

FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Julie I. Brown, Chair
Tina Repp, Vice Chair
Peter Cuderman, Commissioner
John D'Aquila, Commissioner
William Spicola, Commissioner

DATE: Thursday, May 7, 2026

TIME: 9:35 a.m. - 11:49 a.m.

PLACE: Marriott Fort Lauderdale Airport
166 North Compass Way
Dania Beach, Florida 33004

Stenographically Reported by:
Thomas N. Sevier, RPR, FPR-C

Job No. 1544088

1 APPEARANCES:

2

3 BOARD STAFF PARTICIPANTS:

4 Elina Valentine, General Counsel

5 Marc Taupier, Deputy General Counsel

6 Emily Alvarado, Chief Attorney

7 Justin Hundersmarck, Senior Attorney

8 Carmine Pisano, Senior Attorney

9 Alana Zimmer, Executive Director

10 Brandon McCaffery, Deputy Executive Director

11 Joseph Dillmore, Director of Pari-Mutuel Wagering

12 Carl Herold, Director of Law Enforcement

13 Lisa Mustain, Director of Administration

14

15 OTHERS PRESENT:

16 Daniel Adkins, The Big Easy Casino

17 Anthony Stahl, The Big Easy Casino

18 Daniel Licciardi, Casino Miami

19 Jonathan Zachem, Esquire

20 Patrick Bland, Acres Technology

21 Adam Harinton, IGT

22 Steve Calabro, Hialeah Park Casino

23 Jennifer Monberg, Casino Miami

24 Members of the Public

25

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1 Thereupon,
2 the following proceedings began at 9:35 a.m.:

3 CHAIR BROWN: Good morning, everyone. It is
4 great to see such a big crowd here today at the
5 May 7th Florida Gaming Control Commission Meeting.
6 It's such an honor for a lot of you to come here
7 and participate too. We have a lot of speakers.
8 But we do have an abbreviated agenda today. We
9 have two workshops in the afternoon. So we'll get
10 right to it.

11 And with that, if you would like to stand and
12 join us for the Pledge of Allegiance, which will be
13 led by Bill Crafts, our Chief of Slot Operations.

14 (Thereupon, Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

15 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much. This is
16 actually my favorite meeting of the year. It
17 really is. We get an opportunity to visit
18 facilities and meet with our staff in
19 Fort Lauderdale offices. So I really enjoy it.

20 So I do welcome -- we have speaker cards here.
21 But I do welcome public comment too at the end of
22 the meeting when we get to that.

23 With that, we will begin our meeting. Can I
24 get an approval of our meeting minutes from
25 March 5th, 2026?

1 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

2 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

4 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
5 (Aye responses.)

6 CHAIR BROWN: Wonderful. We are going into
7 the Executive Director update. Good morning.

8 MS. ZIMMER: Good morning. Thank you. And
9 thank you to all of our team and partners for
10 traveling here for our annual South Florida
11 meeting. Just a few things going on. We've got
12 four new hires this month of the Commission. We
13 have Trisha Gunderson, Steven Currier, Ernest
14 Kroger, and Sai Chandu Atthinti.

15 And impressively, we're currently at a
16 4.5 percent vacancy rate. On our Peoples Gambling
17 Helpline, 1-833-PLAYWISE, we had a total of 577
18 calls last months and our live chats are up
19 65 percent.

20 Social media, we have a 26 percent increase in
21 one of our platforms. Our website traffic remains
22 consistent. And we had 937 pari-mutuel wagering
23 individual occupational licenses and business
24 licenses last month.

25 This is also our Employee Appreciation Week.

1 So I did want to honor some of our long-term
2 employees today.

3 First up, we have Adam Patton who is with us
4 today. Adam, you're five years with the State. So
5 we wanted to give this to you.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. ZIMMER: Next up we have Henry Mahler, who
8 is our Legislative Affairs Director. I get to work
9 very closely with.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. ZIMMER: We have Emily Alvarado, also five
12 years of service.

13 (Applause.)

14 MS. ZIMMER: Not only is she is a fantastic
15 attorney, she also gave us two babies. Thank you
16 for your service.

17 And this is a very special one here. We have
18 Brandy Humphries. Brandy, if you want to come up.
19 Brandy helped organize this meeting, makes all of
20 our meetings what they are. Brandy has been with
21 the State for 15 years.

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. ZIMMER: And this one I'm going to come to
24 her. Our Chair over here has been with the State
25 for 15 years.

1 (Applause.)

2 MS. ZIMMER: Julie started this Commission
3 when it began. So she's been here since the very
4 beginning. And we are so, so grateful for her
5 leadership and expertise.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Wow. It just happens.

7 MS. ZIMMER: And then one of our other
8 professionals here today is Miss Michelle Futrell.
9 Michelle.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. ZIMMER: It's hard to tell. But she's
12 been here a quarter of a century.

13 And this one is a very, very, very special one
14 for all of us here today. So this person serves as
15 our Director of Administration for the Commission.
16 And she brings more than 40 years of experience and
17 service to the State of Florida. Lisa Mustain.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. ZIMMER: Lisa began her career in 1985
20 with the Florida Department of Agriculture and
21 Accounting before she began joining the Division of
22 Administrative Services, DOAH, four years later
23 where she established and managed the agency's
24 accounting office.

25 She served at DOAH until 2021 when she

1 transitioned to the role of Assistant Director of
2 the Office of Agricultural Water Policy at the
3 Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer
4 Services.

5 And then in 2022, she joined our Chair over
6 here and started the Commission. And she currently
7 oversees all of the administration on behalf of the
8 Commission.

9 Lisa, this is a special token. You know, they
10 give them pens. And I was like all they get is a
11 pen for 40 years. So we got you this bracelet.
12 And we wanted to thank you for your 40 years of
13 service.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHAIR BROWN: That was amazing. I have to
16 say, I don't know where we would be without Lisa
17 hands down.

18 MS. ZIMMER: Thank you. Director Herold.

19 MR. HEROLD: Good morning. Thank you again
20 for this opportunity to speak at the Commission
21 meeting about the incredible work that the law
22 enforcement professionals in our Gaming Enforcement
23 Unit continue to do.

24 This past month the investigators and criminal
25 analysts and support staff, we were involved in 64

1 different investigations. 54 of those
2 investigations are FGCC led, which means we're the
3 primary investigative body for those
4 investigations.

5 And that's just kind of the continuous work
6 that these professionals do on a day-to-day basis,
7 whether they're going out and doing buy walks or
8 surveillances or all those kind of things like
9 that. Of that, this past month we had eight
10 operations across the State of Florida, and we were
11 able to close down nine different businesses or
12 illegal locations.

13 From that investigation we arrested 11
14 individuals with a total of 25 criminal charges and
15 seized just over \$180,000. And we also seized 449
16 illegal slot machines, about 130 other bulk items
17 that are associated with the criminal operations,
18 but are not necessarily slot machines.

19 And one thing I would like to also bring up is
20 that during those operations, we seized six
21 firearms and one other weapon that was kind of a
22 brass knuckle electronic conductive device, like a
23 taser. I'd never even seen one of these.

24 And the reason I bring that up is that
25 sometimes that it slips past folks that these

1 locations are criminal operations and they conduct
2 themselves in a criminal way. And they have, one
3 of these weapons was a stolen firearm that had been
4 stolen in a case about six months earlier in a
5 jurisdiction there in North Florida.

6 But these are dangerous locations. We are
7 asking our men and women to go in there and conduct
8 operations. And they're always putting themselves
9 and other law enforcement professionals there in
10 jeopardy. So that's the work that we've done this
11 past month. And I welcome any questions.

12 CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any questions or
13 comments?

14 Obviously, great job. But every day we're in
15 the media, because of the great work that your team
16 is doing. And it's just growing exponentially. So
17 I cannot express the gratitude of the fine work
18 that you're doing. Keep it up.

19 MR. HEROLD: Thank you very much. And I
20 appreciate the support of the Commission and
21 everyone else.

22 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: Is this the second
23 incidence of a stolen gun being recovered in one of
24 these operations? I feel like this has happened a
25 few times in the last several months.

1 MR. HEROLD: I don't recall another stolen
2 one. But this is a summation of something that I
3 shared with the Commission a couple weeks back
4 whenever we had this actual operation. And this is
5 simply summarizing the activity for the past month,
6 and that includes that stolen weapon. I don't
7 recall, but it happens.

8 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Any other questions?

9 I do want to just go back to Director Zimmer.
10 Because I know that we were working on updating our
11 website. And a lot of these stats are going to be
12 provided on there in a much easier fashion for the
13 folks to see as well.

14 MS. ZIMMER: That's on its way.

15 MR. HEROLD: Very good. Thank you.

16 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Director Herold.

17 MS. ZIMMER: Thank you.

18 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. We are going into a
19 presentation by The Big Easy Casino. I think we
20 have some media up here. And we've got Mr. Daniel
21 Adkins.

22 I want to thank you first and foremost for
23 coming in presenting and doing the work here and
24 help educate us as well.

25 MR. ADKINS: Thank you, Chairman. And we

1 appreciate that. We are very happy to be here.

2 I'm going to do a quick little intro. I'm here

3 today. I'm Dan Adkins. I'm here today with

4 Anthony Stahl, who is our Senior Vice-President of
5 Development for Fontainebleau Development.

6 We have a handful of our employees here which

7 I want to thank for coming -- they're waving --

8 today. So I'm going to do a quick little intro on

9 this. It's a long time coming. Then I'll turn it
10 over to Anthony to show you what we're going to do.

11 So pari-mutuel wagering on greyhounds began at

12 this site in 1934. And in 1974 the current

13 existing grandstand was constructed, and at the

14 time was the largest grandstand in the world for

15 greyhound racing. My prior partners purchased the

16 property in 1978, and in 1981 I moved down here to

17 make South Florida my permanent home.

18 In the early '80s, in addition to being the

19 largest grandstand in the world for dog racing, we

20 were the highest handling. We would entertain

21 between 10 and 14,000 guests for each performance

22 four months out of the year, nine performances a

23 week. It was staggering.

24 However, by the late '90, early 2000s, it was

25 obvious that interest in pari-mutuel wagering, as

1 you all know, was fading. So for the first time in
2 history, a group of us got together and actually
3 communicated, and we pulled together an effort to
4 run a statewide Constitutional Amendment to bring
5 slot machines to South Florida.

6 And in 2004, we won by staggering .5 percent.
7 So that effort also enabled the State of Florida
8 for the first time ever to negotiate a
9 revenue-sharing compact with the Tribe, because we
10 converted into Class III gaming at the federal
11 level.

12 So in 2005, we began slot machine operations.
13 It was very successful. Only eight of us down
14 here. And in 2017, Hurricane Irma came along,
15 ripped the whole roof off of this existing
16 grandstand and destroyed everything inside. People
17 said we could never rebuild. But thanks to
18 dedicated employees and time, we rebuilt in eight
19 months and we came back.

20 And my partners at the time decided they
21 wanted to get out of the business. So we sold the
22 business to Jeffrey Soffer of Fontainebleau
23 Development with Anthony. And I was going to
24 retire. But he conned me into sticking around, so
25 here I am.

1 So jumping forward -- by the way, right now if
2 you wanted to, on Kalshi and other market
3 prediction websites, you could actually wager on my
4 actual retirement date if you wanted to. And the
5 fact that I'm telling you that it's going to be
6 soon does not constitute insider trading, just to
7 make that clear.

8 So at this point in time, I'm very excited to
9 tell you we're finally going to tear this whole
10 structure down and build something that's very
11 impressive. And with that said, I will turn it
12 over to Anthony. Thank you so much for your time.

13 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Very exciting and
14 we're so looking forward to this presentation.

15 MR. STAHL: Hi, everybody. I'm Anthony. Nice
16 to meet you. Thank you so much for having us. So
17 I'll try to keep this relatively quick. And we'll
18 kind of go through what the future of this property
19 is going to look like.

20 We'll start with the project site as it is
21 today just to give you some context. We'll go
22 through site imagery. We'll show you the
23 architecture of the outside of the building. And
24 then we'll go through the interior spaces. We can
25 talk programming, you know, gaming. Whatever you

1 guys want to talk about, we can go through.

2 So just for reference for those that aren't
3 familiar, The Big Easy Casino sits in Hallandale
4 right down the street from us. We're really
5 excited about this location, because it's smack in
6 the middle between Miami and Fort Lauderdale; which
7 is an area that's seeing exponential growth right
8 now.

9 To zoom in a little bit, the green is where
10 The Big Easy is currently. It's literally five to
11 10 minutes from the beach. And it's right on
12 U.S. One, which is the major kind of north-south
13 thoroughfare that goes through Florida. So we're
14 kind of Main and Main, to be quite honest with you.

15 Zooming in even further, the two streets that
16 we're on, we're on Federal Highway One and then
17 Pembroke. Pembroke actually connects directly to
18 I-95. There's actually an entry and exit to the
19 highway right there. So you just come right off
20 the highway, and you run into what's currently
21 The Big Easy.

22 It's a little small on screen. But just to
23 give you a sense of what drone imagery looks like
24 of The Big Easy. So we are looking south. You can
25 see the casino and the old raceway right there in

1 the middle of our site. That's Sunny Isles in the
2 distance, and then beyond that is Aventura.

3 Looking east, that's Hollywood Beach. So,
4 again, we're kind of right down the street from the
5 beach. We're really centrally located. Shell Bay
6 is right there. You can sort of see it in the
7 green. It's kind of a new golf membership club,
8 which has been super popular down here in South
9 Florida.

