accepted as the facts  
25 of this case, and concluding that respondent shall



1 be added to the permanent exclusion list for all  
2 pari-mutuel slot machine facilities in the state of  
3 Florida.

4 Recommendation is to enter a final order  
5 permanently excluding from all pari-mutuel and slot  
6 machine facilities in the state of Florida.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioner  
8 Drago, any questions?

9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No questions.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Seeing no questions, please  
11 feel free to make a motion.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I move to accept the  
13 staff recommendation.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
15 second?

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

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

20 (Multiple ayes.)

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And 4.8.

22 MR. CALL: 4.8 is Kambrel Rashaad Tarver,  
23 2025-043736. In the case materials, you've been  
24 provided with an administrative complaint alleging  
25 that respondent was excluded from The Casino at

1 Dania Beach on March 25, 2025.

2 He is subject to exclusion for all pari-mutuel  
3 and slot machine facilities in the state of Florida  
4 pursuant to 550.0251(6) and 551.112 Florida  
5 Statutes.

6 Respondent was served with an administrative  
7 complaint and failed to respond respondent was  
8 served with an administrative complaint and failed  
9 to respond within 21 days.

10 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
11 order finding that respondent was properly served  
12 and failed to respond within 21 days; that the  
13 factual allegations in the administrative complaint  
14 are accepted as the facts of this case;

15 And concluding that respondent shall be added  
16 to the permanent exclusion list for all pari-mutuel  
17 slot machine facilities in the state of Florida.

18 Recommendation is to enter a final order  
19 permanently excluding from all pari-mutuel and slot  
20 machine facilities in the state of Florida.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Call.

22 Commissioners, no questions on this item? Can  
23 we get a motion to approve the staff  
24 recommendation.

25 COMMISSIONER REPP: Motion to approve staff

1 recommendation.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any second?

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

6 (Multiple ayes.)

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And lastly, 4.9.

8 MR. CALL: 4.9 is Gustavo Adolfo Zavarce,  
9 2025-049563. In the case materials, you've been  
10 provided with an administrative complaint seeking  
11 suspension of respondent's pari-mutuel professional  
12 individual occupational license due to outstanding  
13 debt related to horseracing in the state of Florida  
14 pursuant to Section 550.1057 Florida Statutes.

15 Respondent was served with an administrative  
16 complaint and failed to respond within 21 days.  
17 Therefore, the Commission shall enter a final order  
18 finding that respondent was properly served with an  
19 administrative complaint, and they'd failed to  
20 respond within 21 days;

21 That the factual allegations in the  
22 administrative complaint are accepted as the facts  
23 of this case, concluding that respondent's  
24 pari-mutuel professional individual occupational  
25 license shall be suspended until the Commission

1 receives confirmation the payment has been  
2 satisfied.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Seeing no  
4 questions on this item, can we please get a motion  
5 for suspending the occupational license until the  
6 unpaid financial obligations are made.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a second?

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

12 (Multiple ayes.)

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Call. That  
14 wraps up those items. We're moving on to our  
15 discussion of settlement offer, Ms. Alvarado.

16 MS. ALVARADO: Good morning. Emily Alvarado,  
17 for the record. 5.1 is 2024-045025, bestbet  
18 St. Augustine. Here you were provided with an  
19 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
20 violated Rule 75-11.003(4) by failing to ensure  
21 dealer button was moved around the card table in a  
22 clockwise fashion and violated Rule 75-11.015(1) by  
23 failing to lock all chips which were not in play or  
24 available for play in a secured location.

25 This consent order was presented at the April

1 10, 2025 Commission meeting and heard in the  
2 attorney-client sessions on June 12th and August  
3 6th.

4 Respondent has sent back a signed settlement  
5 and consent order with a fine of \$500. Here, the  
6 respondent is asking that we enter an order  
7 adopting and incorporating the proposed settlement  
8 and consent order in this case.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners,  
10 any questions on this item or comments? If not,  
11 can we get a motion to adopt the consent order and  
12 settlement?

13 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second?

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

19 (Multiple ayes.)

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are on to 5.2, which  
21 remember is back reference to 4.1 through 4.3.

22 MS. ALVARADO: Item 5.2 is 2024-0454, Roberto  
23 Alvarez. Here you were provided with an  
24 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
25 is subject to exclusion from all pari-mutuel and

1 slot machine facilities in the state of Florida  
2 based on his exclusion from Casino Miami on October  
3 23, 2024.

4 This was presented to you at the June 12, 2025  
5 Commission meeting in an attorney-client session.  
6 The respondent has sent back a signed settlement  
7 and consent order agreeing to be permanently  
8 excluded from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
9 facilities in the state of Florida.

10 Here, the respondent is asking that we adopt  
11 and incorporate the proposed settlement and consent  
12 order.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado. I  
14 think it's just important to note that in this  
15 particular one, the respondent admits to the facts  
16 and conclusions of law in the administrative  
17 complaint. So thank you for that.

18 If there are no questions, can we get a motion  
19 to approve the settlement and consent order.

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to  
21 approve the settlement and consent order.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And then a second?

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are on to 5.3.

3 MS. ALVARADO: 5.3 is 2024-057184, PPI, Inc.

4 Here you were provided with an administrative  
5 complaint alleging that the respondent violated  
6 Section 849.086(12)(b) by allowing an individual  
7 under the age of 18 to engage in a card game at the  
8 cardroom.

9 This case was presented in an attorney-client  
10 session on May 13th and the August 6th Commission  
11 meetings. The respondent has sent back a signed  
12 settlement and consent order with a fine of \$700.  
13 The respondent is asking here that we adopt and  
14 incorporate the proposed settlement in this case.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.

16 Commissioners, are there any questions on  
17 this? We've seen this several times. If not, can  
18 we please get a motion to approve the proposed  
19 settlement and consent order.

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to  
21 approve the proposed settlement and consent order.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second?

23 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

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

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And our last one for  
3 settlement offers is 5.4.

4 MS. ALVARADO: 5.4 is 2024-067655, TBD  
5 Entertainment. Here you were provided with an  
6 administrative complaint alleging that the  
7 respondent violated Rule 75-11.0201(b) by failing  
8 to affix a dropbox to a table with a lock.

9 This consent order was presented at the June  
10 12, 2025 Commission meeting. Here, the respondent  
11 has sent back a settlement and consent order with a  
12 written warning. And they're asking that we adopt  
13 and incorporate this consent order.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

15 Are there any comments or questions on this  
16 item? Seeing none, can we get a motion to approve  
17 the proposed settlement and consent order.

18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second, possibly  
20 a second?

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: Do we have priors listed  
22 in here of the similar or same?

23 MS. ALVARADO: No, there's no priors of this.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I will note also in this  
25 particular settlement the respondent admits to the



1 facts and the legal conclusions in the complaint as  
2 well. With that, are we ready for a second?

3 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll second.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there any  
5 discussion? Seeing none, all those in favor, say  
6 aye.

7 (Multiple ayes.)

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Opposed? Passes  
9 unanimously. We are going on to miscellaneous  
10 final orders 6.1 and 6.2.

11 MS. ALVARADO: 6.1 is 2024-069998, Freddie  
12 Hughes. Here, on March 13th, the Florida Gaming  
13 Control Commission issued a letter of license  
14 denial to the petitioner. On May 1st, the  
15 applicant filed an election of rights requesting a  
16 formal hearing.

17 The request for hearing failed to be submitted  
18 within 21 days. May 29th, the clerk of the  
19 commission issued an order of dismissal informing  
20 the applicant that the request for hearing is  
21 dismissed and affording the applicant 15 days from  
22 the date of the order of dismissal to cure the  
23 defects.

24 Here, the respondent did not respond to the  
25 order of dismissal. Therefore, the Commission

1 should enter a final order dismissing the request  
2 for hearing with prejudice adopting the finding of  
3 facts and the letter of license denial and denying  
4 the applicant's application.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

6 Commissioners, any questions or comments on  
7 this item? If not, we can get a motion now to  
8 approve the staff recommendation.

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Make a motion to  
10 approve the staff recommendation.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
12 second?

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

16 (Multiple ayes.)

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And our last final order is  
18 miscellaneous final order 6.2.

19 MS. ALVARADO: 6.2 is 2025-005708, Willie Paul  
20 Perry. Here, the Division filed an administrative  
21 complaint on April 29th alleging that respondent  
22 subject to exclusion from all license pari-mutuel  
23 wagering facilities and any facility of a slot  
24 machine licensing in the state of Florida based on  
25 his ejection from Big Easy Casino on January 12,

1     2025.

2           On May 14th, the respondent filed an election  
3     of rights requesting a formal hearing. The request  
4     for hearing failed to contain all the information  
5     required by law. Specifically, it did not include  
6     a statement of facts, material facts that were in  
7     dispute.

8           On May 30th, the clerk of the Commission  
9     issued an order of dismissal informing respondent  
10    that the request for hearing was dismissed without  
11    prejudice and affording him 15 days to cure the  
12    defect and the election of rights.

13          The respondent did not respond to the order of  
14    dismissal. Therefore, the Commission should enter  
15    a final order dismissing the request for hearing  
16    with prejudice, adopting the finding of facts and  
17    conclusions of law in the administrative complaint  
18    and permanently excluding respondent from all  
19    pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
20    state of Florida.

21          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarez.  
22    6.2 is very similar procedurally as the prior one  
23    with curing defect. If we don't have any  
24    questions, can we please get a motion to approve  
25    the staff recommendation.

1 COMMISSIONER REPP: Motion to approve staff  
2 recommendation.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second?

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

7 (Multiple ayes.)

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And we're going  
9 to talk about the discussion of recommended orders  
10 7.1 through 7.6. And we're taking up 7.1, 7.2,  
11 7.3, and 7.6 together, as it is all is related to  
12 collusion collaboratively.

13 MR. CALL: Yes. 7.1 is Daniel Patrick Marks,  
14 2024-058076. 7.2 is James Daniel Wadzinski,  
15 2024-058104. 7.3 is Levi Matthew Moreno,  
16 2024-058143. 7.6 is Andrew Tumlin, 2024-067234.  
17 These cases come before you following the  
18 recommended order that was issued by the hearing  
19 officer.

20 An informal hearing was conducted on July 10,  
21 2025 regarding an administrative complaint  
22 detailing the respondents are subject to exclusion  
23 from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in  
24 the state of Florida based on their exclusion from  
25 Magic City Casino on July 22, 2024.

1           The hearing officer issued a recommended order  
2   on September 3, 2025 recommending that the  
3   Commission should permanently exclude all  
4   respondents from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
5   facilities.

6           The Division would ask that you adopt the  
7   hearing officer's recommended order and permanently  
8   exclude all the respondents from all pari-mutuel  
9   and all slot machine facilities in the state of  
10  Florida in the state of Florida.

11          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And these  
12  individuals won a great deal of money in their  
13  collusion efforts as well, I will note.

14          Commissioners, are there any questions on  
15  these items? If not, can we get a motion to enter  
16  a final order adopting the hearing officer's  
17  recommended order. And the cases presented were  
18  7.1, 7.2, 7.3, and 7.6.

19          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

20          VICE CHAIR BROWN: And is there a second?

21          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

24          (Multiple ayes.)

25          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Mr. Call, we're

1 at 7.4.

2 MR. CALL: 7.4 is Daniel Paul Sausaman,  
3 2024-059029. This case comes before you with a  
4 recommended order that was issued by the hearing  
5 officer. An informal hearing was conducted on July  
6 10, 2025 regarding an administrative complaint  
7 seeking revocation or suspension of respondent's  
8 cardroom employee occupational license due to a  
9 disqualifying conviction.