10 And if we look north, in the far distance in
11 the top right, you can see Fort Lauderdale. So
12 we're right at the center of kind of all the growth
13 that's happening in South Florida.

14 The site as it is today, you can see the old
15 greyhound track, which is right at the center of
16 our parking lot. And then where all of our slots
17 and restaurants are are right there in kind of that
18 big box. In the future what we want to do is move
19 the casino to where the racetrack is today, and
20 then do a parking garage behind it to the west.

21 So to kind of show you what that looks like.
22 So to orient you, north-south is the top of the
23 page, east-west is going this way. The golden box
24 is the casino box. It's our mass casino. And to
25 the left of it is our parking structure.

1 One of the big things that we're trying to do
2 here is really plant and have this experience very
3 nice. So there's going to be palm trees all over
4 the place, flowers. It's going to be a really nice
5 entry experience.

6 The building itself, this is sort of
7 technical, but to give you a sense of the
8 three-dimensionality of it. The box on the right
9 on the bottom side is the casino box. Then you can
10 see how the parking structure is kind of hidden
11 behind it. So your experience of coming into this
12 casino, you're really not going to see the parking
13 structure at all.

14 Architecturally we wanted it to, obviously, be
15 South Florida. But we also wanted it to feel like
16 you were sort of on vacation when you're here. So
17 it feels like the Keys. It's inspired by the
18 Bahamas.

19 You'll see a lot of light colors. It's kind
20 of barefoot luxury, somewhere where you can go even
21 just to have a meal and not gamble if you don't
22 want to, although we would appreciate it if
23 everybody gambles.

24 And then it's a jump right into the outside of
25 the building. This is what it's starting to shape

1 up as. So we're still early days. But you can see
2 this is our main entry. It's got a very generous
3 portico share, so kind of these iconic moments for
4 people to get dropped off and excited to be at our
5 property.

6 You can see this is -- I'm just going to orbit
7 around the building, so you can see it. But it's
8 light greens, it's very Bahamas, lots of trees.
9 This will be really nice at night. And then we
10 also have things like steakhouses, we have a sports
11 bar, we have a food hall.

12 And some of the entries to this exist outside
13 of the main dropoff. So we'll have a lot of
14 indoor-outdoor space. It's all going to be,
15 you know, very high-end. We're very excited about
16 this product. And then we'll have dedicate dropoff
17 for Ubers and, you know, ride share, et cetera.

18 Why don't we jump right into the interior.
19 So, again, we wanted to take that same theme from
20 the outside and just, you know, blend it into the
21 interior spaces.

22 So these were some of our inspirational
23 imageries. And we wanted to leave in things that
24 we do in Las Vegas at Fontainebleau. So great
25 chandeliers, moments of, you know, Las Vegas kind

1 of infused here in Florida.

2 Let's jump through this quickly. And this is
3 our main casino floor. So this is roughly 50,000
4 square feet. It's got a center bar, which I'll
5 show you renderings of, which is quite fantastic,
6 at the center of it.

7 And then all of the program kind of radiates
8 around it. So we have two cages, we have a sports
9 bar, a steakhouse, high limit zone, and live music
10 venue. You kind of name it, it's going to be here
11 at our casino.

12 To give you a sense of what some of those
13 interiors look like. There's our Rewards desk.
14 This is our center bar. You know, filled with TVs
15 throughout. It's going to be a great place for
16 Happy Hour. This is roughly 60, it seats 60 here
17 just at the center bar, 30 at the bar and then 30
18 around it.

19 We have a high limit zone. Each space will
20 kind of have its own frontage. This is roughly 85
21 games that exist in here. You can see there's a
22 lot of glazing on these buildings. So you'll get
23 some natural daylight into the casino.
24 Indoor-outdoor space. Again, we want to take
25 advantage of the weather down here in Florida.

1 Poker is a space that we're very excited
2 about. So we're kind of going all out on our poker
3 rooms. We're going to do 45 tables. Poker will
4 have its own dedicated bar, its own dedicated
5 lounge, high ceilings, check-in, cashier kind of
6 all in this space.

7 We already have a big poker room, but this is
8 going to take it to the next level. There's TVs
9 throughout. We'll have primary tables for
10 simulcasting if we wanted to or if we want to do
11 tournaments.

12 This is our sports restaurant. So this will
13 be, obviously, accessible from the casino, but also
14 from the outside of the building. Very large
15 scale. It's going to be the best place to watch
16 games in all of South Florida. Huge bar. There's
17 going to be a Jumbotron element that exists over
18 it.

19 And if you see on the right, there's going to
20 be kind of openings and doors to the outside. So
21 we want to do kind of like a high-end beer garden
22 concept that exists on the outside of this. So
23 it's interior-exterior space. You can use this in
24 the evenings, sit outside, you can bring your
25 families here.

1 TVs throughout on the outside as well. And
2 then that cover will actually kind of expand in
3 rainy days to cover everybody. And then we're also
4 going to have a bandstand out there. So this is
5 going to be highly programmed. It's going to be a
6 fantastic space.

7 Food hall. I'm going to jump through this.
8 Everybody knows what a food hall looks like. But
9 we'll have five different concepts, burgers, tacos,
10 you name it. And then we'll have other kind of
11 incremental programs as well like coffee shops and
12 everything else that people could want as they
13 spend time here.

14 And then we're going to do like a top-tier
15 steakhouse, which is going to be fantastic. So
16 we're still working on this right now. But it's
17 going to be a fantastic high-end steakhouse that
18 people can come to.

19 So that's it. Hopefully, this gives you a
20 flavor of what we're going to be doing here.

21 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much. Talk about
22 gentrification right here. And you nailed the
23 coastal theme. It's incredible.

24 MR. STAHL: Thank you. Appreciate it.

25 CHAIR BROWN: I know it's early stages. So

1 you're probably in the early stages of local
2 permitting.

3 MR. STAHL: We are. Yeah, we are. But we're
4 moving through it quickly.

5 CHAIR BROWN: Good. Commissioners, do you
6 have questions?

7 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yeah. What's your
8 time frame?

9 MR. STAHL: We would like to start
10 construction at the end of this summer, and then be
11 open and operating by the end of next year. So by
12 Q4 of next year. We're going to build this really
13 quick. Even though it looks complex, the
14 construction is actually quite simple. So we'll
15 fly through it.

16 MR. ADKINS: And we're doing all this for
17 \$2 1/2 million.

18 MR. STAHL: Yeah. That's landscape.

19 MR. ADKINS: We want to thank you all so much
20 for this. We're very excited. We are going to be
21 working with staff to set up a temporary. We
22 don't -- we want to continue operations while we
23 move forward.

24 But this is extremely exciting. You know,
25 it's kind of like if Southern West Virginia and

1 Key West had a baby, it would be this. So we're
2 really looking forward to this. Thank you.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Thank you.

5 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much. I remember
6 visiting it early on, early days, and the vision.
7 It's a long time coming. So to see it -- to see
8 you still working there and to see it coming
9 together with this investment, it's going to be
10 tremendous for the community.

11 MR. STAHL: We're very excited.

12 MR. ADKINS: Thank you all.

13 MR. STAHL: Thank you so much.

14 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Are there any
15 questions?

16 MR. ADKINS: Thanks, everybody.

17 CHAIR BROWN: Thanks again.

18 We are moving into Discussion of Renewal --
19 (Applause.)

20 CHAIR BROWN: Everyone likes it.

21 We are moving into Discussion of Renewal
22 Applications for Slot Machine Licenses. We have
23 two, 4.1 and 4.2.

24 MR. DILLMORE: Good morning, Commissioners.
25 I'll be handling these this morning.

1 I have 4.1, Case Number 2026-019451.
2 831 Federal Highway Acquisition Holding has
3 submitted an application to renew its annual slot
4 machine license. They have submitted all the
5 required documentation. It will be deemed complete
6 upon payment of the annual license fee and
7 compulsory gambling fee.

8 The Florida Gaming Control Commission should
9 approve Big Easy Casino's application of renewal
10 for the slot machine license effective June 11th,
11 2026 through June 10th, 2027 contingent upon
12 receipt of fees.

13 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, if
14 there are no questions, can we get a motion to
15 approve the renewal of the slot machine license
16 effective June 11th, 2026 through June 10th, 2027
17 contingent upon the payment of the outstanding
18 fees?

19 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Motion that you just
20 stated.

21 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

22 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

23 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
24 (Aye responses.)

25 CHAIR BROWN: All right. 4.2.

1 MR. DILLMORE: Case Number 2026-019472.
2 Calder Race Course, Inc. has submitted an
3 application to renew its annual slot machine
4 license. They have submitted all the required
5 documentation and associated fees.

6 The Florida Gaming Control Commission should
7 approve Calder's application for renewal of its
8 slot machine license effective June 10th, 2026
9 through July 9th, 2027.

10 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, this
11 is straightforward. Can we get a motion to approve
12 the staff recommendation?

13 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

14 CHAIR BROWN: A second.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

16 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye."
17 (Aye responses.)

18 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Item 5.1 and 5.2, amended
19 applications for Pari-Mutuel Operating Licenses.

20 MR. DILLMORE: 5.1 is Case Number 2026-024640.
21 Gulfstream Park Thoroughbred After Racing Program,
22 Inc. has submitted an application to amend its
23 operating license resulting in no change in the
24 number of scheduled performances, only the dates.

25 And they have submitted all the required

1 documentation. And the staff's recommendation is
2 the Florida Gaming Control Commission should
3 approve this request.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a motion
5 to approve the staff recommendation?

6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Motion to approve the
7 staff recommendation as stated.

8 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

9 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Second.

10 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
11 (Aye responses.)

12 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. The next one is very
13 similar, 5.2.

14 MR. DILLMORE: 5.2, Case Number 2026-024696.
15 West Flagler Associated, Limited has submitted an
16 application to amend its operating license
17 resulting in no change in the actual number of
18 scheduled performances, only the dates.

19 They have submitted all the required
20 documentation. And the staff recommends the
21 Florida Gaming Control Commission to approve this
22 request.

23 CHAIR BROWN: Seeing no questions, can we get
24 a motion to approve the staff recommendation?

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Make a motion to

1 approve the staff recommendation.

2 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

3 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

4 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

5 (Aye responses.)

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We're on to the
7 Discussion of amended applications for Cardroom
8 Licenses. They're 6.1 and 6.2.

9 MR. DILLMORE: Yes. And I can do these
10 together, if you'd like.

11 CHAIR BROWN: Please.

12 MR. DILLMORE: It's the same applicant.

13 CHAIR BROWN: That would be great.

14 MR. DILLMORE: It's 6.1 and 6.2, Cases
15 2026-025704 and 2026-025712. They're both
16 applications from St. Petersburg Kennel Club. They
17 have submitted an application to amend its cardroom
18 license. And one of them is their current license,
19 4/25/26, and they're also doing their supplemental
20 license for 2027.

21 They have submitted all the required
22 documentation and paid the additional table fees.
23 And staff's recommendation is the Florida Gaming
24 Control Commission to approve this request.

25 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a motion

1 to approve St. Pete Kennel Club's request to add
2 additional card tables to cardroom for 6.1 and 6.2?

3 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

4 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

6 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

7 (Aye responses.)

8 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Discussion of
9 Default Final Orders. Mr. Pisano.

10 MR. PISANO: Good morning, everyone. Carmine
11 Pisano for the record.

12 Item 7.1 is Anibal Guadalupe, Case Number
13 2025-057416. The Division seeks the revocation of
14 the Respondent's pari-mutuel general individual
15 occupational license.

16 The Division filed a two-count administrative
17 complaint alleging that the Respondent was
18 convicted of a disqualifying felony involving
19 larceny and did not notify the Commission within
20 48 hours of the conviction. The case materials
21 include confirmation of service via USPS certified
22 mail, and Respondent did not answer within the
23 required 21 days.

24 Therefore, the Commission should enter an
25 order of the following findings; that the

1 Respondent was properly served with the
2 administrative complaint; did not respond within
3 the deadline; waived the right to request a
4 hearing; the factual allegations in the
5 administrative complaint are accepted as the
6 findings of fact in this case; and that
7 Respondent's pari-mutuel general individual
8 occupational license is revoked.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And grand theft, a
10 major violation.

11 Commissioners, are there any questions? If
12 not, can we get a motion to approve the staff
13 recommendation as presented?

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Make a motion to
15 approve the staff recommendation as presented.

16 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

17 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

18 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
19 (Aye responses.)

20 CHAIR BROWN: 7.2.

21 MR. PISANO: Item 7.2 is Ramon Angel Reyes
22 Merencio, Case Number 2025-065512. The case
23 materials include the administrative complaint
24 alleging Respondent was a patron of and was ejected
25 from and is permanently excluded from Hialeah Park

1 Racing & Casino.

2 The administrative complaint seeks permanent
3 exclusion from all pari-mutuel and slot machine
4 facilities in Florida. The case materials include
5 confirmation via USPS certified mail that service
6 was completed, and Respondent failed to answer
7 within the required 21 days.

8 Therefore, the Division requests the
9 Commission enter an order with the following
10 findings; that Respondent was properly served with
11 the administrative complaint; did not respond
12 within the deadline; waived the right to request a
13 hearing; that the factual allegations in the
14 administrative complaint are accepted as the
15 findings of fact in this case; and that Respondent
16 shall be permanently excluded from all pari-mutuel
17 facilities and all facility slot machine licensees
18 in Florida.

19 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Any questions,
20 Commissioners? And this individual was arrested
21 ultimately, right?

22 MR. PISANO: Yes, for trespassing. Or it was
23 trespassing and then ultimately it was.

24 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. If there are no
25 questions, can we get a motion to approve the staff

1 recommendation as presented?

2 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

3 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

4 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: Second.

5 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

6 (Aye responses.)

7 CHAIR BROWN: And 7.3.

8 MR. PISANO: Item 7.3 is Kanez Ke'Shuwn
9 Harwell, Case Number 2025-080733. The Division
10 seeks a revocation of Respondent's cardroom
11 employee occupational license. The Division filed
12 a three-count administrative complaint alleging the
13 Respondent was convicted of a disqualifying
14 misdemeanor involving larceny.

15 He did not notify the Commission within
16 48 hours of the conviction. He did not notify
17 within five days of the arrest. The case materials
18 include confirmation the Respondent was served via
19 e-mail, and Respondent did not answer within the
20 required 21 days.

21 Therefore, the Commission should enter an
22 order with the following findings; that the
23 Respondent was properly served with the
24 administrative complaint; did not respond within
25 the deadline; waived the right to request a

1 hearing; the factual allegations in the
2 administrative complaint are accepted as the
3 findings of fact in this case; and that
4 Respondent's cardroom employee occupational license
5 is revoked.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Pisano.

7 If there are no questions, can we get a motion
8 to approve the staff recommendation?

9 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

10 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

12 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

13 (Aye responses.)

14 CHAIR BROWN: We have one item under 8,
15 Discussion of Request for Waiver, 8.1.

16 Mr. Hundersmarck.

17 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 8.1 is Matthew Geraldo
18 Santiago, Case 2025-080903. Here the applicant
19 applied for a slot machine/cardroom/PMW individual
20 combination occupational license in order to work
21 as a bartender at Harrah's. Upon review of the
22 application, it was discovered that they had one
23 disqualifying misdemeanor offense for Theft Intent
24 to Deprive from 2011.

25 He answered no on the question about criminal

1 convictions and did not disclose the two
2 convictions, only one of which was disqualifying.
3 He was sent one deficiency letter asking about his
4 arrests. And then on the amended application, he
5 provided the records and did list the two
6 convictions.

7 He filled out the waiver request correctly.
8 He completed a waiver interview, and the report is
9 included in the case materials. Applicant provided
10 one character reference letter included in the
11 materials.

12 The applicant did pay all his court costs and
13 fines in 2012 within six months of them being
14 assessed for the disqualifying offense. And he
15 paid costs before the sentence was imposed for the
16 other criminal conviction.

17 He has applied for a Florida pari-mutuel
18 before, but he has not received one. He has also
19 worked as a bartender. Based on the foregoing, the
20 Commission may authorize the issuance of a letter
21 of license denial.

22 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Commissioners, this one
23 came before us, if you recall, during the January
24 and March meeting. Is that correct?

25 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes.

1 CHAIR BROWN: At the March meeting, can you
2 explain what we directed staff to do?

3 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: At March you asked for
4 verification of payment of the fines associated
5 with the sentence.

6 CHAIR BROWN: And was that the only item that
7 we directed staff to verify?

8 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: I believe so, yeah.

9 CHAIR BROWN: I believe so, too. Commissioners,
10 you have thoughts or questions on this?

11 Yes. Commissioner Repp. Vice Chair. Sorry.

12 VICE CHAIR REPP: Has he had any other law
13 enforcement contact since this 2011?

14 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Yes. His most recent
15 arrest was 2016. It was the -- the arrest was for
16 marijuana possession. He did plead guilty to that
17 arrest, to that charge. But the conviction was for
18 disorderly conduct. That was the conviction in
19 2017, disorderly conducts.

20 CHAIR BROWN: Yes. Commissioner.

21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: To clarify though,
22 that is not a disqualifying offense.

23 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: It is not. It's a
24 misdemeanor.

25 CHAIR BROWN: I will note that the letter of

1 recommendation is glowing about his work ethic,
2 trustworthiness, and all of that. I'm inclined to
3 grant him a license.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I would concur with
5 that. The original disqualifying offense occurred
6 in 2011, as I understand. And other than the
7 non-disqualifying event, he's had nothing since.
8 He's been rather persistent.

9 And I concur with interpretation of the letter
10 that he recently provided as well and appreciate
11 proof of all fines being paid. So I'm inclined to
12 grant the license in this situation based on what
13 we've experienced the past few months in the world.

14 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Vice Chair Repp.

15 VICE CHAIR REPP: I also concur. I do
16 appreciate letters of character and letters that go
17 to character that support the things that kind of
18 they've already said within their own interview.
19 And I really appreciate that. I am also inclined
20 to grant this waiver.

21 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. It sounds like we are
22 ready for a motion if there are no other comments.

23 Can we get a motion to grant the waiver and
24 issue the license?

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to

1 issue the waiver and grant the license.

2 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

3 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

4 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

5 (Aye responses.)

6 CHAIR BROWN: Any opposed? Okay. Thank you.

7 We are moving on to Discussion of Consent

8 Orders.

9 MR. TAUPIER: If I may, Chair.

10 CHAIR BROWN: Go ahead.

11 MR. TAUPIER: Marc Taupier, for the record.

12 Can we go back to Items 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3?

13 CHAIR BROWN: Sure.

14 MR. TAUPIER: I would just ask the Commission,
15 the Division would request that you also adopt the
16 conclusions of law in the administrative complaints
17 and the final order as well for each case.

18 CHAIR BROWN: Can I get a motion to 7.1
19 through 7.3 to adopt the conclusions of law?

20 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: So moved.

21 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

22 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

23 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

24 (Aye responses.)

25 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I have that

1 somewhere. I apologize.

2 Okay. We are going back to Consent Order, 9.1
3 through 9.3. And just a reminder, Commissioners,
4 all of these were discussed during our
5 attorney/client session, prior attorney/client
6 sessions. 9.1.

7 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 9.1 is Washington County
8 Kennel Club, Incorporated, Case 2025-003602.

9 The Division filed a two-count administrative
10 complaint against Respondent, Washington County
11 Kennel Club, Incorporated doing business as Ebro
12 Greyhound Park alleging violations by failing to
13 include the name and license number of each person
14 who performed surveillance malfunction in three
15 surveillance activity log entries; and, secondly,
16 failing to log a camera malfunction and repair in
17 the facility's surveillance activity log.

18 Respondent seeks the adoption of the proposed
19 settlement and consent order to resolve this case.
20 Pursuant to the terms of the proposed stipulation
21 and consent order, Respondent will agree to pay an
22 administrative fine of \$500 to the Commission.

23 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. If there are no
24 questions, can we get a motion to approve the
25 Proposed Consent Order and Settlement Agreement?

1 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

2 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

3 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: Second.

4 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
5 (Aye responses.)

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 9.2.

7 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 9.2 is Investment
8 Corporation of Palm Beach, Case 2025-040840.

9 The Division filed a three-count
10 administrative complaint against Respondent,
11 Investment Corporation of Palm Beach doing business
12 as Palm Beach Kennel Club, alleging Respondent
13 violated Rule 75-11.0175 Subsections 7(d), 7(e),
14 and 7(f), Florida Administrative Code by failing to
15 have only one drop box on a count table, failing to
16 lift each box up to the camera, show inside the
17 drop box and verbally announce the box number, and
18 failing to have the drop box locked in place in a
19 storage area exclusively for drop boxes.

20 Respondent seeks the adoption of the proposed
21 settlement and consent order to resolve this case.
22 Pursuant to the terms of the proposed stipulation
23 and consent order, Respondent will be issued a
24 written warning.

25 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, if

1 there are no questions, if we could get a motion to
2 approve the proposed settlement and consent order.

3 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

4 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

6 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

7 (Aye responses.)

8 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And last, 9.3.

9 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 9.3 is bestbet
10 St. Augustine, Incorporated, Case 2025-048013.

11 The Division filed a one-count administrative
12 complaint against Respondent, bestbet St.
13 Augustine, Incorporated, alleging a violation of
14 Rule 75-11.025, Subsection 13(a) by failing to
15 report a surveillance equipment malfunction through
16 a facsimile transmission or e-mail.

17 Respondent seeks the adoption of the proposed
18 settlement and consent order to resolve this case.
19 Pursuant to the terms of the proposed stipulation
20 and consent order, Respondent will agree to pay an
21 administrative fine of \$250 to the Florida Gaming
22 Control Commission.

23 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, are
24 there any questions? Can we get a motion to
25 approve the proposed settlement and consent order?

1 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

2 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

3 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

4 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
5 (Aye responses.)

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.

7 We are moving into Discussion of Recommended
8 Orders. We've got four of them. 10.1.

9 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 10.1 is Jorge Rodriguez,
10 Case 2024-017723. The Division filed an
11 administrative complaint seeking permanent
12 exclusion from all pari-mutuel facilities and all
13 facilities of slot machine licensees in the State
14 of Florida.

15 Respondent requested an informal hearing,
16 which was held on March 9th, 2026. On April 20th,
17 2026, the hearing officer issued a corrected
18 recommended order recommending Respondent
19 be permanently excluded from all pari-mutuel
20 and slot machine facilities in the State of Florida.

21 Therefore, the Division requests that the
22 Florida Gaming Control Commission enter a final
23 order adopting the hearing officer's corrected
24 recommended order and permanently excluding
25 Respondent from all pari-mutuel facilities and all

1 facilities of slot machine licensees in the State
2 of Florida.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a motion
4 to approve the staff recommendation as presented?

5 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

6 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

7 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second that motion.

8 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. All those in favor
9 say "aye".

10 (Aye responses.)

11 CHAIR BROWN: 10.2.

12 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 10.2 is Evan Harrison
13 Vollerthum, Case 2025-002667. Petitioner, Evan
14 Harrison Vollerthum, submitted an application for a
15 pari-mutuel wagering professional individual
16 occupational license.

17 After reviewing the completed application, the
18 Commission issued a letter of license denial
19 notifying Petitioner about its intent to deny the
20 application based on Petitioner's felony conviction
21 of Attempted Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a
22 Child in 2019.

23 Petitioner requested an informal hearing,
24 which was held on February 23rd, 2026. On April
25 20th, 2026 the hearing officer recommended denying

1 the Petitioner's application.

2 The Division requests that the Commission
3 enter a final order adopting the hearing officer's
4 corrected recommended order and denying
5 Petitioner's application.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, are
7 there any questions on this?

8 If not, can we get a motion to enter a final
9 order adopting the hearing officer's corrected
10 recommended order and denying the Petitioner's
11 application?

12 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

13 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

15 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
16 (Aye responses.)

17 CHAIR BROWN: 10.3, please.

18 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 10.3 is Amber Nicole Brunt,
19 Case 2025-016286. Amber Nicole Brunt, Petitioner,
20 submitted an application for a cardroom employee
21 occupational license.

22 Following review of the application, the
23 Commission issued a letter of license denial
24 notifying Petitioner of its intent to deny the
25 application based on Petitioner's two felony

1 convictions.

2 Petitioner requested an informal hearing,
3 which was held on February 20th, 2026. On
4 March 27th, 2026, the hearing officer recommended
5 granting Petitioner's application.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I really want to
7 compliment the hearing officer for putting
8 thoughtfulness into this and taking into
9 consideration the amount of or the quality of the
10 reference letters as well. I think the recommended
11 order is excellent as presented.

12 Commissioners, are there any questions on this
13 item?

14 If not, can we please get a motion to adopt
15 the hearing officer's recommended order and grant
16 the license.

17 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

18 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

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

21 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
22 (Aye responses.)

23 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 10.4.

24 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 10.4 is Russell Andre
25 Sykes, Case 2025-047551. Russell Andre Sykes

1 submitted an application for a pari-mutuel wagering
2 and professional individual occupational license.

3 Following review of the application submitted
4 by Petitioner, the Commission issued a letter of
5 license denial notifying Petitioner of its intent
6 to deny the application based on Petitioner's
7 felony conviction.

8 Specifically, Petitioner was convicted of
9 Former Government Employee Contacting the
10 Government Within Two Years on a Particular Matter
11 that was Pending under Employee's Official
12 Responsibility. That was in 2015.

13 Petitioner requested an informal hearing,
14 which was held on February 20th, 2026. On
15 April 20th, 2026, the hearing officer recommended
16 denying Petitioner's application.

17 The Division requests that the Commission
18 enter a final order adopting the hearing officer's
19 corrected recommended order and denying
20 Petitioner's application.

21 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any
22 questions?

23 If not, Vice Chair, can you please give us a
24 motion.

25 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make a motion to accept

1 the staff recommendation to verifying an order
2 adopting the hearing officer's corrected
3 recommended order and denying the Petitioner's
4 application.

5 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

7 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

8 (Aye responses.)

9 CHAIR BROWN: We are going into Discussion of
10 License Denials, 11.1 through 11.3.

11 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 11.1 is Nelson Gabriel
12 Mejias Jimenez. He's applying for a slot
13 machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel combination individual
14 occupational license in order to work as an
15 accountant for Magic City Casino.

16 Upon review of the application, it was
17 discovered that they had one disqualifying felony
18 offense. That was cocaine possession from 2015.
19 He did disclose this felony on his initial
20 application. He was sent two deficiency letters.