10 Failure to notify the Commission in writing  
11 within 48 hours of the conviction, and failure to  
12 notify within five days of his arrest. The hearing  
13 officer issued a recommended order on August 28,  
14 2025 recommending that the Commission revoke  
15 respondent's cardroom employee occupational  
16 license.

17 The Commission should adopt the hearing  
18 officer's recommended order and revoke respondent's  
19 cardroom employee occupational license.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

21 Commissioners, are there any questions on 7.4?  
22 Seeing none, can we get a motion to approve the  
23 staff recommendation.

24 COMMISSIONER REPP: Motion to approve the  
25 staff recommendation.

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a second?

2 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

5 (Multiple ayes.)

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And 7.5.

7 MR. CALL: 7.5 is Jessica Leeann Chavis,  
8 2024-063690. This case comes before you following  
9 a recommended order that was issued by the hearing  
10 officer. An informal hearing was attempted to be  
11 conducted on July 10, 2025 regarding a letter of  
12 license denial, but petitioner failed to answer.

13 On August 12, 2025, petitioner failed to  
14 answer at the rescheduled hearing, and the hearing  
15 proceeded. The hearing officer issued a  
16 recommended order on August 28, 2025 recommending  
17 that the Commission deny petitioner's application.

18 The Division would ask that you adopt the  
19 hearing officer's recommended order and deny  
20 petitioner's application for a cardroom employee  
21 occupational license.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think he'll agree with  
23 the hearing officer as well.

24 Commissioners, are there any questions on  
25 this? If not, can we get a motion to adopt hearing

1 officer's recommended order and deny the  
2 application.

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So moved.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second, please.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

8 (Multiple ayes.)

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That wraps up those items  
10 for recommended orders. We are moving to waivers  
11 8.1 through 8.3.

12 MS. ALVARADO: 8.1 is 2025-047551, Russell  
13 Sykes. The applicant here applied for a  
14 pari-mutuel wagering professional individual  
15 occupational license. Upon review of the  
16 application, it was discovered that he had one  
17 felony offense of the former government employee  
18 contacting the government within two years on a  
19 particular matter that was pending under employee's  
20 official responsibilities out of the U.S. District  
21 Court Eastern District of Texas, Children Division.

22 From March 29, 2016, the applicant seeks a  
23 waiver of the felony offense and issuance of the  
24 license. He originally answered no on his  
25 application if he had been convicted of a



1     disqualifying offense.

2           He is applying to be a horse owner. He has  
3     completed his probation, communality service, and  
4     paid his fines. Here, the Commission can decide to  
5     grant the waiver or issue a license of license  
6     denial.

7           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Repp.

8           COMMISSIONER REPP: What I see here is a 2015  
9     felony fraud, which I did take a great deal of time  
10    in reading this particular matter. This particular  
11    respondent intentionally sought to use his  
12    knowledge from his former position to influence a  
13    government contract, knowingly it was found in his  
14    U.S. government position.

15          The U.S. contracting rules and regulations are  
16    in place to ensure the integrity of the bidding and  
17    contracting purpose -- bidding and contracting  
18    process in the United States. I see no letters of  
19    recommendation for this individual.

20          When he was asked if he was ever convicted of  
21    any disqualifying offense, he said that he was told  
22    to put down no because he didn't have paperwork. I  
23    choose not to believe that. Therefore, I believe  
24    that there is not sufficient evidence to grant this  
25    waiver.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Very well articulated,  
2   Commissioner Repp. You covered every aspect, and I  
3   agree wholeheartedly with everything.

4           Commissioners, any comments?

5           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And it was also, as I  
6   understand it, within two years of his employment?

7           MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

8           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: At the United States  
9   Postal Service, so it wasn't an obscure law or  
10 rule?

11          MS. ALVARADO: No.

12          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And thinking about our  
13 regulations and our responsibility to maintain the  
14 integrity of our sport, I concur with the  
15 observation.

16          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Commissioner  
17 D'Aquila. We are ready for a motion.

18          Commissioner Repp.

19          COMMISSIONER REPP: I will make a motion to  
20 deny the waiver request.

21          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
22 second?

23          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously.

3 MS. ALVARADO: Just for clarification, do we  
4 have authority to issue a letter of license denial?

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Yes. That's what  
6 Commissioner Repp meant in her motion.

7 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes. Thank you.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. And 8.2.

9 MS. ALVARADO: 8.2 is 2025-058041, Tamara  
10 Levy. Here, the applicant applied for a  
11 pari-mutuel wagering professional individual  
12 occupational license.

13 Upon review of the application, it was  
14 discovered that she had one felony offense of grand  
15 theft in the third degree out of Broward County  
16 from June 7, 1995.

17 Here, the applicant is seeking a waiver of the  
18 felony offense and issuance of the license. The  
19 applicant originally answered no if she had been  
20 convicted of a felony. She is applying to be a  
21 horse trainer. She completed her probation, has  
22 paid all her fines.

23 Here, the Commission can decide to grant the  
24 waiver or issue a letter of license denial in this  
25 case.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Ms. Alvarado, I  
2    would just like to point out, this 1985 -- 1995,  
3    the adjudication withheld -- the law was different  
4    then.

5           MS. ALVARADO: Right. It changed in 2010, so  
6    it wasn't considered disqualifying in 1995. She  
7    did have a license. She applied for a license in  
8    1995 and wouldn't have had to disclose that because  
9    it wouldn't have been disqualifying until 2010. So  
10   now an adjudication withheld is disqualifying.

11          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Also, she has no other  
12   offenses whatsoever.

13          MS. ALVARADO: No.

14          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners.

15          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So she's consistently  
16   been licensed?

17          MS. ALVARADO: Yes, until this year.

18          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Since 1996 without any  
19   issues or any problems, and she complied with all  
20   the laws in 1996; right?

21          MS. ALVARADO: Right.

22          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: When she filled out her  
23   first application. No other arrests, no other  
24   convictions that were ever --

25          MS. ALVARADO: No. Not since 1995, no.

1 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

2 Commissioners, I think we should really  
3 consider granting the waiver and issuing the  
4 license.

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I would like to make a  
6 motion to grant the waiver and issue the license.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
8 second?

9 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

12 (Multiple ayes.)

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. Thank  
14 you. And 8.3.

15 MS. ALVARADO: 8.3 is 2025-043789, Shon D.  
16 Thomas. Here, the applicant is applying for a  
17 cardroom employee occupational license. Upon  
18 review of the application, it was discovered that  
19 he had one felony offense of false imprisonment out  
20 of Gadsden County from December 22, 2006.

21 The applicant seeks a waiver of the felony  
22 offense and issuance of a license. He did answer  
23 yes if he had been convicted of a disqualifying  
24 offense on his application. He's applying to be a  
25 chip runner out of Gretna Racing.

1           He terminated his probation early and paid all  
2   his fines. Here, the Commission can decide to  
3   grant the waiver or issue a letter of license  
4   denial in this case.

5           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, do you have  
6   thoughts or questions on this item?

7           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just I guess to get a few  
8   things on the record to clarify about him. He's  
9   working now for Gadsden County, I think, at Public  
10   Works, if I'm not mistaken.

11          MS. ALVARADO: I believe so, yes.

12          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And he also works for  
13   Creek Entertainment Gretna. I think it does  
14   maintenance or landscaping for them. I'm not sure  
15   if he actually works for the company or if he is a  
16   vendor working being paid by the company to do  
17   landscaping, et cetera.

18          MS. ALVARADO: Let me clarify that. One  
19   second. Yes. So it looks like, yes, he's doing  
20   the maintenance, the lawn maintenance outside of  
21   the facility at Gretna.

22          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And we don't have any  
23   record of any other convictions that would  
24   disqualify him since 2006; right?

25          MS. ALVARADO: No.

1           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And I think, if I remember  
2     reading it, the false imprisonment, was it domestic  
3     violence related?

4           MS. ALVARADO: It was.

5           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for getting that  
6     on the record, Commissioner Drago.

7           Commissioner Repp.

8           COMMISSIONER REPP: This particular, I  
9     believe, 2006 offense, I find that the respondent  
10    has been gainfully employed now for the past 18  
11    years, if I'm correct without no other real  
12    contact.

13          I do appreciate the letters of support that I  
14    found within it which reflect on his work ethic and  
15    his personal growth. Therefore, I would be willing  
16    to grant a waiver in this matter.

17          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is that a  
18    motion?

19          COMMISSIONER REPP: That is a motion.

20          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
21    second?

22          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that  
23    motion.

24          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Any further  
25    discussion? All those in favor, say aye.

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. We are  
3 moving on to 9.1, discussion of motion to vacate  
4 final order or amend final order. We also have a  
5 speaker on this item, but I would like staff to  
6 present it first.

7 MS. ALVARADO: 2024-039228, Christopher Wu.  
8 On June 21, 2024, the respondent was ejected from  
9 Hialeah Park Racing and Casino. Based on the  
10 ejection, the Division filed an administrative  
11 complaint seeking exclusion from all facilities in  
12 the state of Florida.

13 During the July 8, 2025 Commission meeting,  
14 the commissioners considered this matter and voted  
15 to exclude respondent from all facilities in the  
16 state. On July 16, 2025, the Commission issued a  
17 final order excluding the respondent from all  
18 facilities in the state of Florida.

19 On August 1, 2025, the respondent's counsel  
20 filed a motion to vacate and/or amend the final  
21 order in this case.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I will note  
23 that there's a closed attorney-client session later  
24 on this item. But I would like to ask the speaker,  
25 Craig Simpson, to come up and address us, which



1 will help aid in our closed session. Thank you.

2 MR. SIMPSON: Thank you, Commissioner. For  
3 the record, my name is Craig Simpson, and I'm here  
4 on behalf of Christopher Wu in Case No.  
5 2024-039228.

6 As Ms. Alvarado noted, in July the Commission  
7 entered a final order permanently excluding Mr. Wu  
8 from all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in  
9 the state of Florida.

10 We respectfully ask the Commission to  
11 reconsider this decision and amend or vacate this  
12 final order. Mr. Wu currently holds a pari-mutuel  
13 occupational license. Mr. Wu relies on this  
14 license for his career and his livelihood.

15 Until recently, Mr. Wu was employed by Hialeah  
16 Park Casino & Racing. Last year, Mr. Wu allegedly  
17 left a chip card unattended for approximately 20  
18 minutes, resulting in his termination and permanent  
19 exclusion from Hialeah Park.

20 Mr. Wu was not charged with a crime as a  
21 result of this, and the Commission did not take any  
22 action against Mr. Wu's license. Despite this, the  
23 Commission later filed a complaint seeking to  
24 exclude Mr. Wu. from all pari-mutuel facilities,  
25 not just Hialeah Park, based solely on his

1 exclusion from Hialeah Park for being terminated  
2 from this facility.

3 The Commission held an informal hearing, and  
4 the hearing officer found that it would not be  
5 against public policy to limit Mr. Wu's exclusion  
6 to only Hialeah Park.

7 However, the Commission decided to exclude  
8 Mr. Wu from all pari-mutuel facilities, not just  
9 Hialeah Park. Mr. Wu has worked in the pari-mutuel  
10 industry for over 20 years.

11 And during that time, he has worked hard to  
12 advance his career and has been recognized by being  
13 promoted from a dealer to a manager. This  
14 exclusion effectively revokes his license and ends  
15 his career.

16 This happened without any disciplinary action  
17 being taken against Mr. Wu's license and without  
18 him being able to dispute the termination which led  
19 to his permanent exclusion.

20 Mr. Wu is just asking for a chance to return  
21 to work to support his family. He's a hard worker.  
22 He's a dedicated employee. He has no criminal  
23 record. He has no disciplinary record against his  
24 license.

25 And allowing him to work in a pari-mutuel

1 facility would not threaten public good. He's  
2 built a career in this industry and just asks for a  
3 chance to continue that career.

4 Therefore, we respectfully ask you to  
5 reconsider this decision to exclude him from all  
6 pari-mutuel facilities and limit the exclusion to  
7 Hialeah Park, as recommend by the hearing officer.  
8 Thank you very much.

9 I believe I have my client on the line. He  
10 was in a car accident, so he was unable to come up  
11 here. He was not injured. Somebody hit his parked  
12 car, but his car is in the shop. He would like to  
13 say a few words.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely. We have him.  
15 Ms. Parker is coming up, and we'll put him on the  
16 microphone so that it is on the record as well.  
17 And, Mr. Simpson, thank you for your comments.

18 MR. SIMPSON: Thank you very much,  
19 Commissioner.

20 MR. WU: Good morning. My name is  
21 Christopher Wu. First, I'd like to say thank you  
22 to the Commission for your time and for the ability  
23 to speak to you this morning.

24 I'm here this morning to respectfully ask the  
25 Commission to reconsider its decision to exclude me

1 from all pari-mutuel facilities. This experience  
2 has been extremely difficult for me nearly costing  
3 me everything I have.

4 My license to work in cardrooms represents my  
5 whole livelihood. I have worked in cardrooms for  
6 over 20 years. I've dedicated my life to this  
7 career. Without it, I have no way of supporting  
8 myself and my family.

9 I have learned from this mistake, and I  
10 believe I'm a better employee for it. I only ask  
11 that I have the ability to continue working. Thank  
12 you.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Just one  
14 second.

15 Commissioners, do you have any questions?

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I just have one.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Certainly.

18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Well, this could be to  
19 Mr. Simpson, I think.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I was going to say, Mr. Wu  
21 or Mr. Simpson?

22 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Mr. Simpson, yes.

23 MR. SIMPSON: Absolutely.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Thank you for coming, by  
25 the way.

1           MR. SIMPSON: Thank you very much for allowing  
2 me to speak.

3           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Of course. Just one  
4 question. You mentioned in your presentation that  
5 you're asking the Commission to either amend or  
6 vacate the last decision. Did you have a  
7 recommendation for amending it?

8           MR. SIMPSON: If the Commission is inclined to  
9 amend, we would ask that they adopt the hearing  
10 officer's recommendation that he only be excluded  
11 from Hialeah Park. He's already excluded as a  
12 result of his termination.

13           So it would be basically what is already being  
14 done by the facility itself. He just wants to be  
15 able to work in another facility.

16           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. So what we're  
17 going to do because we have an attorney-client  
18 session after. Just so that you understand, we're  
19 going to just table this and postpone it until  
20 after the attorney-client session when we reopen  
21 the meeting, and then we will vote on that item  
22 then.

23           MR. SIMPSON: Excellent. Thank you very much.  
24 I appreciate your time.

25           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Okay. We are

1 moving on to discussion of license denials, 10.1  
2 and 10.2.

3 MS. ALVARADO: 10.1 is 2025-050439, Jeremy  
4 Joseph Brown. The Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering  
5 received a completed application for the applicant  
6 for a slot machine cardroom pari-mutuel individual  
7 combination occupational license on July 23, 2025.

8 Upon review of the completed application, it  
9 appears that the applicant was convicted of a  
10 felony offense of operating a motor vehicle with a  
11 blood alcohol content of .08 percent or higher with  
12 a prior out of New York from June 15, 2010.

13 The applicant originally answered yes that he  
14 had been convicted of a disqualifying offense. He  
15 is applying for a market manager job at Magic City  
16 Casino. Here, we would ask that you issue a letter  
17 of license denial in this case.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

19 Commissioners, do you all have thoughts or  
20 questions on this item? I just want to note the  
21 disqualifying offense was last in 2009. There are  
22 no other offenses.

23 MS. ALVARADO: No.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago.

25 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: And it was a felony DUI

1 because of previous DUIs?

2 MS. ALVARADO: Yes. He had one prior DUI,  
3 misdemeanor DUI before that.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: In 1997?

5 MS. ALVARADO: Uh-huh.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And there are no  
7 outstanding probation, fines?

8 MS. ALVARADO: No, not that we have any of.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners? I know that  
10 they're scrolling through the notes real quickly.  
11 Yes, Commissioner.

12 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: A technical question.  
13 So I understand the 1997 was a DWI. Is it still  
14 considered DWI in New York state at .8 percent?

15 MS. ALVARADO: I don't know the answer to  
16 that.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Mr. Taupier may.

18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Or is it a driving  
19 while impaired? Is there some technical reason why  
20 one is indicating a percentage and one is not?  
21 Just excuse the basic question.

22 MR. TAUPIER: Marc Taupier, for the record.  
23 Based on my experience, both as defense attorney  
24 and prosecutor in Florida, the way that it is  
25 written may indicate that they might not have had a

1 blow, but they were able to prove intoxication or  
2 he just pled to it on the 1997, or it was for  
3 controlled substances, potentially.

4 When you see the actual blood level content,  
5 that completely gets rid of any kind of avenue to  
6 where it could be anything other than alcohol. So  
7 the 1997 could either be he didn't blow, but they  
8 proved it or he pled, or it could have been a  
9 controlled substance, intoxicated otherwise. But  
10 definitely the second one because it is .08 was  
11 alcohol related.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila.

13 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: It's been 14 years.  
14 We have nothing on record for the last 14 years on  
15 this, on this applicant?

16 MS. ALVARADO: Right.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And the applicant has held  
18 licenses in the other states.

19 MR. TAUPIER: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: And the position is  
21 one of marketing manager, as I recall?

22 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner Drago.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So other than a letter of  
25 denial, our other option is to approve this



1 application?

2 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think that's a motion,  
4 Commissioner Drago.

5 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: It is a motion.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
7 second?

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

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

12 (Multiple ayes.)

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. We are  
14 on to 10.2.

15 MS. ALVARADO: 10.2 is 2025-057005 David  
16 Despres. Here, the Division received an  
17 application for the applicant for a slot machine  
18 cardroom pari-mutual individual combination  
19 occupational license on July 31, 2025.

20 Upon review of the application, it appears the  
21 applicant has been convicted of the felony offense  
22 of obtaining property, a return for a worthless  
23 check, out of Hillsborough County from December  
24 1980.

25 He's applying to be a maintenance tech out of

1 PPI, Inc. He was issued a year of probation, which  
2 is complete. He has other DUIs from the 1990s, but  
3 nothing else following that. Here we would ask the  
4 Commission to authorize a letter of license denial  
5 in this case.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

7 Commissioners, similar to the last item that  
8 we just took up, I really don't see a problem with  
9 him being a threat to the industry. He's clearly  
10 been rehabilitated, and I think that we should  
11 issue him a license.

12 Commissioner D'Aquila.

13 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'd like to make a  
14 motion to issue him a license.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
16 second?

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

20 (Multiple ayes.)

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: The item passes  
22 unanimously. We are on to 11.1 final order  
23 pursuant to request from respondent.

24 MS. ALVARADO: 11.1 is 2025-037758, Lisa  
25 Cammaleri. Here you were provided an

1 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
2 is subject to exclusion from all pari-mutuel and  
3 slot machine facilities in the state of Florida,  
4 based on her exclusion from Harrah's Pompano Beach  
5 on February 8, 2025.

6 The respondent responded to the complaint with  
7 an election of rights marking option three stating  
8 that she did not dispute any of the allegations  
9 contained within the administrative complaint,  
10 waived her right to any form of a hearing, and  
11 requested that the Commission enter a final order  
12 imposing a penalty in this case.

13 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
14 order adding respondent to the permanent exclusion  
15 list for all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
16 facilities in the state of Florida.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, if there are  
18 no questions, can we please get a motion to approve  
19 the staff recommendation.

20 COMMISSIONER REPP: Motion to approve staff  
21 recommendation.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

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

1 (Multiple ayes.)

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Thank you,  
3 Ms. Alvarado for all of the work on these items.

4 We are moving in to our executive director  
5 update, who has been doing a phenomenal job, by the  
6 way, wearing multiple hats and just seamless.

7 MR. DILLMORE: Thank you. I'm just going to  
8 turn it over to Christina Linton, who is going to  
9 handle the Division of Gaming Enforcement Update.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning, and thank you  
11 for presenting.

12 MS. LINTON: You're welcome. Christina  
13 Linton, for the record, in place of Director  
14 Herold, who is unable to be here today. So I'll  
15 provide a very brief update on the Division of  
16 Gaming Enforcement's activities for the month of  
17 August.

18 The Division continues to be extremely active,  
19 as there is no lack of illegal gambling activity  
20 occurring in the state of Florida. During August,  
21 our investigators participated in 20 operations.

22 Some of those, we were the lead agency. Some  
23 of those, we were assisting local agencies in  
24 supporting them and building our partnerships. And  
25 as a result of those operations, there was a

1 combination of 15 arrests or notices to appear  
2 issued.

3 Most of those were for misdemeanor charges,  
4 possession of slots, or operating a gambling house.  
5 However, there was one felony money laundering  
6 charge that was issued in one of those cases.

7 In addition, as a result of those operations,  
8 18 illegal arcades were closed, and we seized over  
9 1,500 machines, one vehicle, and over \$3,072,000 in  
10 currency.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Underscore that as well.

12 MS. LINTON: Our intelligence unit and our  
13 evidence and property unit both continue to support  
14 our investigation. Our evidence team supported  
15 those 20 operations either in person or after the  
16 fact by making sure everything was documented  
17 properly.

18 Our analysts continue to do great work.  
19 During the month, they completed 13 subject  
20 backgrounds and 11 business backgrounds on  
21 individuals engaged in illegal gambling activity in  
22 the state.

23 We continue to receive a lot of tips and  
24 complaints regarding illegal activity. For the  
25 month of August, we received a total of 391

1       complaints to review.

2           Of those, 18 were assigned out for  
3       investigation. And then 135 were listed and are  
4       pending unassigned category. That just means there  
5       was 135. It would meet our threshold for  
6       investigation.

7           We just don't have the capacity at this time  
8       to look at films. So once our investigative team  
9       freeze up some of their time, they will look into  
10      those.

11          VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's an increase.

12          MS. LINTON: That is an increase. I don't  
13      have a number from last month, but I do know that  
14      was definitely not in the upper 300s.

15          Something else that's notable for our  
16      complaints was we had an uptick in the number of  
17      inquiries for people asking about the legality of  
18      different types of gambling within the state of  
19      Florida.

20          Whether it was a bar owner asking if they can  
21      put a machine in because a guy down the road, the  
22      bar down the street had a machine. A distributor  
23      had approached them and told them it was illegal,  
24      or maybe an entrepreneur from out of state wanted  
25      to come in and open a new business here, or just

1       somebody operating like a charitable organization  
2       asking about raffles and that type of thing.

3               There was quite a few more of those this month,  
4       which I'm hopeful maybe that trend will continue so  
5       people will ask on the front end in some things  
6       instead of just going ahead and engaging in the  
7       activity and finding out later that they're doing  
8       something illegal.

9               VICE CHAIR BROWN: Great point. Thank you.

10              MS. LINTON: So we'll see how that is. And  
11       then finally, our warehouse space.

12              VICE CHAIR BROWN: I'm going to just pause for  
13       a moment, if you don't mind, Chief Linton.

14              Commissioners, do you have any questions of  
15       the information?

16              Commissioner Repp.

17              COMMISSIONER REPP: I was looking at the  
18       numbers here. The 135 pending, is that total or  
19       all the pending investigations that we have that  
20       we're unable to address at this time or just for  
21       last month?