21 He did provide the requested records after the
22 deficiency letters. He has no unpaid court costs
23 or fines from the felony, and there's no
24 indications of assessments for the other charges
25 that were all dropped.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.

2 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: He's not eligible for a
3 waiver due to the felony and this being a
4 slot/cardroom combo license. Therefore, no waiver
5 interview took place. The 90-day deadline is after
6 the next meeting. Based on the foregoing, the
7 Commission may authorize the issuance of a letter
8 of license denial.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are there any
10 thoughts or comments on this? He currently has his
11 accounting license with the State of Florida?

12 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: I don't think that's in the
13 file. I'm not sure.

14 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: That would be only if
15 he were a certified public accountant, which is not
16 mentioned here. He's applying for the position of
17 accountant.

18 CHAIR BROWN: All right. Commissioners,
19 comments, discussions?

20 VICE CHAIR REPP: Do we have any, since this
21 application was put in, any criminal activity or
22 law enforcement contact?

23 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Well, the investigative
24 report is done, and then it's not redone since
25 that. So I'm not sure. But I haven't had an

1 update on it that would indicate he's had any
2 criminal activity. And that would normally come
3 in.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Okay.

5 VICE CHAIR REPP: I haven't -- and
6 considerable time has passed, and I don't see any
7 of the other disqualifying instances coming up.
8 I think these are some unique circumstances with
9 the position he's getting. I'm interested in what
10 the other Commissioners feel on this.

11 CHAIR BROWN: Vice Chair, I agree, it does not
12 look like there has been -- it looks like he has
13 been rehabilitated from the amount of time that has
14 passed, the incident, and his -- I don't think he
15 would be a threat to the industry of granting him a
16 license. But I'm also interested in hearing other
17 Commissioner's thoughts.

18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: This is the sole
19 offense in all the work that we've done, it goes
20 back to 2000s?

21 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: There were other arrests.
22 There's no other convictions, just several charges
23 that were dropped.

24 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. This is a tough
25 one. In the spirit of this one offense -- the year

1 is 2016; is that correct?

2 CHAIR BROWN: '15. Actually --

3 VICE CHAIR REPP: Well, it was '14. And I
4 think it was, the sentence came down in '15.

5 CHAIR BROWN: 2014 was when the arrest
6 occurred.

7 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Do we have any
8 additional information on the 2007 items from
9 San Juan?

10 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: So for the FDLE background
11 check, it actually doesn't give the prosecution
12 information. It kind of just lists what the
13 charges were. And there was no waiver interview,
14 so we do not.

15 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Yeah. On the 2015
16 count, I probably would have been fine with it.
17 But these charges from San Juan are going to make
18 me be a no every single time.

19 CHAIR BROWN: And I would tend to agree with
20 you, except for the fact that they were dismissed.
21 But I would prefer -- if there was a disposition of
22 adjudication, I would have absolutely agreed with
23 you. But they were dismissed. And we don't have
24 any other information.

25 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: Nothing showing a

1 conviction. I believe it was dismissed, yes.

2 CHAIR BROWN: All right. Commissioner
3 Spicola, any thoughts?

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Well --

5 CHAIR BROWN: Or Commissioner D'Aquila.

6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: -- the position of
7 accountant comes with significant Code of Ethics
8 responsibilities, access to financial information,
9 reporting.

10 Let me clarify. He would have an opportunity
11 to appeal if he's denied here, yes or no?

12 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: The letter of license
13 denial is a Notice of Intent to Deny. And then he
14 can elect a hearing.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Okay. So I'm inclined
16 to go back to my fellow Commissioner's point about
17 the incomplete information that we have accessible
18 of the priors going back in an effort to build
19 character. At this point I'm inclined to go denial
20 and give him an opportunity. He can make a
21 decision whether to seek a waiver.

22 CHAIR BROWN: And with that, as the standing
23 CPA, I would give some great deference to you on
24 that. And we can seek information when he requests
25 it.

1 So are you prepared to make a motion?

2 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to
3 that effect.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

5 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

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

8 (Aye responses.)

9 CHAIR BROWN: Just for clarification, that is
10 to issue a notice of letter to deny.

11 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Letter to deny.

12 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 11.2.

13 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 11.2 is Jose Angel
14 Gutierrez, Case 2026-020686. Here the applicant
15 applied for a slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel
16 individual combination occupational license. He's
17 applying to work as a kitchen supervisor at Casino
18 Miami.

19 Upon review of the application, it was
20 discovered that they had one disqualifying felony
21 offense. That was Resisting Officer with Violence
22 to his Person from 2014. He did disclose this on
23 his initial application. There were no deficiency
24 letters.

25 He has paid his court costs and fines for the

1 2014 convictions. But for the fines from about 32
2 years ago in 1993, there's no information about the
3 \$846 assessed in connection with the DUI. There
4 was a letter written by the applicant added to the
5 materials yesterday.

6 He is not eligible for a waiver due to the
7 felony and the fact that it's a slot/cardroom combo
8 license. The 90-day deadline is the day before
9 next month's meeting. Based on the foregoing, the
10 Commission may authorize the issuance of a letter
11 of license denial.

12 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And we do have a
13 speaker on this item, Mr. Daniel Licciardi.

14 MR. LICCIARDI: Good afternoon. My name is
15 Dan Licciardi. I don't know if it's good or bad to
16 say I've been at Casino Miami since 1975. So I'm
17 coming up on my 51st year. And I'm here to speak
18 about and I'm the one that actually recommended
19 Jose to request a waiver for this.

20 I've known Jose since 1983. He worked for us
21 part-time as a pari-mutuel teller. And for all the
22 years he was part-time for us while he was working
23 as a City of Hialeah Water & Sewer Department
24 employee for 30 years. So he worked for me off and
25 on for all those years.

1 And when he retired from City of Hialeah, he
2 decided he wanted to be a cook. And so I hired him
3 in as cook for us in our restaurant at the casino.
4 And I will say a great guy. His son is a City of
5 Miami police officer. His grandson is a Broward
6 County Sheriff. And so he is all about respect and
7 all about the things that are here.

8 His circumstance and the arrest happened to be
9 our casino. He was not employed by us at the time
10 and came in to celebrate with his family at the
11 holidays. I was visiting with them. I left.
12 10 minutes later I got a call. He had gotten into
13 an altercation, not physical, but with a customer.
14 He was asked to leave.

15 The night he did, he called me on his cell
16 phone. I was driving home. He started, hey, boss,
17 this happened, whatever. I said hang on, I'll turn
18 around and come back in. He was on the phone with
19 me. He walked back in the casino to meet me. He
20 was thrown to the floor and arrested. Unfortunate
21 circumstances. It certainly was never his intent
22 to do that. I went back and watched the video at
23 the time after I got in. He was already in cuffs.
24 I said okay.

25 So, you know, he did his anger management

1 classes, did whatever was recorded on there. They
2 were dropped to misdemeanors except for the one
3 charge, which was when the officer put him in
4 cuffs. But there was certainly no intent to fight
5 anybody or anything else. He was actually coming
6 back to see me unaware that I had not returned yet.

7 So subsequent to that now, in 2021 post-COVID,
8 I had no one running my restaurant. I asked him to
9 come back in and run the restaurant, which is off
10 the casino floor. So he has now worked for me for
11 four years running the restaurant and running all
12 the stuff we do for groups and everything else.

13 And he cooks for me, moves all the food
14 outside the building and brings it back inside the
15 building on the opposite side of the casino. And
16 so he's been doing that for us for four years.
17 When I saw that it changed and there was an
18 opportunity for a waiver, I said let's put it out
19 there and take a chance.

20 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Licciardi. It
21 speaks volumes that you come down here and testify
22 on his behalf. So it goes to how you value his
23 character.

24 MR. LICCIARDI: Thank you.

25 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, any

1 questions?

2 VICE CHAIR REPP: No. I just appreciate you
3 coming down. I think this adds a lot of context
4 and information that we didn't previously have
5 before.

6 And I appreciate and understand the
7 difficulty, especially in a casino, hiring
8 restaurant staff and the high turnover that you see
9 in the food portion of the casino. So you coming
10 here today was, I'm grateful for that. Thank you.

11 MR. LICCIARDI: Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Commissioners, if
13 there are no comments or questions of staff,
14 I think we're ready to make the motion to grant the
15 license at this time.

16 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make that notion
17 to grant the license.

18 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

19 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

20 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".
21 (Aye responses.)

22 CHAIR BROWN: It passes unanimously.
23 Thank you again.

24 11.3. And we do have a speaker on this one.

25 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 11.3 is Crystal Alexandra

1 Sharpe, Case 2026-021624. The applicant applied
2 for a slot machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel individual
3 combination occupational license.

4 Upon review of the application, it was
5 discovered that they had one disqualifying felony
6 offense. That was Possession of
7 Tetrahydrocannabinols from 2019, a felony. On her
8 initial application, she marked no on the question
9 about any criminal charges or convictions and did
10 not list any offenses.

11 She was sent one deficiency letter asking her
12 to list the 2017 arrest. Her amended application
13 criminal record chart is incomplete. She
14 listed one misdemeanor leaving off the felony and
15 the other misdemeanor.

16 The court disposition documents were obtained
17 by our Operations department, not provided by the
18 applicant herself. She has not applied for a
19 Florida pari-mutuel license before, and there are
20 no indications of gaming licenses in other states.
21 She is applying to work as a kitchen supervisor at
22 a licensed slot facility.

23 Her unpaid court costs and fine were sent to a
24 collections agency two years after the convictions.
25 We don't know if she paid the collection agency,

1 because that would not show up on the docket.

2 Paying the court costs was not a condition of her
3 -- the completion of her probation.

4 She is not eligible for a waiver, because she
5 has a felony and this is a slot/cardroom combo
6 license application. The 90-day deadline is after
7 next month's Commission meeting. Based on the
8 foregoing, the Commission may authorize the
9 issuance of a letter of license denial.

10 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Miss Sharpe, welcome
11 to our Commission Meeting and thank you for
12 appearing before us.

13 MS. SHARPE: Hello, everybody. Yeah. So I
14 was -- that was a long time ago in my life. I was
15 going through a lot. I just lost my dad. A lot of
16 thing were going on. And so I think I took the
17 proper steps to change my life.

18 And now I'm a kitchen supervisor at the
19 casino. And I'm also a floor manager on the casino
20 floor a couple days out of the week. And I also
21 went through therapy. I did all the proper
22 channels to like rehabilitate my life. And that
23 was almost nine years ago now.

24 So I'm definitely a different person. I've
25 changed. And I also brought my supervisor, well,

1 my manager. She's the director of the food and
2 beverage at the casino. And she can attest for me
3 as well to my character.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Would you like her to appear?

5 MS. SHARPE: Yes, please. Jenn.

6 CHAIR BROWN: And thank you, again, for taking
7 the time and coming to our meeting.

8 MS. SHARPE: Thank you for listening to me.

9 CHAIR BROWN: If you could also please state
10 your name for the record.

11 MS. MONBERG: Sure. Hi. My name is Jennifer
12 Monberg. I came to support Crystal today, because
13 she is an outstanding young lady. She came and
14 applied for a line position. I saw her experience
15 and dedication. She has shown nothing but being
16 reliable, kind to everyone, and very hard working.

17 She applied for a line employee. And I saw
18 her experience, and I put her as a manager for food
19 safety and a kitchen manager. She's been there for
20 a short time. And I've also promoted her to be a
21 shift beverage manager, food and beverage manager
22 two nights a week. And she's done an outstanding
23 job. I have all other departments that write about
24 her, how she's delightful.

25 So to hear about this, I could do nothing but

1 come and support her. I mean, I'm choked up
2 because, you know, she was 18-years-old. She's 27
3 and she's just -- she has -- yeah. I think that
4 she's taken the steps. But, of course, that's your
5 decision.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much.

7 MS. MONBERG: Yes, of course. Of course.
8 Thank you.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Greatly appreciate it.

10 Commissioners, are there any questions?
11 Thank you.

12 MS. SHARPE: Thank you.

13 CHAIR BROWN: All right. Commissioners, are
14 there any comments or questions of staff?

15 Frankly, I'm absolutely inclined to grant the
16 license based on the amount of time that has passed
17 since the one incident. There are no other
18 criminal charges. She's applying to be a kitchen
19 supervisor similar to what we just heard before.

20 VICE CHAIR REPP: As I said before, I know
21 that kitchen positions you see a lot of turnover,
22 you see a lot of unreliable people. So when you do
23 find someone who does a great job, you do want to
24 hold on to them. And I do appreciate you both
25 speaking today, because that gives us some

1 satisfaction that there's been rehabilitation.

2 CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely. Any other comments
3 or questions? If not, can we get a motion to grant
4 the license?

5 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'll make that motion.

6 CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

7 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Second.

8 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

9 (Aye responses.)

10 CHAIR BROWN: It passes unanimously.

11 Thank you.

12 We are moving into Discussion of Final Orders
13 Pursuant to Request from Respondent. We have
14 three. And we have two speakers, I think.
15 Actually, we have one speaker on 12.2 and 12.3.
16 But we'll go right into 12.1.

17 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 12.1 is Crystal Michele
18 Champion, Case 2025-046987.