22              MS. LINTON: That was just for last month.  
23       The way that it's broken down doesn't necessarily  
24       mean there's 135 unique locations or unique  
25       instances of gambling. There could have been 20

1 tips on the same location.

2 That would be part of that 135. I don't have  
3 the breakdown of those individual stats, but it was  
4 135 unique -- or reports that they might have been  
5 on unique locations.

6 COMMISSIONER REPP: Thank you.

7 MS. LINTON: You're welcome.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
9 questions?

10 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Just one question. On  
11 the amount of leads that you're getting reports  
12 coming from the people in the state, what do you  
13 owe that to? Do you have any ideas why they're  
14 seen to be going up like that?

15 MS. LINTON: I definitely think it's just the  
16 publication, the media attention that we've been  
17 getting. I know we got quite a bit of media  
18 attention when we closed the facility in the  
19 villages last month, so that might be, you know,  
20 part of the uptick.

21 It does seem like every time there's something  
22 that gets a lot of news attention that we see  
23 an increase in the stuff that comes in.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Please proceed.

25 MS. LINTON: Our warehouses, so we obtained a



1 very large warehouse in August that increased our  
2 capacity significantly and essentially doubled our  
3 warehouse space.

4 So we are currently sitting at 50 percent  
5 capacity, so we have a lot of room now to continue  
6 our investigations. In our warehouses, we  
7 currently hold, 6,730 machines.

8 But I'm happy to report that we finally have  
9 our first large set of machines that are set for  
10 destruction. On September 22nd, we will be  
11 destroying 317 items from our Tallahassee  
12 warehouse.

13 We were actually set to destroy them tomorrow,  
14 but the vendor called and had to cancel it and push  
15 it two weeks out. So we're happy we're finally  
16 moving forward in that direction. And then --

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And the final would be a  
18 result, of course, as the case --

19 MS. LINTON: The cases are all closed.  
20 There's multiple cases. The cases have been closed  
21 all through the court proceedings. Any sentence  
22 that's been opposed has been finalized, so the  
23 whole process is completed.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

25 MS. LINTON: And then final note related to

1     that is we did receive an order to relinquish 80  
2     machines out of South Florida. It's related to the  
3     criminal case that's still ongoing in the court  
4     proceedings.

5             Essentially, there was another location that  
6     wasn't -- the owner had but wasn't part of that  
7     case, and he has agreed just to give up those 80  
8     machines. So we are taking possession of those on  
9     September 18th, and they will immediately go into  
10    the destruction process.

11            We don't have to go through -- the process we  
12    do with the other -- you know, cases that go to  
13    court. So we're hoping down the road maybe we'll  
14    see some more of those as well, and it will help  
15    get some of the contraband off the streets.

16            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Chief Linton, that's a  
17    great report.

18            Commissioner D'Aquila.

19            COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Can you explain the  
20    level of cooperation we're getting from sheriff's  
21    departments throughout the state increasing? Is it  
22    helping? Is it aiding, increasing the number of  
23    these inquiries?

24            MS. LINTON: That's probably a better question  
25    for Director Herold or Chief Snyder to answer,

1     since they deal with them a little bit more  
2     directly. But I do know they worked hard to help,  
3     you know, increase those partnerships.

4             I know we have one additional MOU with an  
5     agency right now that we're working to get signed.  
6     They've come in and asked for our help, and I know  
7     one of our supervisors asked for a blank MOU  
8     yesterday for another agency.

9             So it seems like more are coming onboard and  
10    being willing to work with us and just open to the  
11    idea of us assisting. I think some of the recent  
12    things that have happened in other jurisdictions  
13    with sheriffs being involved and stuff probably has  
14    gotten a few more agencies involved as well.

15            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any other  
16    comments or questions?

17            Chief Linton, great job. Tell Director Herold  
18    that you did great. Thank you.

19            THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Back to Director Dillmore.

21            MR. DILLMORE: Just a couple things. By the  
22    time we have our next meeting, just a reminder,  
23    we're going to have an early session this year.  
24    Before we start or have our next Commission  
25    meeting, we'll already be into committee week.

1           So the first committee week will be October  
2   6th to October 10th. The second week will be  
3   October 13th through the 17th. A little break in  
4   between. Week three will be November 7th, November  
5   3rd to the 7th.

6           Fourth will be 17th to the 21st of November.  
7   Week five will be December 1st through December  
8   5th. And the sixth week will be December 8th  
9   through the 12th.

10          VICE CHAIR BROWN: It's going to be busy.

11          MR. DILLMORE: And the Commission first day of  
12   session will actually start on January 13th and  
13   goes through March 13th. I think we passed the  
14   time -- or actually, bills can be filed. I'm not  
15   aware of any that have been filed. That's our  
16   efforts, regulatory efforts for law enforcement.

17          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for going over  
18   those dates. And just to give a presence here, we  
19   know that Henry is going to be very busy and  
20   already is coming up. Thank you.

21          MR. DILLMORE: We have some employee  
22   recognitions. First one is Lacy Musgrove, Division  
23   of Administration. Lacy is consistently  
24   dependable, reliable, approaching every task with a  
25   high level of professionalism and attention to

1 detail.

2 She takes initiative to expand her knowledge  
3 across various functional areas, excellent customer  
4 service skills coupled with clear and effective  
5 communication makes her a stress-free source.

6 She's a true team player who collaborative  
7 spirit strengthens the team and drives reflective  
8 success of the Division of Administration.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is she here? Thank you.

10 The next employee for general counsel  
11 Commission staff is Dixie Parker. Dixie, she's  
12 serving as the Commission's business manager  
13 dedicated to providing exemplary service to the  
14 Commission and the Commission staff for more than  
15 three years.

16 One of her many duties, she ensures the  
17 Commission meetings run smoothly, supervises and  
18 oversees the timely and professional public records  
19 and serves as liaison between the office of general  
20 counsel and the office of the Commission.

21 Dixie's bright and cheerful attitude and  
22 commitment and the topnotch service are much  
23 appreciated and valued by the Commission.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely. I think all of  
25 us here -- Dixie goes above and beyond and helps

1 all of us out individually on many levels, and  
2 thank you for everything that you do for us.

3 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Absolutely. From day one  
4 since we've been here. Some of us had the pleasure  
5 of working with her in past agencies, and always  
6 been true and just so supportive and helpful.

7 And it just -- things that you can't get into  
8 a letter. Just the way she's always there, always  
9 helping us, always aware in making sure that we've  
10 got everything we need to have taken care of.  
11 Dixie, thank you so much. I really do appreciate  
12 it.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquilaa.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I don't know if I can  
15 top Commissioner Drago. Once again, I really  
16 appreciate you making this all work together.  
17 You've been the glue of this agency in many  
18 respects keeping it all together. Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Repp.

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: Thank you so much, Dixie.  
22 Nobody deserves this more. As far as stuff that's  
23 handled for us, you've done a wonderful job. Thank  
24 you.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

1           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Next you going to take my  
2     parking space?

3           MR. DILLMORE: Anybody can have mine, too.  
4     Division of Gaming Enforcement, Mr. Michael  
5     Kreager. He is being -- over the past month,  
6     Special Agent Kreager has played a pivotal role in  
7     initiating and following up on multiple criminal  
8     investigations in the north region culminating in  
9     the successful service of a search warrant on an  
10    illegal gaming establishment.

11          Mike's ability to lead by example, take  
12    initiative, and provide unwavering support to both  
13    leadership and colleagues demonstrates his  
14    professionalism and commitment to the agency's  
15    success.

16          Special Agent Kreager's contributions have  
17    been a direct impact on advancing our mission and  
18    strengthening the effectiveness of our enforcement  
19    efforts. For these reasons, I highly recommend  
20    Special Agent Kreager for the recognition of  
21    employee of the month for the Division of Gaming  
22    Enforcement.

23          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Special Agent  
24    Kreager.

25          MR. DILLMORE: From the Division of Pari-Mutuel

1     Wagering in the southern region, Mr. Ernesto  
2     Guerra. Ernesto has been a slot operations  
3     supervisor at Hialeah Park for just over a year  
4     now.

5             He earned that opportunity to be a supervisor  
6     based on his exemplary performance as a slot  
7     operator specialist for the past three years. He's  
8     taken on the challenge of training his new  
9     employees under him to new employees along with the  
10    normal things that supervisors do as far as ran  
11    convergence and movements of slot machines on the  
12    floor.

13            Hialeah Casino ranks as one of the busiest, in  
14    terms of those kind of machine adjustments. The  
15    casino management has always had nothing but  
16    positive things to say about him.

17            Additionally, he most recently volunteered to  
18    go to another facility that was shorthanded and  
19    help them out during the time they were  
20    shorthanded, so thank you to Mr. Ernesto Guerra.

21            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ernesto. I know  
22    he's not here, but I hope he's watching.

23            MR. DILLMORE: And lastly is from general  
24    counsel Shireen Anbardan. She's a senior attorney  
25    in the law office of general counsel. Shireen



1 provides the Commission with legal advice  
2 pertaining to contracts, special projects, matters  
3 involving state and federal law, public records  
4 request, and rule promulgation. Shireen's sharp  
5 legal skills, strong sense of teamwork and  
6 collaboration and can-do attitude is why Shireen is  
7 OGC's employee of the month.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Shireen.

9 MR. DILLMORE: I think that's all I have,  
10 unless you have any questions.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any questions for  
12 Director Dillmore?

13 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving  
15 on to public comment right now. Is there anybody  
16 from the public that would like to address us on  
17 anything? Seeing none, we're going to go ahead and  
18 go into our closed attorney session meetings. We  
19 have three, as I mentioned. I'm going to turn it  
20 over to our general counsel.

21 MS. ALVARADO: Emily Alvarado, for the record.  
22 The Office of General Counsel requests the  
23 Commissioners to close the meeting so that the  
24 Office of General Counsel may seek advice from the  
25 commissioners in a closed meeting concerning

1     litigation style.

2             Florida Gaming Control Commission versus  
3     Sarasota Kennel Club, Case No. 2025-047289; Florida  
4     Gaming Control Commission versus St. Petersburg  
5     Kennel Club, Inc., Case No. 2024-065648; and  
6     Christopher Wu versus Florida Gaming Control  
7     Commission, Case No. 1D2025-2038.

8             This advice relates to litigation strategy and  
9     settlement negotiations and therefore may be  
10    discussed in private pursuant to Sections 16.716  
11    and 286.011(8) Florida Statutes.

12            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
13    And in connection with the performance of the  
14    Commission's regulatory duties, it is necessary for  
15    us to hear information that is exempt or  
16    confidential.

17            Specifically, Commission counsel will be  
18    discussing litigation strategy and settlement  
19    negotiations with the commissioners related to the  
20    litigations previously styled and mentioned by  
21    Ms. Alvarado.

22            The closed meeting is scheduled for  
23    approximately 45 minutes. It could go less. Those  
24    that will be in attendance will be myself, Julie  
25    Brown; Commissioner Chuck Drago; Commissioner Tina

1 Repp; Commissioner John D'Aquila; Acting Executive  
2 Director, Joe Dillmore; General counsel Elina  
3 Valentine; Deputy General Counsel, Marc Taupier;  
4 Chief Attorney, Emily Alvarado; Chief Attorney,  
5 Renee Harkins; Senior Attorneys, Justin  
6 Hundersmarck, Joseph Call, Brandy Humphries, Dixie  
7 Parker, and our certified court reporter.