19 The case materials include the two-count
20 administrative complaint filed by the Division
21 alleging that Respondent is subject to revocation
22 of her pari-mutuel general individual occupational
23 license due to, firstly, entering a plea of no lo
24 contendere and being convicted of Attempted
25 Carjacking; two counts of Aggravated Assault upon a

1 Law Enforcement Officer, EMT or ETC; and Burglary
2 of a Conveyance, all felonies; and, secondly, due
3 to failing to notify the Division within 48 hours
4 of her disqualifying convictions.

5 Respondent returned an election of rights
6 selecting Option 3 stating that she did not dispute
7 any of the allegations contained within the
8 administrative complaint; waiving her right to an
9 administrative hearing; and requesting that the
10 Commission enter a final order imposing a penalty.

11 Therefore, the Division requests that the
12 Commission enter a final order revoking
13 Respondent's pari-mutuel general individual
14 occupational license.

15 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. This is very
16 straightforward. Commissioners, can we get a
17 motion to enter a final order?

18 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: So moved.

19 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

20 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

21 CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor say "aye".

22 (Aye responses.)

23 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 12.2. 12.2 and 12.3
24 we have a speaker. 12.2.

25 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 12.2 is Gabriel Ricardo

1 Andreu, Case 2025-054002. The Division filed an
2 administrative complaint seeking a permanent
3 exclusion of Respondent from all pari-mutuel
4 facilities and any facility of a slot machine
5 licensee in the State of Florida.

6 Respondent requested an informal hearing and
7 requested to settle the case. The settlement offer
8 was presented to the Commission, and the Commission
9 directed staff to decline the offer.

10 This case was set for an informal hearing.
11 Prior to the informal hearing, Respondent withdrew
12 their request for an informal hearing and made a
13 motion asking the hearing officer to relinquish
14 jurisdiction back to the Commission for entry of a
15 final order.

16 The hearing officer issued an order
17 relinquishing jurisdiction back to the Florida
18 Gaming Control Commission for entry of a final
19 order at the request of Respondent.

20 Therefore, the Division requests that the
21 Commission enter a final order permanently
22 excluding Respondent from all pari-mutuel
23 facilities and all facilities of slot machine
24 licensees in the State of Florida.

25 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And 12.3 is very

1 similar. If you could present that as well. And
2 then we'll have you speak on both of them at the
3 same time.

4 MR. HUNDERSMARCK: 12.3 is Jose Veiguela,
5 Case 2025-054342. The Division filed an
6 administrative complaint seeking a permanent
7 exclusion of Jose Veiguela from all pari-mutuel
8 facilities and any facility of a slot machine
9 licensee in the State of Florida.

10 Respondent requested an informal hearing and
11 requested to settle the case. The settlement offer
12 was presented to the Commission, and the Commission
13 directed staff to decline the settlement offer.

14 This case was set for an informal hearing.
15 Prior to the informal hearing, Respondent withdrew
16 their request for an informal hearing and made a
17 motion asking the hearing officer to relinquish
18 jurisdiction back to the Commission for entry of a
19 final order.

20 The hearing officer issued an order
21 relinquishing jurisdiction back to the Commission
22 for entry of a final order at the request of
23 Respondent.

24 Therefore, the Division requests that the
25 Commission enter a final order permanently

1 excluding Respondent from all pari-mutuel
2 facilities and all facilities of slot machine
3 licensees in the State of Florida.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Hundersmarck.
5 Mr. Zachem, welcome.

6 MR. ZACHEM: Thank you, Madam Chair,
7 Commissioners.

8 CHAIR BROWN: Just for the record, your name.

9 MR. ZACHEM: Sure. Jon Zachem. I'm
10 representing the individuals, Mr. Andreu and
11 Mr. Veiguela, in 12.2 and 12.3.

12 Just kind of going through briefly, I know
13 you-all have had a chance to look at the materials
14 and see all of them. We just want to point out
15 that the statute applied is correct, but it's
16 permissive.

17 It doesn't even require the Commission to
18 issue an exclusion. It says they may issue an
19 exclusion based on their review of the facts.
20 Additionally, a permanent exclusion is really the
21 harshest penalty that you can look at under these
22 circumstances.

23 What we would ask is that you-all look at what
24 the application of these facts are to the law and
25 make a determination over whether or not these two

1 gentlemen by making a terrible mistake, 18 and
2 19-year-old kids going to a facility with fake
3 IDs -- they made a bad decision. And they admit to
4 it. They aren't trying to deny it.

5 And they do worry about what this is going to
6 be like on their record as a permanent exclusion.
7 The Gaming Commission publishes all of those that
8 are excluded from facilities on their website. So
9 anyone that goes forward for the rest of their
10 lives will be able to see that there is a black
11 mark against these individuals for making this
12 terrible mistake.

13 So what we would ask is that you take a look
14 at it and see if a permanent situation is
15 appropriate and think of the people that you do
16 exclude with a permanent execution and some of the
17 more egregious behaviors that you have.

18 Do these two gentlemen match those people that
19 are committing violence in a cardroom or a slot
20 facility, that are committing thefts, that are
21 doing all the atrocities that we see a permanent
22 exclusion apply to, do they meet that same
23 standard?

24 And we would hope that you-all would seek
25 something that would be appropriate in this

1 situation. So thank you very much.

2 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Zachem.

3 Commissioners, are there any questions of
4 Mr. Zachem?

5 MS. VALENTINE: If I may.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Yes. Miss Valentine.

7 MS. VALENTINE: The presentation given by
8 counsel would have been more appropriate at the
9 informal hearing. Counsel indicated to Commission
10 staff that his clients did not want an informal
11 hearing.

12 And so the time to present those arguments,
13 that mitigating evidence would have been at the
14 hearing. It is, I would say, not appropriate for
15 counsel to bypass the administrative procedure and
16 process for presenting mitigating evidence to the
17 Commission at this time.

18 CHAIR BROWN: Miss Valentine, may I ask you
19 then, what would the procedural posture be if we go
20 ahead and make a decision on this item for the
21 Respondents?

22 MS. VALENTINE: So counsel's client requested,
23 they waived an informal hearing and just requested
24 the Commission to impose any penalty that it sees
25 fit. And so I would follow what his clients had

1 requested at the time and place these two
2 individuals on the Statewide Exclusion List.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Hold on, Mr. Zachem.

4 Commissioners, are there any other questions
5 of Miss Valentine?

6 Okay. Mr. Zachem.

7 MR. ZACHEM: I'm not going to get into a back
8 and forth on it.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Please don't.

10 MR. ZACHEM: That's not my intention.

11 CHAIR BROWN: Please don't.

12 MR. ZACHEM: We weren't offering facts or the
13 application of law to the facts. We were simply
14 pointing out what the statute says. That's all.
15 Thank you very much.

16 And we did waive the informal hearing,
17 absolutely correct. We're not trying to bypass
18 anything, just informing you what the statute says
19 and asking for you to look at it.

20 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Zachem.

21 MR. ZACHEM: Thank you.

22 CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are there any
23 questions of staff or comments?

24 We spent a lot of time discussing this,
25 Mr. Zachem, I will note. And we did spend a lot of

1 time, you-all recall, discussing this item during
2 our attorney-client session.

3 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: And nothing stops them
4 from appealing if they're on the permanent? If
5 they get put on the permanent, they can still
6 appeal, correct?

7 CHAIR BROWN: Miss Valentine.

8 MS. VALENTINE: They would have 30 days to
9 appeal a final order. But I think what you're
10 asking more is --

11 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: In the future.

12 MS. VALENTINE: -- if in the future they come
13 back. Yes, they can come back and request the
14 Commission remove them from the Statewide Exclusion
15 List at any time.

16 CHAIR BROWN: And that was kind of -- that's a
17 very good point, Commissioner Cuderman. I think
18 that was part of our discussion as well.

19 With that, if there are no other questions of
20 staff, we are ripe for a motion on Items 12.2 and
21 12.3.

22 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Move to permanently
23 exclude these two.

24 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a second?

25 COMMISSIONER SPICOLA: Second.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in
2 favor say "aye".

3 (Aye responses.)

4 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving on to
5 a presentation by Casino Miami. We have two
6 speakers. We've got Mr. Licciardi and Mr. Zachem.

7 MR. ZACHEM: I should have just stayed up
8 here. Are we recognized?

9 CHAIR BROWN: Of course. Yes, please.

10 MR. ZACHEM: Thank you. I wanted to make sure
11 we're following the appropriate procedures. So
12 thank you all very much for having us here. And
13 this came from a discussion. And, again, Jon
14 Zachem for the record. I don't want to fail in
15 that area.

16 This came from a situation where an
17 administrative complaint was drafted pertaining to
18 surveillance equipment at Casino Miami. There was
19 a failure of some cameras and some backup drives.
20 And in looking at what occurred there, there was a
21 history of some other events that happened.

22 And we're aware that in the closed door
23 meeting that you-all had, there were some questions
24 that came out as far as compliance for the future
25 and things of that nature. So we're here to kind

1 of say some of the things that occurred, how
2 compliance has been done since then and going
3 forward.

4 I'll get into the nuances of the legal
5 element. And then the person that understands more
6 of what you're probably looking for will be able to
7 follow me up with some intelligent comments.

8 So there were a couple previous issues. And I
9 will point out to you that it's a little bit
10 challenging, because that section of Rule, the
11 14.054 for surveillance equipment, is a massive
12 rule. There's a lot of things that fall under it.
13 So when you say that there is a violation or an
14 issue that's there, it does have a lot of things
15 that are under that umbrella.

16 So previously there was a failure to provide a
17 written notice to the Division for illegal activity
18 that fell under this -- the current case you have
19 did not have any of those allegations; I'll get to
20 what that is, so that we can separate and say how
21 we dealt with some of these things -- and failing
22 to notify the Division of the surveillance system's
23 failure.

24 Then there was another warning letter that
25 there was a failure to meet the requirements of

1 cameras for clear viewing in parking areas. In
2 this there was a camera on one telephone pole, it
3 was a PTZ camera. It covered the parking lot, but
4 the other camera was down.

5 We thought it was sufficient to cover the area
6 that was needed. But we were asked by the agency
7 to make sure both were working. That was remedied
8 soon after. And then there was a failure to
9 suspend play in an area containing slot machines
10 while surveillance was down in a later case. And
11 there was also a cardroom issue with having the
12 table closed while that surveillance was down.

13 And then there was a last case on complying
14 with internal controls and maintenance of slot
15 entry log. Now, all of those things, even though
16 they deal with the same rule area, are actually
17 separate elements. There are different parts that
18 now I'm going into it.

19 The current case that you have that's
20 different than those, there was an audible alarm
21 system failure. So the notification did go to the
22 regulator as was required, but the audible alarm
23 did not go off in the facility. So Mr. Licciardi
24 will discuss that a little bit with you.

25 And we had some failures on the media storage

1 system as far as giving some backup as far as the
2 data goes. So although this looks like it might be
3 several of the same element, it really is separate
4 parts of the same rule that kind of triggered some
5 of what we have before us.

6 So, Mr. Licciardi, if you'd be kind enough to
7 talk about this. Thank you, sir.

8 MR. LICCIARDI: Thank you again.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Licciardi.

10 MR. LICCIARDI: Again, Dan Licciardi for
11 Casino Miami, Vice-President, General Manager. And
12 the biggest reason I asked to come out today, I
13 notice, is -- and, again, anybody from the Division
14 knows, from my history and the Commission now, we
15 don't normally challenge anything.

16 And that's not it. And so historically look
17 at the backup and the data that's on it and
18 normally say, hey, we just want to correct
19 everything and move on. And clearly in my history
20 of everything, it is to make it better and ensure
21 it doesn't happen again.

22 Well, part of the issue over the years is that
23 you take a long time to reach your desk and get in
24 front of it. If there's something wrong, we want
25 to correct it immediately. Clearly everything

1 that's good for us is good for the customers is
2 good for the business.

3 Here we're talking about 18 cameras that
4 didn't record out of my 500-plus cameras, but
5 they're available for live view. We had one camera
6 that was on the poker room table that my Director
7 of Surveillance called the poker room and said
8 please exclude that area, don't use it, we don't
9 have coverage.

10 We had security in the areas with the coverage
11 of the 18 cameras, but we had duplicate coverage
12 for other cameras. My point on all of these is we
13 agree that the cameras failed. It's listed as a
14 server failure. We didn't have a server failure.
15 We have great servers like everybody has.

16 You know, we have five servers. We have 12
17 hard disks on each server. We have 60 hard drives
18 actually backing these up. We had a catastrophic
19 failure on one of them where three of the hard
20 drives went down. That stopped it from sending
21 notification. So clearly it wasn't.

22 I'm personally not allowed to go into the
23 surveillance room by rules. So I can't go see it.
24 We have a company that deals with it. Five hours
25 later they're able to put in spare parts. One of

1 the spare parts was shaky. But at least it got us
2 until we were able to purchase the new parts, and
3 we haven't had any problem with them since.

4 So on the overarching one is just to say
5 clearly we continually upgrade the equipment. Just
6 before this happened and during COVID we replaced
7 265 PTZs to ensure we had their latest technology.
8 We upgraded the software. Some of these instances
9 happened.

10 They're usually -- and, again, pretty much
11 everything in the building crosses my desk. I sign
12 every invoice. I'm the one who contracts with the
13 companies to come in and do this. So I really work
14 hard to ensure that we stay compliant with
15 everything that happens.

16 Subsequent to that time when this happened,
17 which was August of '24, we had replaced all the
18 servers just because the underlying Windows
19 licenses no longer work and can't be upgraded. So,
20 you know, we spent another \$220,000 for new
21 servers, new software, everything is up to date.

22 That was just completed again last week after
23 six months. By the way, my 265 PTZs took six
24 months to put in, as you replace them one at a time
25 to ensure we continue coverage. So if there are

1 individual questions, I'm glad to answer them. But
2 I just wanted to make sure, from an understanding
3 level, is that we try really hard to stay on top.

4 With that many individual items, the --
5 Mr. Zachem has referenced two cameras on poles
6 outside were hit by lightning. We have to rent a
7 lift for the team to go out and replace it, have to
8 buy the camera, do whatever else it takes, three or
9 four days.

10 As soon as it goes, everything is in
11 compliance as it is with everywhere else. We added
12 additional security on a previous one. We did put
13 security on the floor at the areas that were out
14 there to ensure that we are monitoring everything
15 that's on it.

16 They're dynamic situations. I live very close
17 to the facility. Anytime that this happens, I come
18 in and direct everything myself. So nothing is
19 ever left to chance. It just doesn't happen. So I
20 just wanted to make sure you understood that.

21 And if you have questions, I'd be glad to
22 answer them, because I'm technically aware of each
23 of the things that did happen over the years.

24 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Thank you for coming
25 and presenting this. It is helpful and it provides

1 a lot of context. And I believe you also
2 self-reported --

3 MR. LICCIARDI: Yes.

4 CHAIR BROWN: -- which is a part of what the
5 collaborative effort is that we have here,
6 you know, as partners.

7 Commissioners, are there any questions or
8 comments?

9 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: This is the one that
10 had the contingency that they also have to update
11 their planning; is that accurate?

12 CHAIR BROWN: I think that's --

13 MR. LICCIARDI: As noted. I just explained
14 everything. It's been completely renovated.

15 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Right. But I think we
16 asked for some additional information on paper of
17 all of the updates over years. Is that something
18 that you'd be willing to do?

19 MR. LICCIARDI: Certainly. And we've actually
20 sent it to the Division every time, because we need
21 your approval to go in and access the surveillance
22 room. So there are actually records. But if you'd
23 like me to compile them into a complete listing,
24 I'd be glad to.

25 But every time that we need to access or the

1 technicians need to go in and operate it again, we
2 can't go in and do it. But we request and notify
3 the Commission, the Division we're actually
4 proceeding into the surveillance room and what's
5 being done.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I think Commissioner
7 Cuderman makes a good point. Having something in
8 writing would be helpful for us.

9 Any other questions or comments?

10 Thank you for your presentation.

11 MR. LICCIARDI: Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR BROWN: Appreciate it.

13 Mr. Zachem.

14 MR. ZACHEM: Just briefly, I want to thank
15 your investigators for working with us on all of
16 these cases previously. What normally happens in
17 these is they communicate with us, convey that
18 there's an issue, so that way compliance can happen
19 faster.

20 Even though a case might look like it's months
21 or in some cases even further old, the compliance
22 that's happening -- not just with our facility, but
23 all of the facilities -- as soon as they hear
24 there's an issue, your investigative team does an
25 amazing job to end up communicating with us and

1 make sure that that compliance can happen right
2 away. I just wanted to thank them on the record.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Yes, they do.

4 Thank you. All right. We are under Public
5 Comment right now. We have -- you want to come
6 back up now, or do you want to wait? We have
7 someone else.

8 MR. ZACHEM: That's fine. Take somebody else.

9 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Patrick Bland.

10 Thank you, Mr. Bland, for coming.

11 MR. BLAND: Good morning, everybody. Patrick
12 Bland, I represent Acres. So I'm no longer a
13 longtime listener, a first-time caller. This is,
14 I think it's my third time getting up at this
15 meeting to say we love Florida.

16 Florida is a very important regulatory
17 jurisdiction for us as, you know, kind of a new
18 vendor in the state. So it's been great working
19 with Bill and Dennis and your team. And, you know,
20 looking forward to the workshop this afternoon. So
21 thank you.

22 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Appreciate that.

23 Okay. Mr. Zachem.

24 MR. ZACHEM: Again, Jon Zachem, for the
25 record. Briefly in your closed session -- we've

1 already discussed the Casino Miami case. So I
2 won't go through that again. I'm sure you-all have
3 all the answers that you were looking for.

4 Briefly, you have an offer from PPI, my
5 client, where we have offered a resolution to the
6 case. We have supplied information to you-all.
7 I think it's been for the last year and a half that
8 we have supplied information to you-all.

9 We did have a little bit of a request; and,
10 hopefully, you've had a chance to take a look at
11 the letter that I submitted. We would really
12 appreciate working with you on, hopefully, getting
13 some ideas from those; so that we can make sure
14 that none of this ends up being an issue down the
15 road.

16 And if you have any questions about that
17 letter, I'd be more than happy to try and answer
18 it. But those are some of the areas that we're
19 hoping to work towards with the Commission.

20 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We do have that
21 April 28th letter.

22 MR. ZACHEM: Yes.

23 CHAIR BROWN: Any further questions?

24 Thank you.

25 MR. ZACHEM: Thank you.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Please come on up. State your
2 name for the record.

3 MR. HARINTON: Yes, ma'am. Good afternoon.
4 My name is Adam Harinton, IGT, former Legacy
5 Everi. I'm just following up to find out what the
6 status is kind of to Patrick's point. I've talked
7 to some of the operators here. I've been an
8 operator in the market down here, but also on the
9 sales piece.

10 I'm just trying to find out -- I know we did
11 quite a few cashless workshops. I'm trying to find
12 out where that lies. I think we're losing traction
13 in the state from the pari-mutuel perspective.
14 I think there's a lot of cashless opportunities out
15 there.

16 I think that they've proven out that from our
17 standpoint, our techs that -- I know Patrick with
18 his techs -- that cashless is a very secure
19 transaction method. It's actually more secure than
20 cash. And there's a lot of mechanisms where
21 responsible gaming, operational efficiency,
22 security is at the forefront when you introduce
23 cashless into these environments.

24 With our pari-mutuel partners that we have,
25 I think that their limitations and stranglehold,

1 I'll call it, on the cashless environment is
2 challenging to them. I think it restricts and it
3 puts them at a competitive disadvantage in some
4 degrees.

5 And just to enumerate, when you go to
6 entertainment facilities in the near area, whether
7 it be Formula One or whether or it be a hockey game
8 or whether it be a baseball game or competitors,
9 that they're fighting for the same dollars.
10 I mean, we're paying \$4.50 for gas right now. So
11 everybody is fighting for the same dollar.

12 When you're fighting for that dollar, and
13 somebody has the operational efficiency where they
14 don't have to bring cash on a property and they
15 have those different arenas, one thing we're seeing
16 now at IGT with Everi is there's no perfect
17 construct for any gaming patron.

18 Gaming patrons like, some people like this
19 avenue, some people like to function an ATM, some
20 people like to function in cashless, some people
21 like Wallet, some people like digital. I think
22 with the landscape that is present today in the
23 casino marketplace, I think cashless has to be a
24 very top priority as we move into later 2026 and
25 early 2027.

1 So that's what I'm here for. Thank you to all
2 my customers. Thank you to all the operators. And
3 thank you to you guys.

4 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And just a second.
5 Any questions?

6 I will defer to staff right now to give you an
7 update. But you're 100 percent right. It is the
8 future. And I think we all kind of expected that
9 sentiment.

10 Miss Valentine.

11 MS. VALENTINE: Thank you, Commissioner. With
12 respect to the cashless rules, they are still in
13 development. About a year ago we provided some
14 language for consideration for the industry. We
15 received a lot of good input.

16 Currently we are focusing on allowing the
17 transfer of jackpot winnings to credit meter. And
18 also, we have amended our rules to increase the
19 jackpot limit from 1,200 to 2,000. That would
20 require hand pay. And so we're hopeful that these
21 two changes will provide some advancement of our
22 rules and some more flexibility for facilities.

23 But we're certainly still working on the
24 cashless rules. It is a complex area of law. And
25 so if the Commissioners direct us to reenter into

1 rule development for cashless, we can certainly do
2 that.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

4 MR. HARINTON: Thank you. Last point.
5 Appreciate that commentary, Miss Valentine.
6 I appreciate the guidance on that.

7 One thing I will tell you is one of the things
8 we've seen in quarter one just from an
9 informational standpoint is, in the Las Vegas
10 market, there is a technology out there that is
11 live and present in production today where you can
12 go unrated cashless transaction directly to credit
13 meter via mobile device.

14 So it's, essentially, what your rules, what
15 the rules state today, no credit card through a
16 machine. So you're like circumventing that rule.
17 And that is in production today. It's called
18 BeOn Pay2Game.

19 So you have the technology that has the
20 ability to go directly from a mobile device credit
21 funding mechanism, debit funding, PayPal funding
22 mechanism into a slot machine to a credit meter.
23 So that technology at the forefront in there. So
24 thank you for your time and look forward to hearing
25 more.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there anybody
2 else from the public that would like to present?

3 Yes, sir. Please go on up on.

4 MR. CALABRO: Steve Calabro from Hialeah Park.
5 I just want to add to this cashless conversation.
6 And there's three topics. One is the -- the first
7 thing being brought up was the \$2,000 threshold.
8 That was a federal law. We all complied. And it
9 certainly has helped in our business.

10 But that's really, that doesn't give us any
11 kind of competitive advantage to try and pass that
12 too. So I want to be a little more specific. We
13 compete with the Seminole Tribe. And it's real
14 tough, because they have about 10 or 20 things that
15 we can't have.

16 But what we can have is we can have cashless.
17 They've had cashless for, I don't know, like
18 somewhere around four or five years. So they're
19 already ahead of us. They use -- like Adam said,
20 there's about a 30 percent usage. So some
21 customers will use the cashless, some will use the
22 ATM, some will use other things. We just need to
23 sort of get an answer on that.

24 And my belief is that the Wallet is the
25 perfect scenario. It's not a credit card at the

1 slot machine. It's a credit card that has been
2 downloaded to the Wallet just like the Seminole
3 sports app.

4 I have the Seminole sports app on my phone.
5 You know, if I'm watching a game, whether I'm in a
6 casino or in my living room, you do that. So the
7 Wallet is exactly the answer. And we need to get
8 an answer to cashless.

9 The other thing was, I guess, key to credit.
10 That's kind of a no-brainer. The law doesn't
11 really forbid anything. Key to credit has been in
12 use for about five-plus years maybe, maybe even
13 approaching 10 years at Hard Rock. And we're going
14 to talk about that at the workshop.

15 So, I guess, in summation, to compete in this
16 market, if we had cashless would be super good. I
17 love the fact that you said it's the future. But,
18 you know, it's been about two years. So at this
19 point we need to sort of kind of push it across the
20 finish line.

21 And in terms of key to credit, I'm glad to
22 hear that that came about. That one is a lot less
23 complicated, almost a no-brainer, to be honest with
24 you. So I just wanted to talk about that as it
25 stands from Hialeah Park.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Absolutely. Thank you.

2 Commissioners, do you have any comments or
3 questions? Looking forward to the workshop.

4 MR. CALABRO: All right. Thank you.

5 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there anybody
6 else from the public that would like to address us?
7 You are more than welcome to.

8 We do have a closed attorney-client session
9 coming up. So what we'll do, we have to do this
10 little speech for the record. So I'm going to turn
11 it over to Miss Valentine. And then we will
12 briefly break and conduct our closed attorney
13 session, and then we'll open it back up.

14 MS. VALENTINE: The Office of the General
15 Counsel is seeking litigation advice from the
16 Commissioners in litigation styled Florida Gaming
17 Control Commission, Division of Pari-Mutuel
18 Wagering versus PPI, Inc., Case Number 2024-031374;
19 and Florida Gaming Control Commission Division of
20 Pari-Mutuel Wagering versus Casino Miami, LLC,
21 Case Number 2024-056939.

22 This advice relates to litigation strategy and
23 settlement negotiations and may, therefore, be
24 discussed in private under Section 16.716, and
25 286.11, Subsection 8, Florida Statutes.

1 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And in connection
2 with the performance of our regulatory duties, it
3 is necessary for the Commission to hear information
4 that is exempt or confidential. Specifically, our
5 Commission counsel will be discussing litigation
6 strategy and settlement negotiations with the
7 Commissioners related to the aforementioned cases.