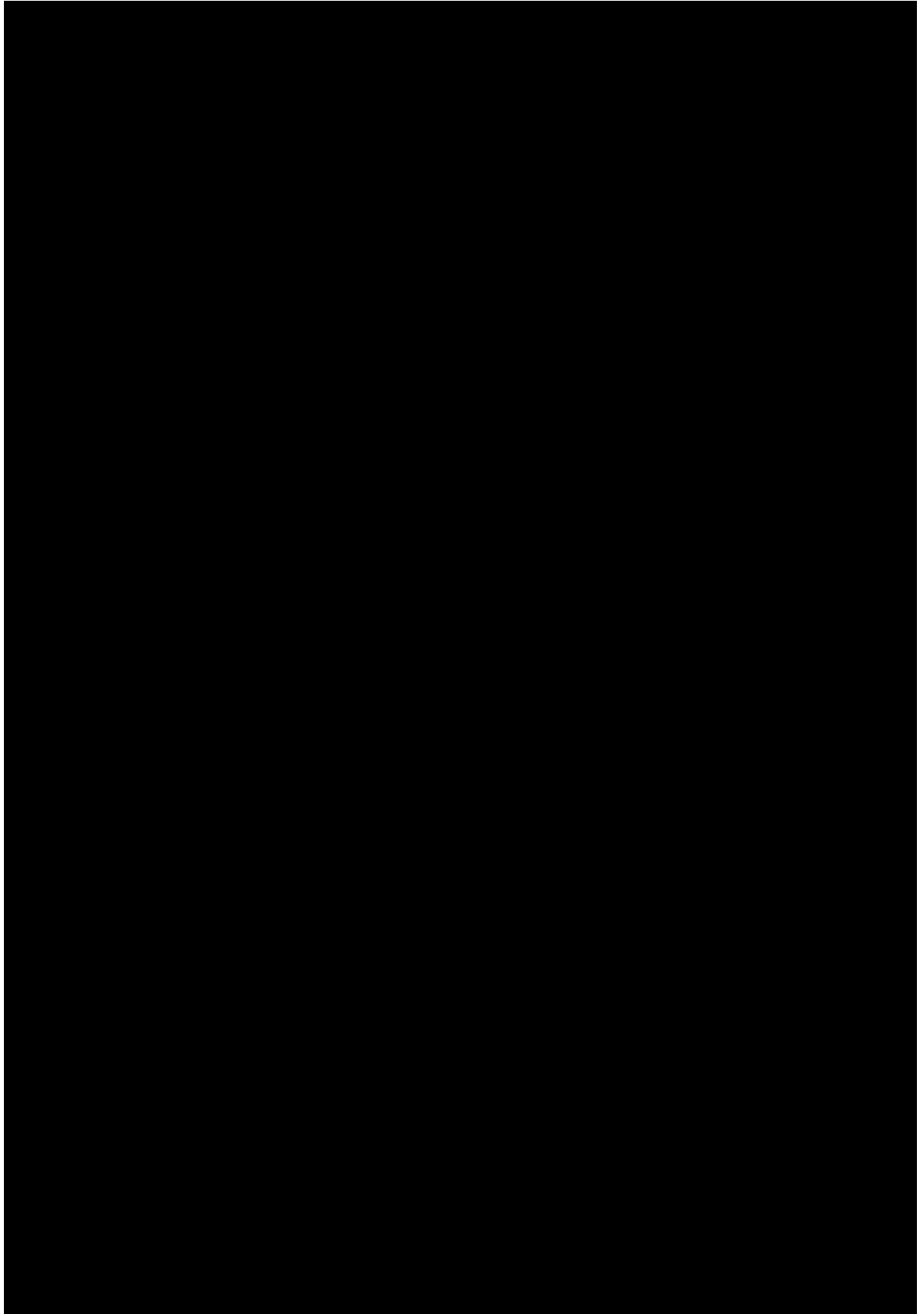
8 In accordance with Sections 16.716 and  
9 286.011(8)(c) of the Florida Statutes, the closed  
10 meeting, including the necessity for closure and  
11 the specific reasons for such necessity will be  
12 recorded by the certified court reporter.

13 No portion of that closed meeting will be off  
14 the record. The court reporter's notes will be  
15 fully transcribed and filed with the Clerk of the  
16 Commission and be made public upon conclusion of  
17 the litigation.

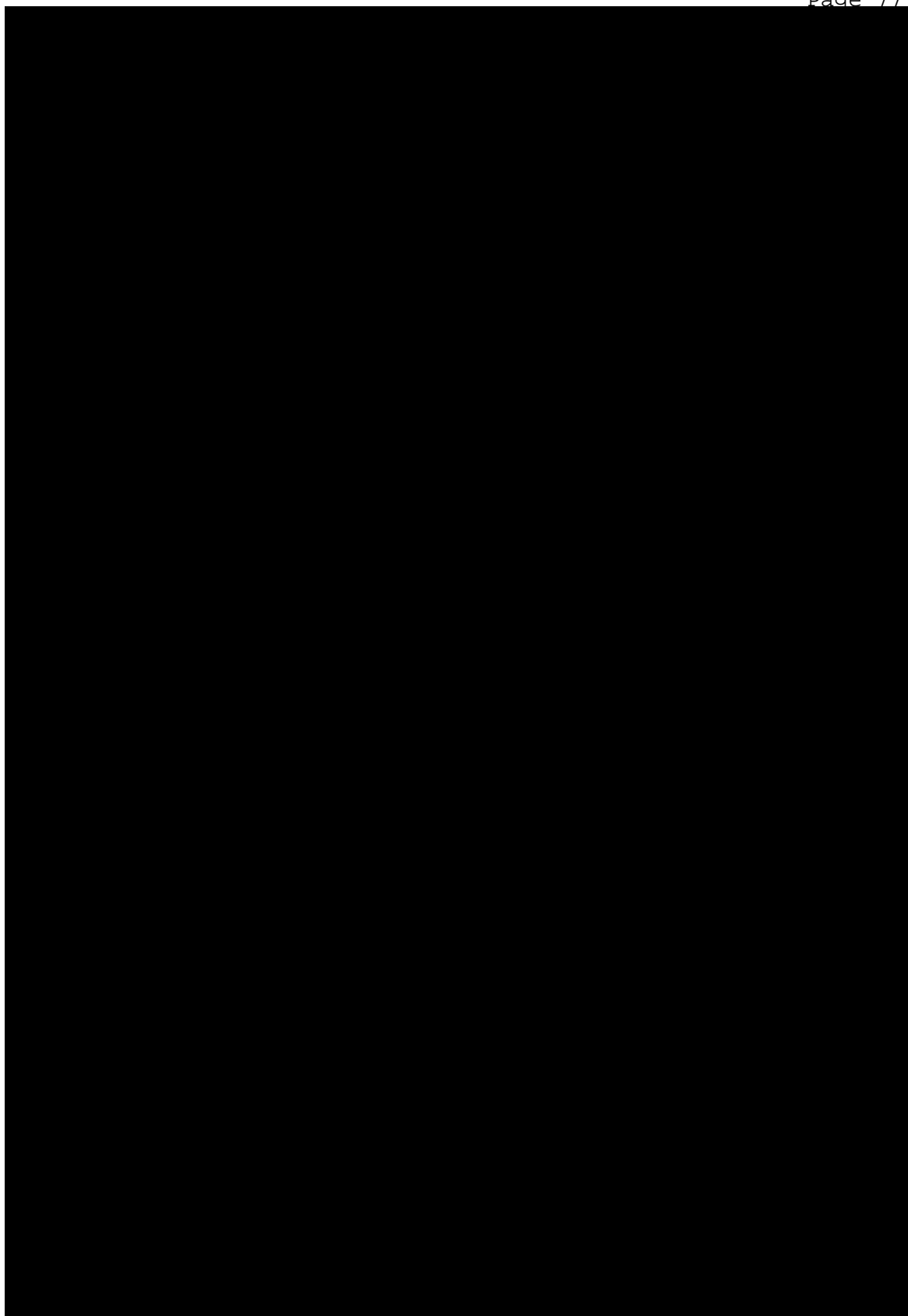
18 I will note that the Florida Channel will be  
19 off. The time is now 10:45. I'm going to ask them  
20 just to discontinue the live feed for the next 40  
21 minutes, 45 minutes. We'll let you know, so that  
22 the Commission may conduct the closed meeting. I  
23 appreciate the public also adjourning, but we will  
24 reopen the meeting thereafter. Thank you all.

25 (Recess 10:35 a.m. until 10:58 a.m.)

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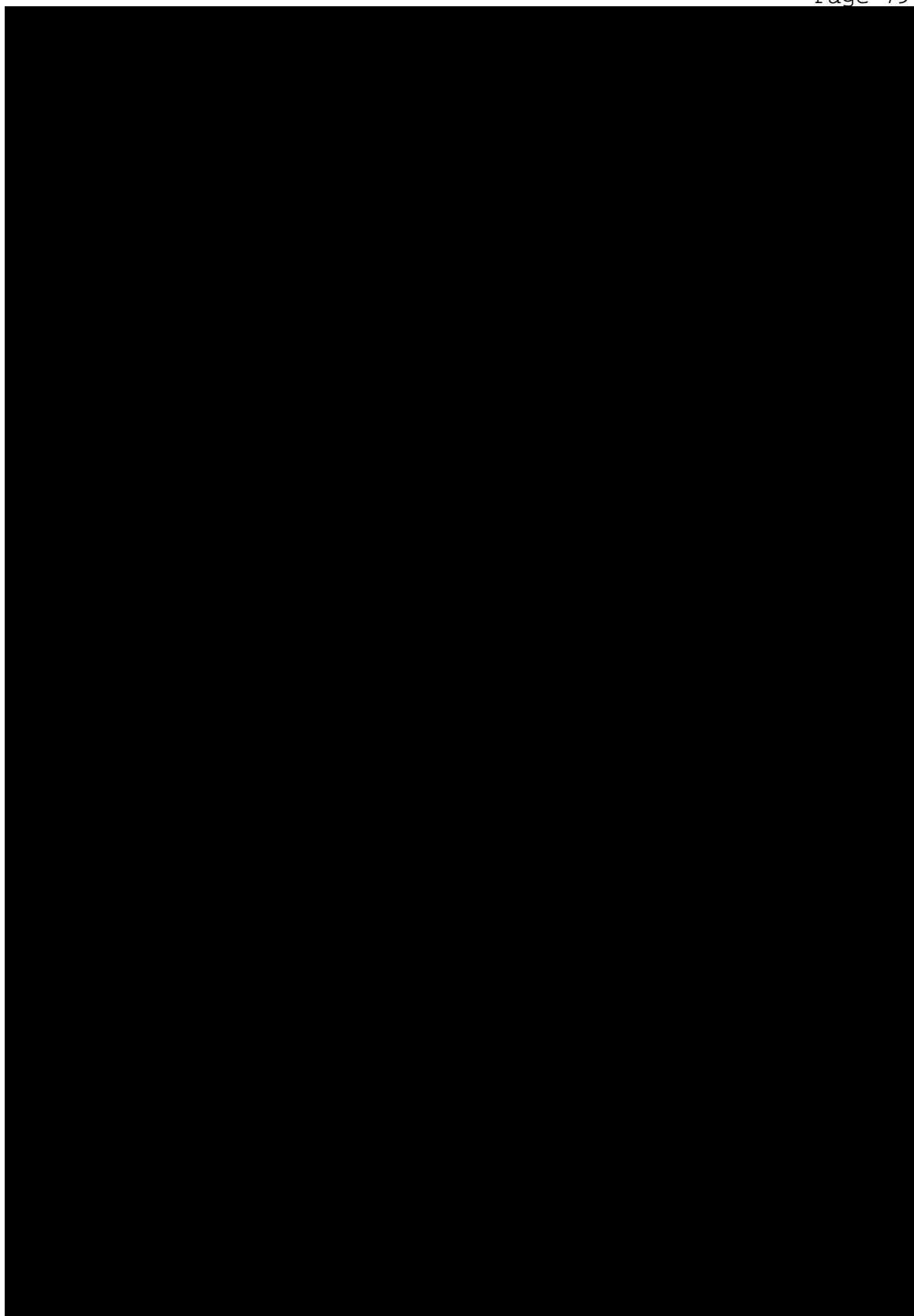
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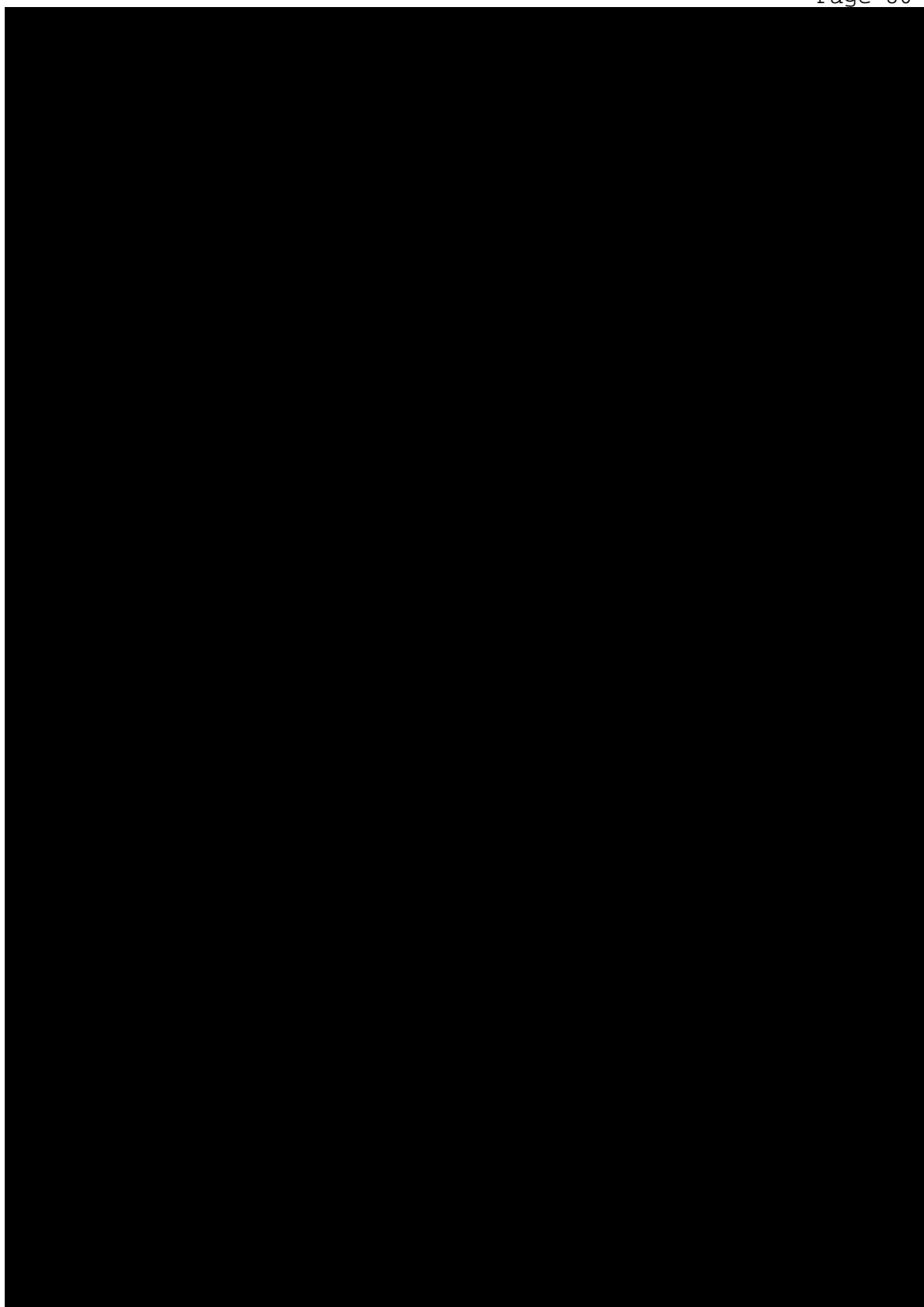
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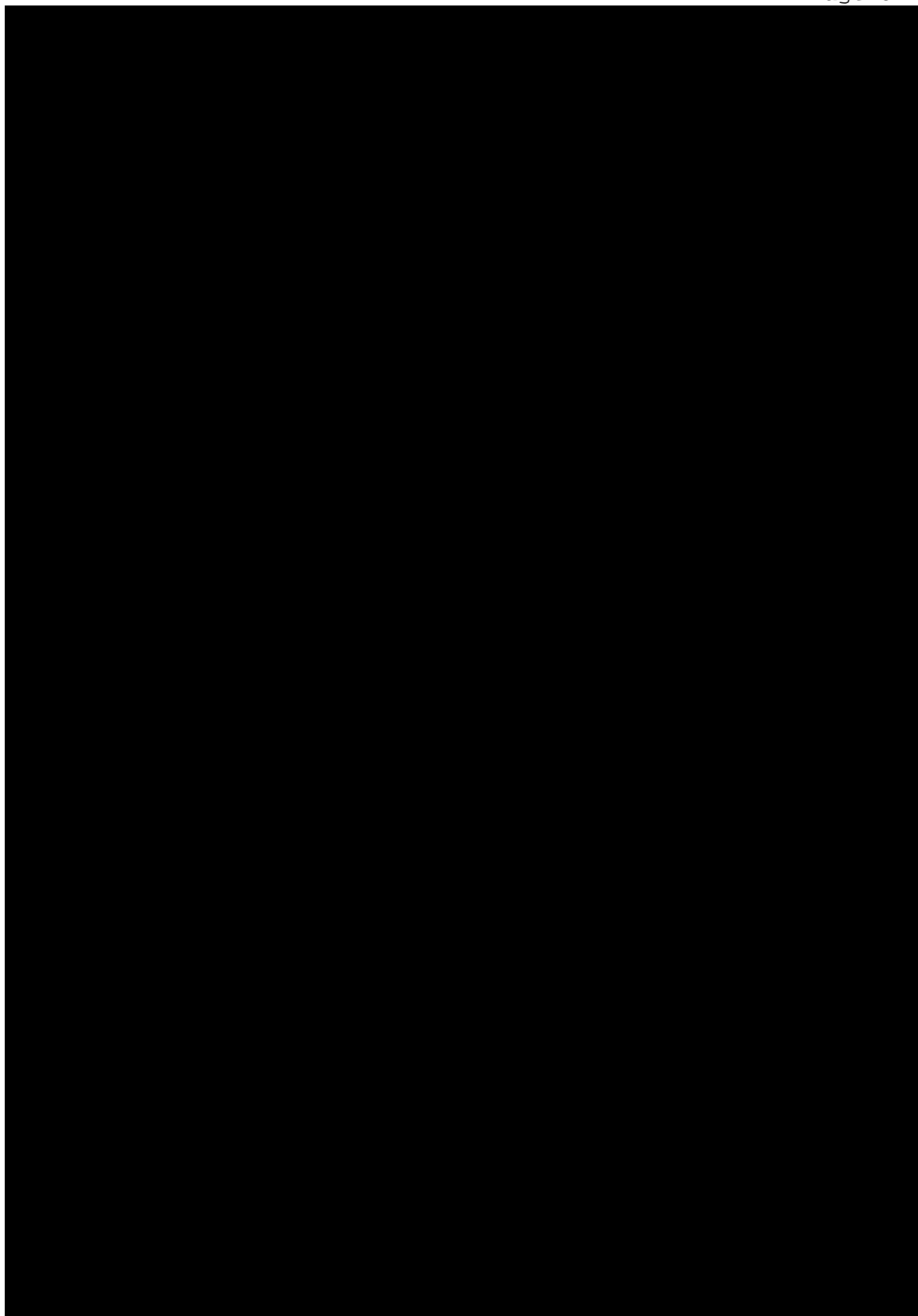


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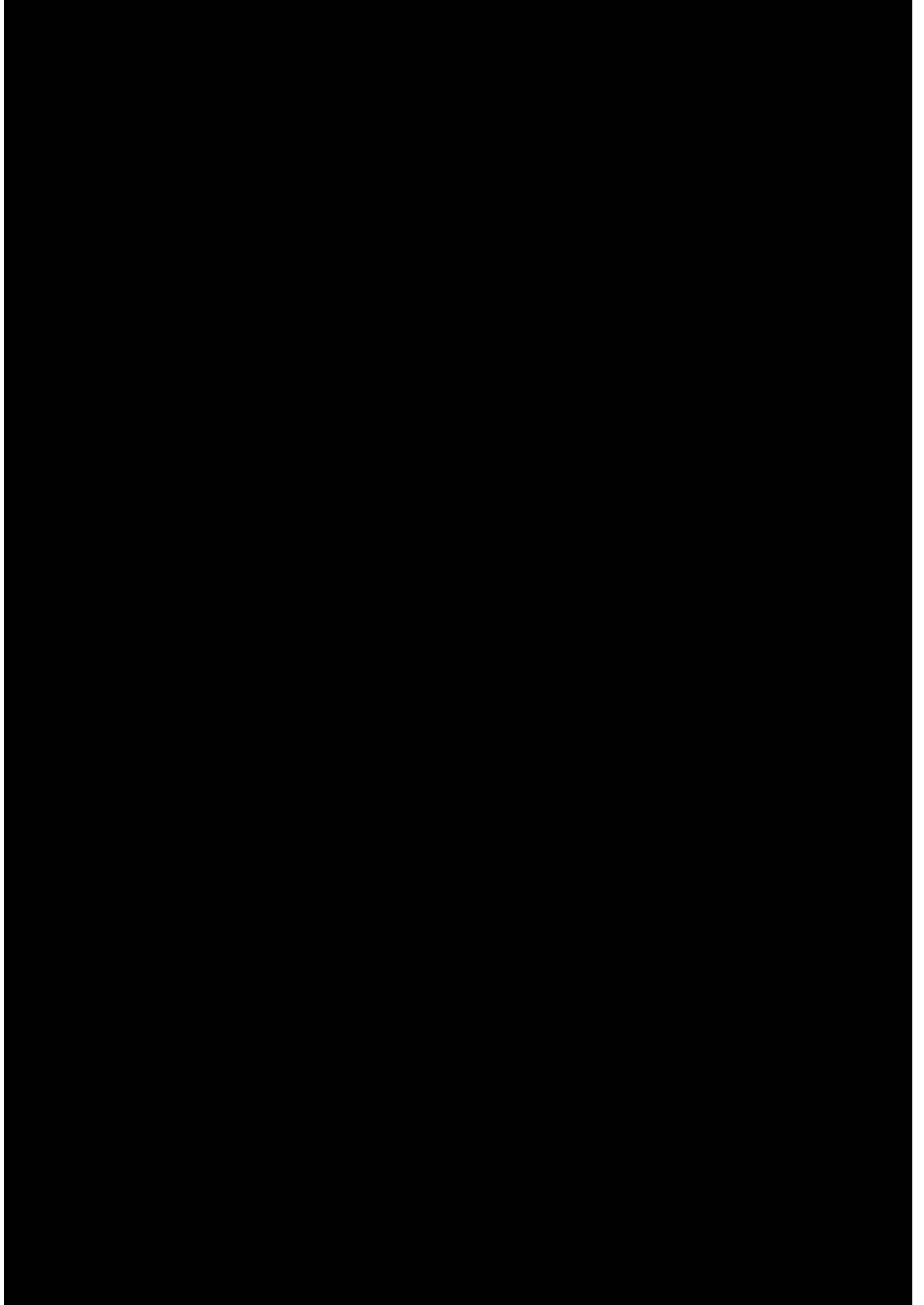