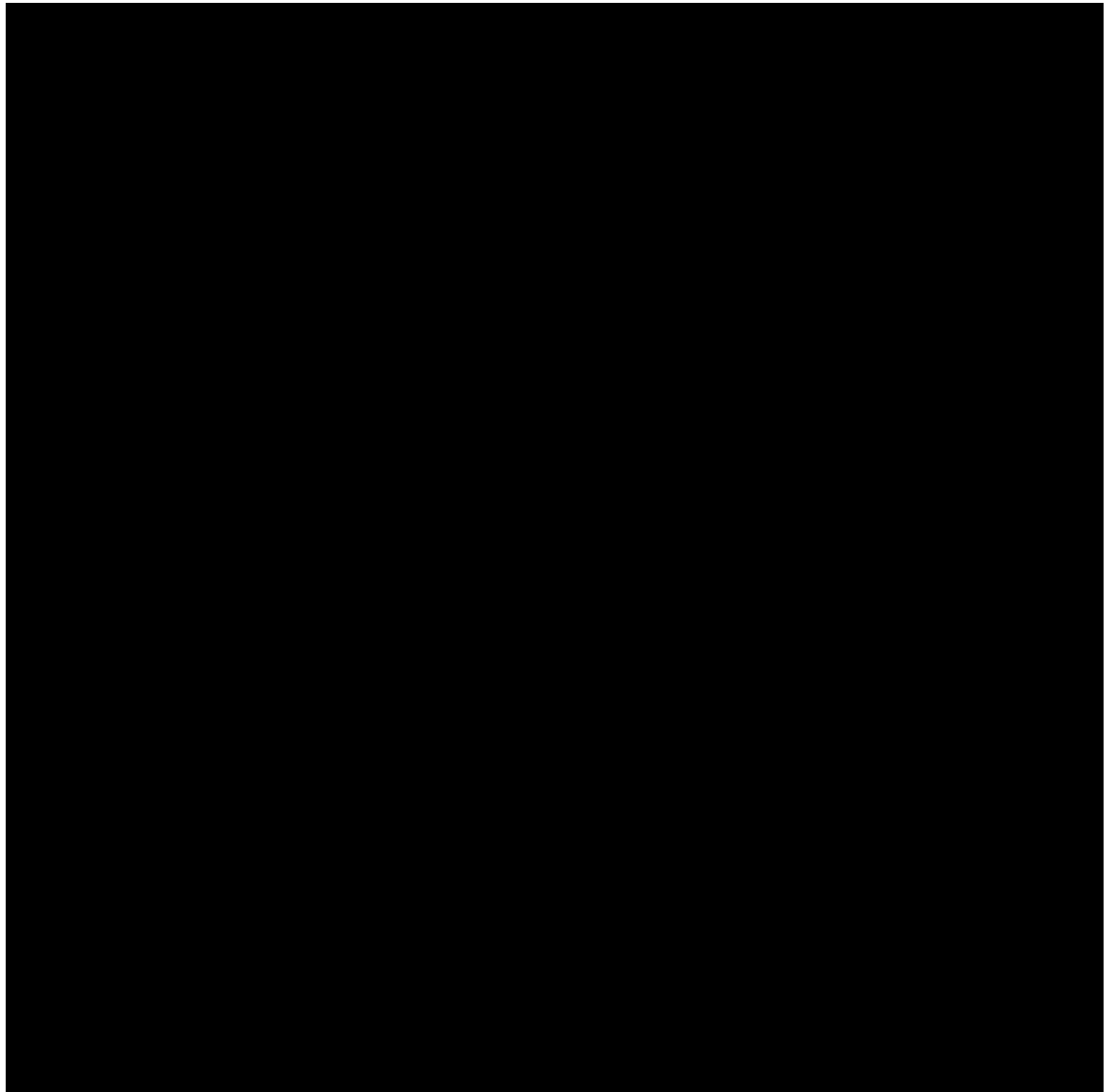
8 The closed meeting session is scheduled for
9 approximately 30 minutes. I do recognize that we
10 have a 1:30 workshop. So we'll try to comply with
11 that.

12 Those that will be in attendance are
13 Commission members; myself, Chair Julie Brown, Vice
14 Chair Tina Repp, Commissioner John D'Aquila,
15 Commissioner Peter Cuderman, and Commissioner
16 William Spicola; Commission staff, Executive
17 Director Alana Zimmer; General Counsel Elina
18 Valentine; Director of PMW Joe Dillmore; Director
19 of Admin Lisa Mustain; Deputy General Counsel Marc
20 Taupier; Law Enforcement Advisor Adam Patton; and
21 Senior Attorneys Shireen Anbardan, Justin
22 Hundersmarck, and Carmine Pisano; Business Manager
23 Dixie Parker; Administrative Assistant Brandy
24 Humphries; and our certified court reporter; and
25 Emily Alvarado and Brandon McCaffery.

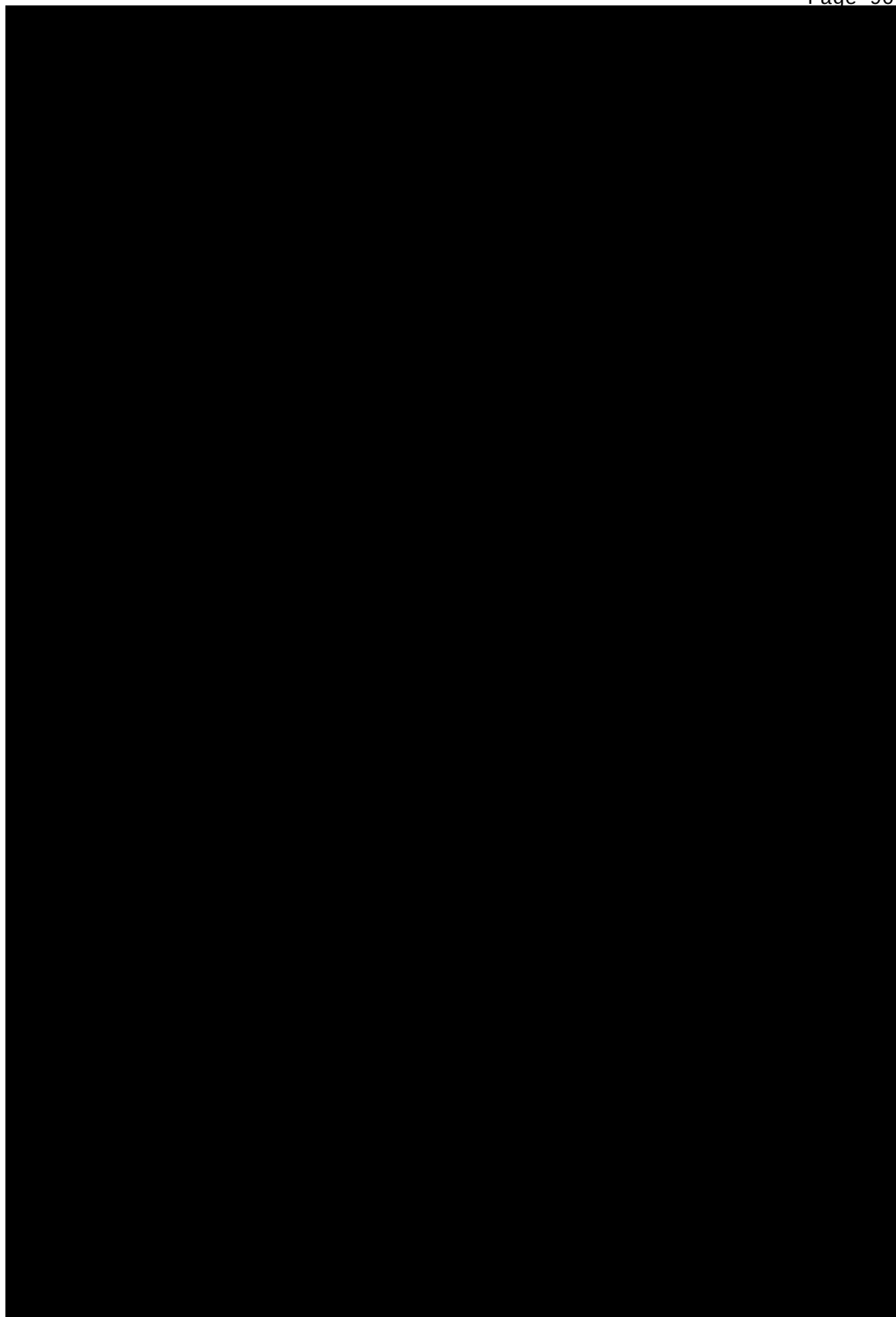
1 The closed meeting will be recorded as
2 required by law. For the record, the time is now
3 11:05. And, again, we'll be just concluded for
4 30 minutes, and we'll welcome you-all back in after
5 that. Thank you.

6 (Thereupon, a recess was taken from
7 11:05 a.m. until 11:23 a.m., after which the Closed
8 Attorney-Client Session proceedings were held:)