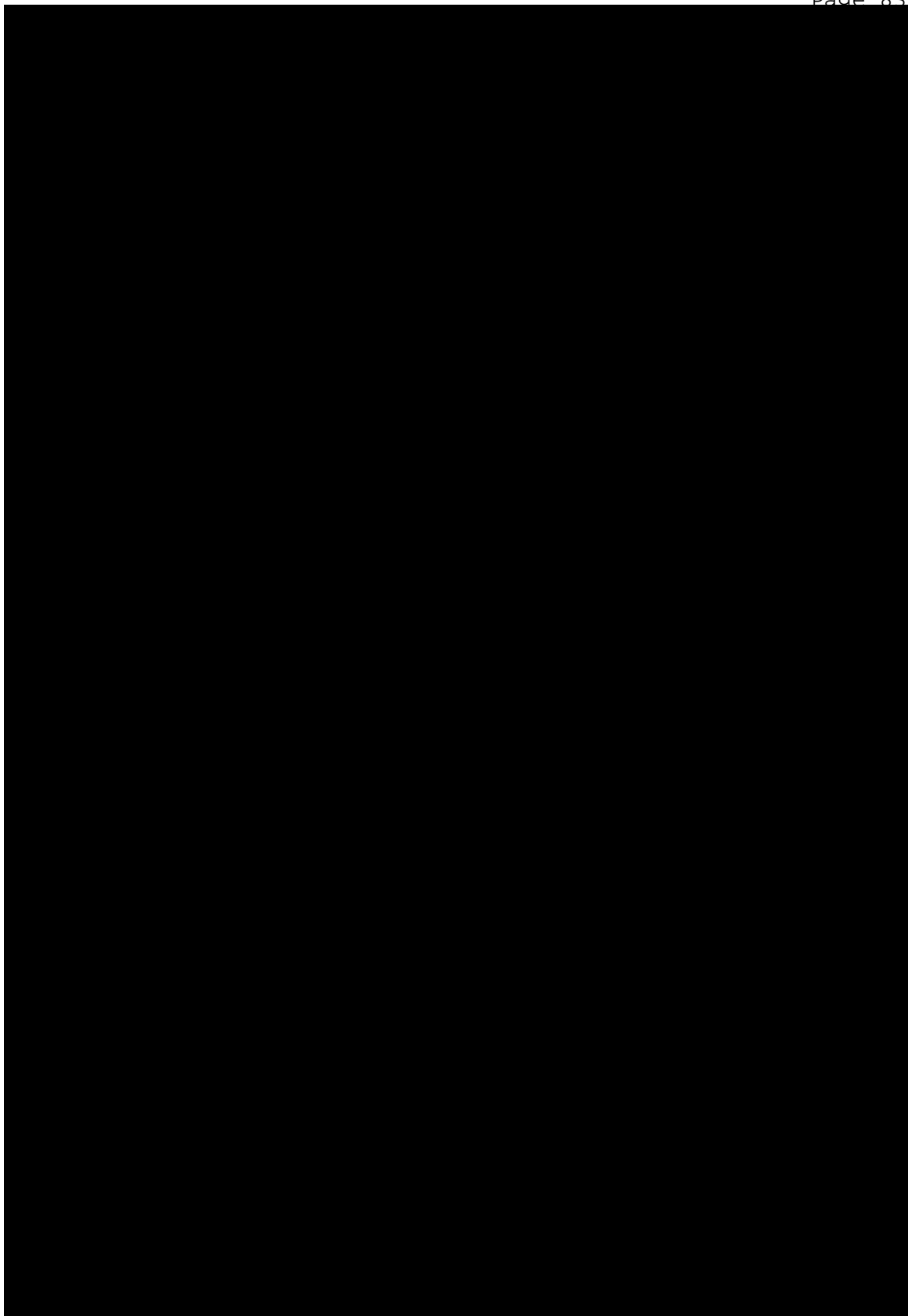
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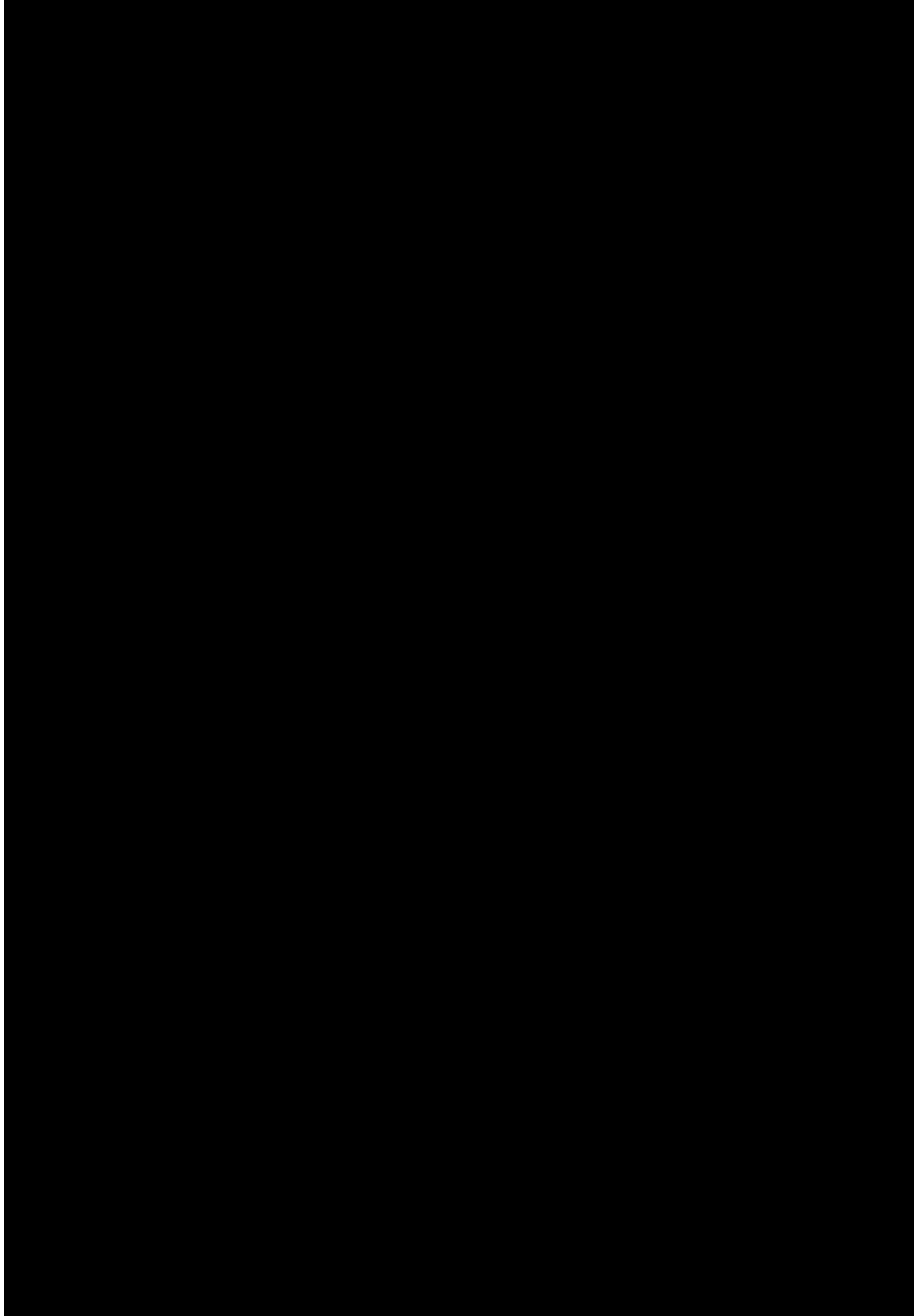
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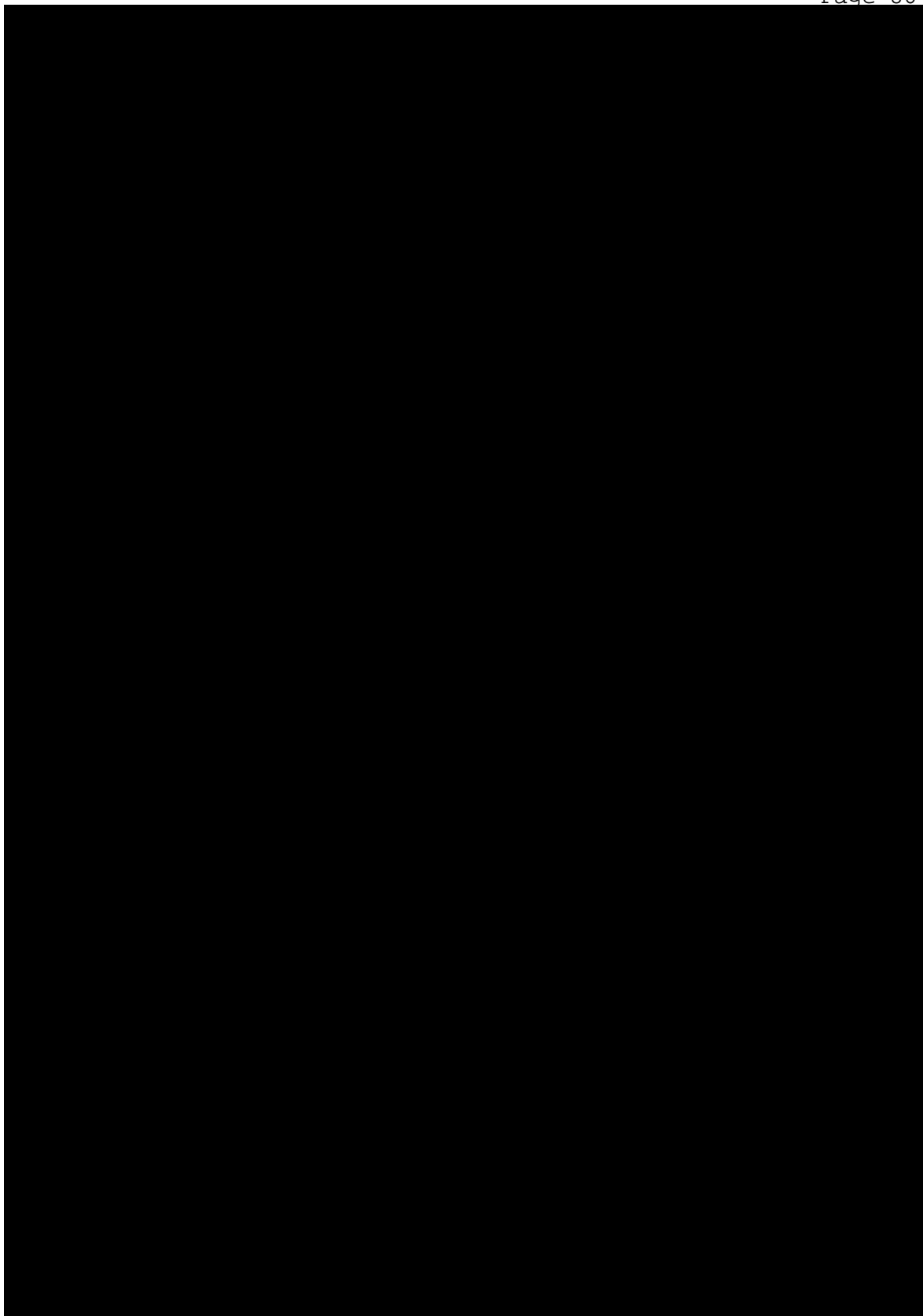
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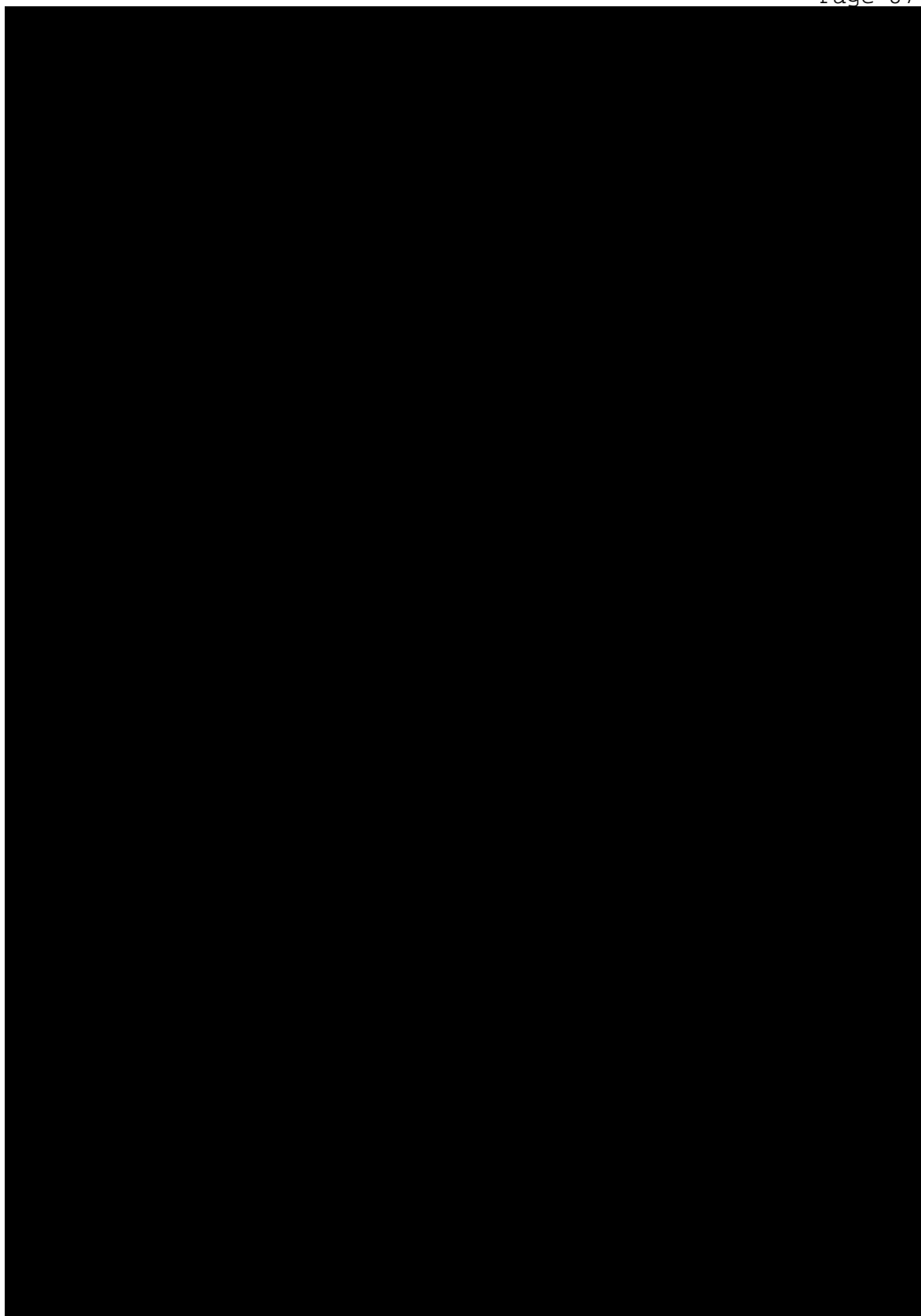
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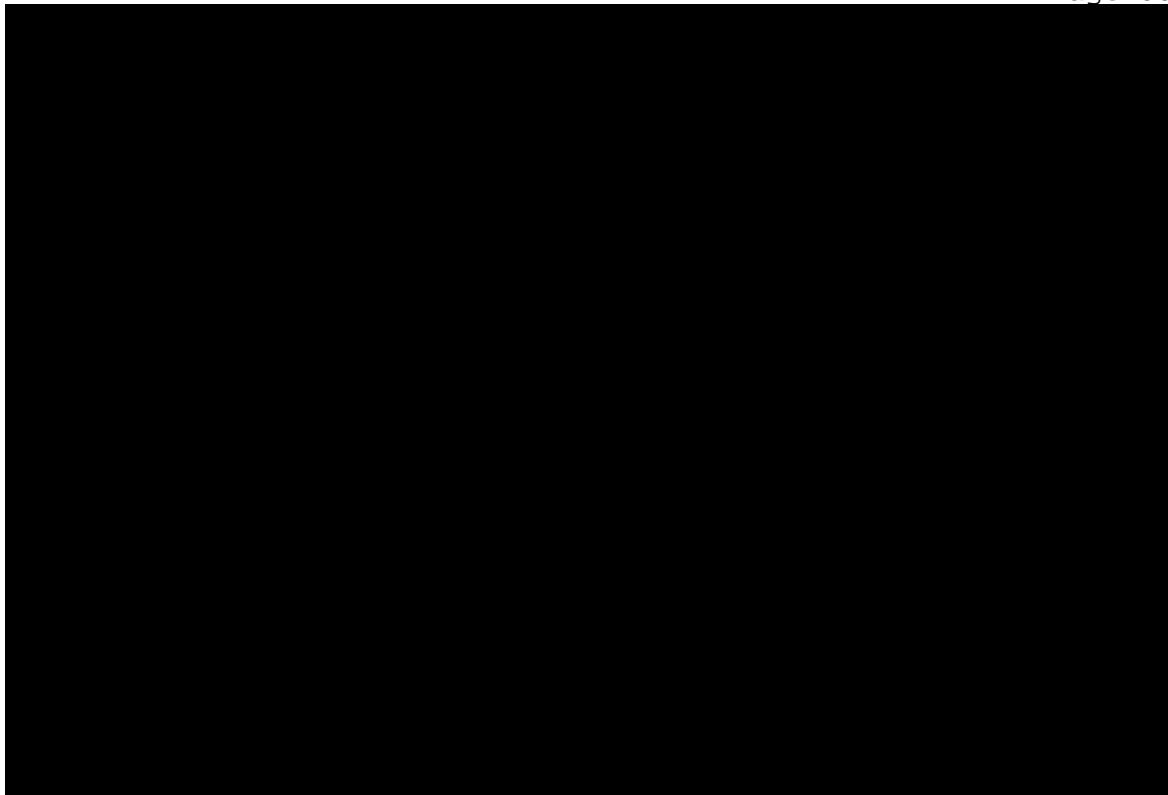
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(Recess 11:12 a.m. until 11:15 a.m.)

VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning still. This is the Florida Gaming Control Commission meeting. It is September 11th. The time is now 11:15 a.m. The closed meeting is terminated, and the public meeting is hereby reopened.

We're talking up three items. The first one is 14.1, which was just read aloud. Ms. Alvarado, would you like to open that?

MS. ALVARADO: No. We just ask that you authorize us to continue settlement negotiations in this case.

VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a



1 motion to authorize staff to pursue continued  
2 settlement negotiations?

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will make that  
4 motion to authorize staff to continue to continue  
5 settlement negotiations.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
7 second?

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

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

11 (Multiple ayes.)

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We're on to  
13 14.2, Ms. Alvarado.

14 MS. ALVARADO: I would ask the same thing for  
15 14.2.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquial.

17 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will make a motion  
18 to continue settlement negotiations on 14.2 as  
19 presented.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
21 second?

22 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

25 (Multiple ayes.)

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Now we're on to 14.3,  
2   Mr. Christopher Wu.

3           MS. VALENTINE: So for Christopher Wu, would  
4   you like to discuss this first or reopen Agenda  
5   Item No. 9, as we discussed Agenda Item No. 9?

6           VICE CHAIR BROWN: I don't think we need to  
7   talk about the closed attorney. I think we need to  
8   reopen 9.1. Thank you for that point of  
9   clarification. So we're back on 9.1.

10          Commissioners, after hearing the facts that  
11   were presented today at the meeting, there are new  
12   facts. And in my opinion, I do not think the  
13   individual, Mr. Wu, should be excluded at all from  
14   the state exclusion list. That's just my feelings.

15          Based on the new information we received, I  
16   don't think his presence at facilities is going to  
17   be a threat to the integrity of the operations in  
18   the state of Florida.

19          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I agree. I think we got  
20   some critical information today to help us  
21   understand the matter. I don't think Mr. Wu  
22   presents a threat to any of the facilities at this  
23   point.

24          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila.

25          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I concur with those

1 observations. This new information was extremely  
2 important. Thank you.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And Commissioner Repp.

4 COMMISSIONER REPP: I concur.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And I think it's very  
6 important to note that hearing from the respondents  
7 or applicants when these type of things come up, it  
8 elucidates our decision. And with the best  
9 information we had, we made it then. But it was  
10 very helpful to hear from this individual.

11 With that, I'd like to ask you how shall we  
12 phrase the motion?

13 MS. VALENTINE: If the Commissioners vote to  
14 remove Mr. Wu from the statewide exclusion list and  
15 to authorize him to attend pari-mutuel wagering  
16 facilities in the state, I would recommend that the  
17 way to do so would be through a final order  
18 vacating the prior final order in Case No.  
19 2024-029228 and make the following findings of  
20 fact, which is that all the Commission's  
21 proceedings in this case were substantially  
22 justified.

23 Based on new information provided by the  
24 respondent to the commissioners at this meeting,  
25 that the commissioners find that his presence at

1 the pari-mutuel wagering facilities in the state is  
2 not averse to public interest or the integrity of  
3 the sport or industry; that the Commission wishes  
4 to vacate the final order and issue a final order  
5 authorizing respondent to attend pari-mutuel  
6 wagering facilities in the state and that nothing  
7 in the final order would abrogate the common law  
8 right of a pari-mutuel permit holder to exclude  
9 absolutely -- in the state.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That sounds like a  
11 fantastic motion.

12 Commissioners. Commissioner D'Aquila.

13 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I was going to say so  
14 moved.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioner D'Aquila's  
16 motion is to adopt what was recommended by general  
17 counsel with all those aforementioned items that  
18 need to be in the final order. Can we get a  
19 second?

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

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

23 (Multiple ayes.)

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there  
25 anything else that we need to discuss here today?

1 Commissioners, any other matters to discuss? Thank  
2 you. We stand adjourned.

3 (Proceedings concluded at 11:19 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF LEON

I, I. IRIS COOPER, do hereby certify that I  
was authorized to and did stenographically report  
the foregoing proceeding, and that the transcript  
is a true and complete record of my stenographic  
notes.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2025



I. Iris Cooper  
Stenographic Reporter  
Notary Public, State of Florida  
My Commission No. 1366674  
Expires: February 7, 2028

Job No.: 407417