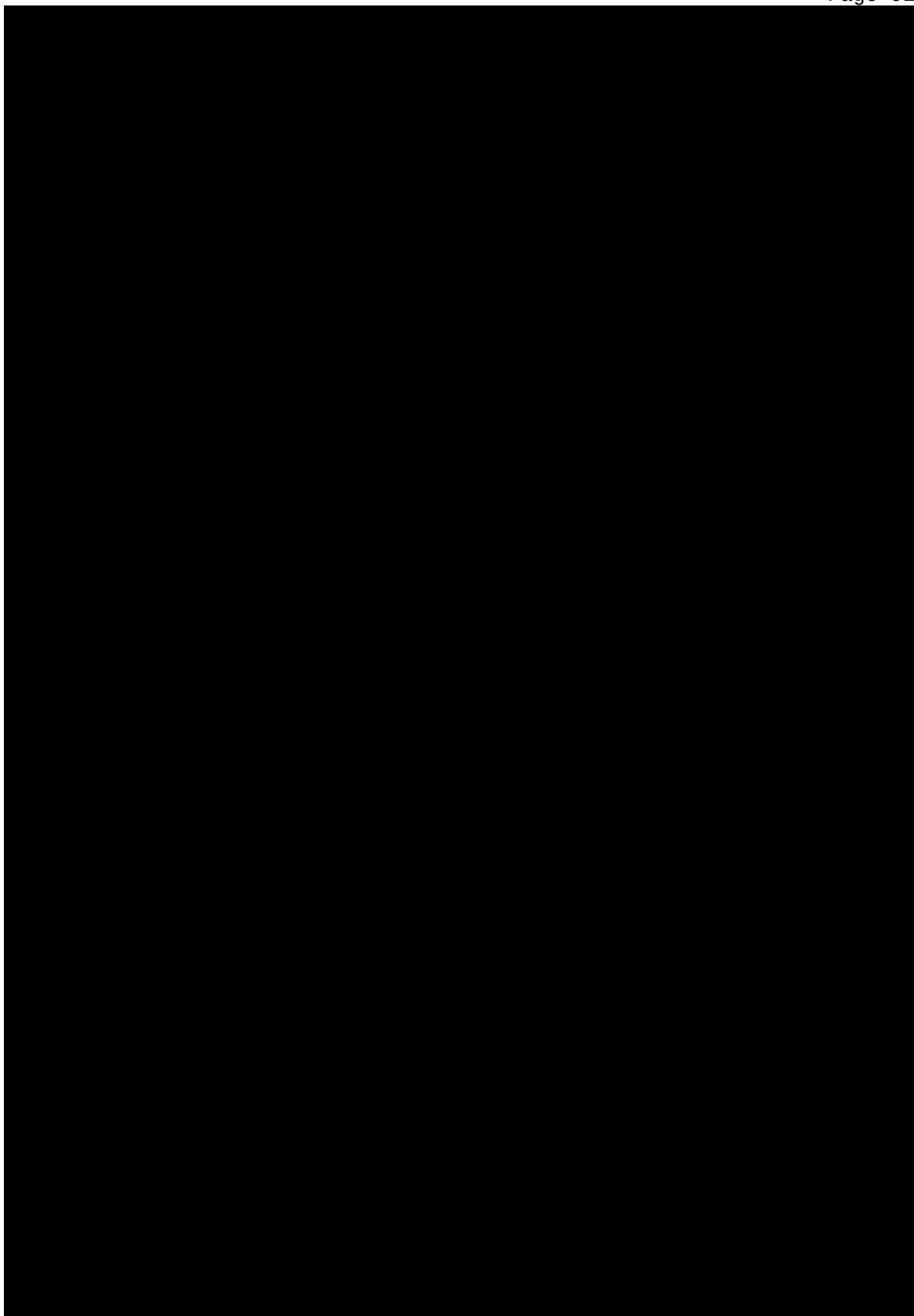
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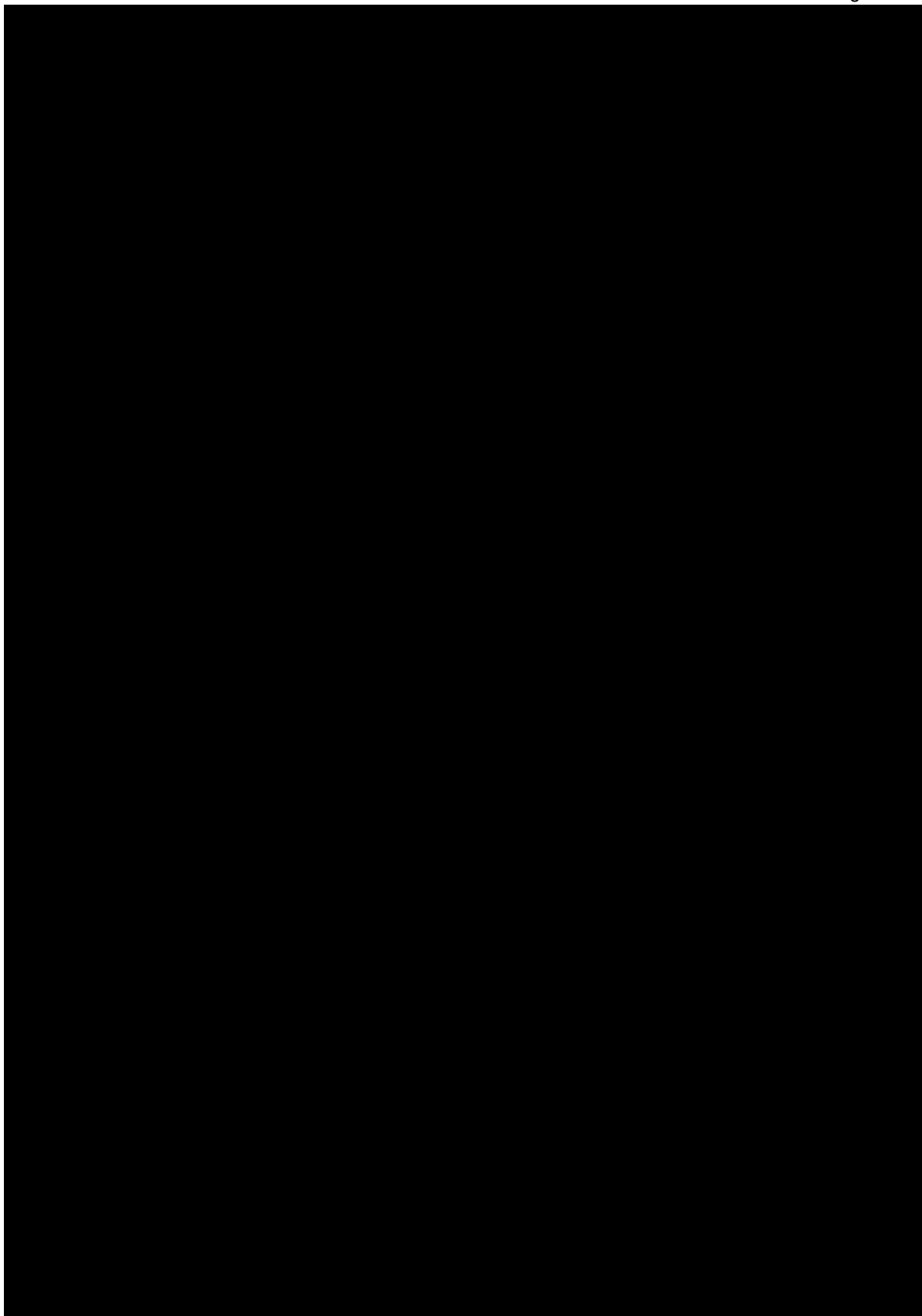
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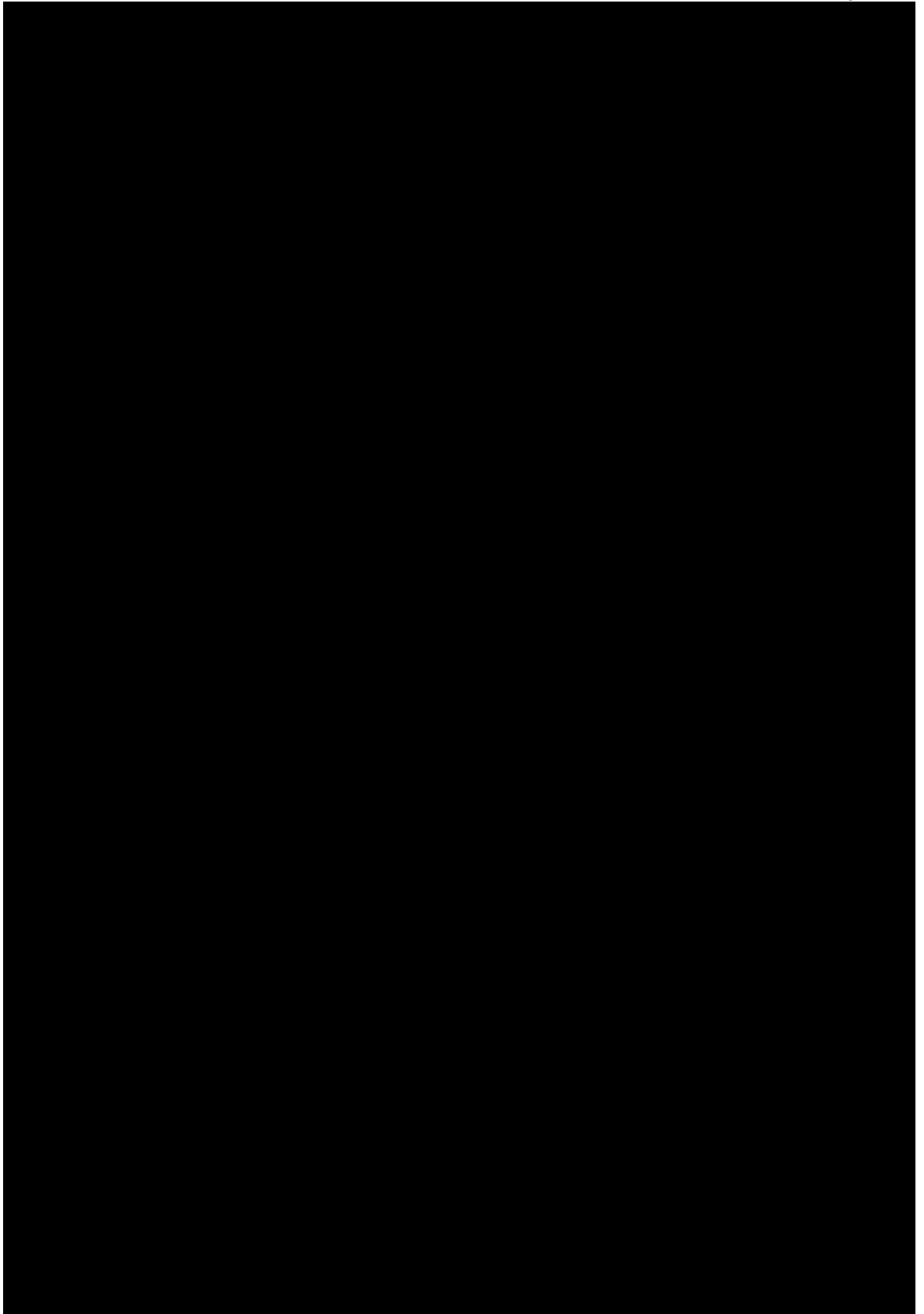
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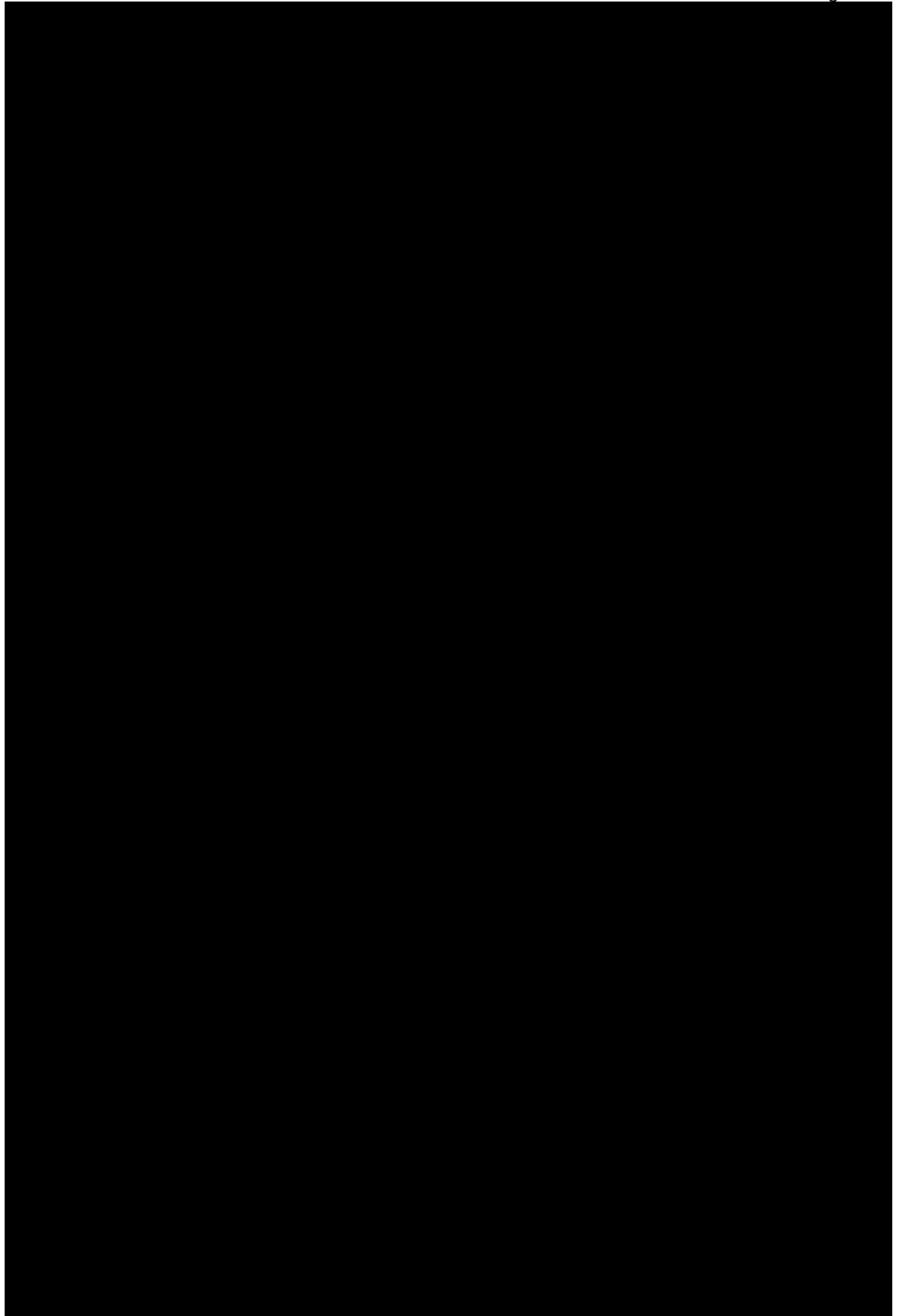
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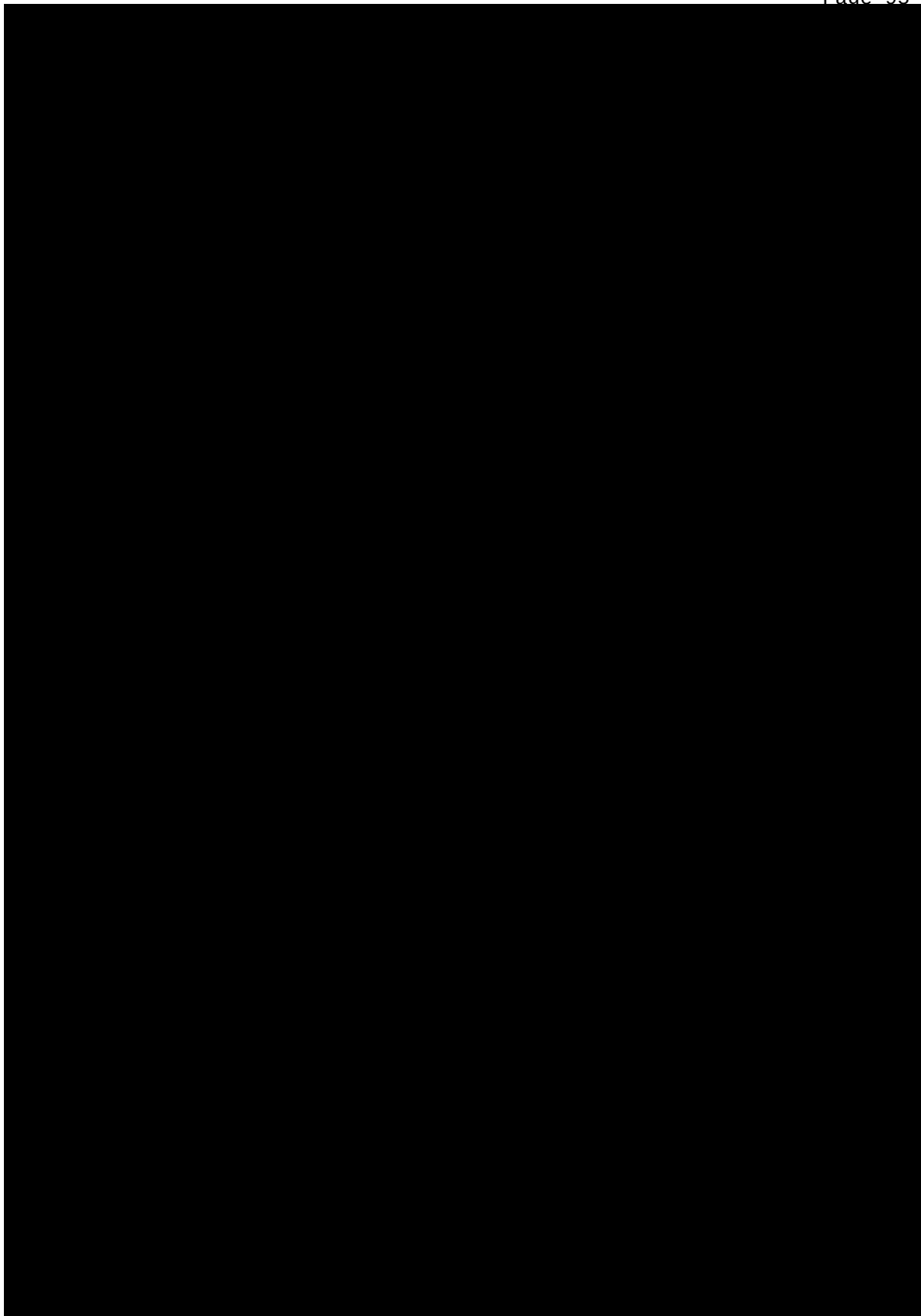
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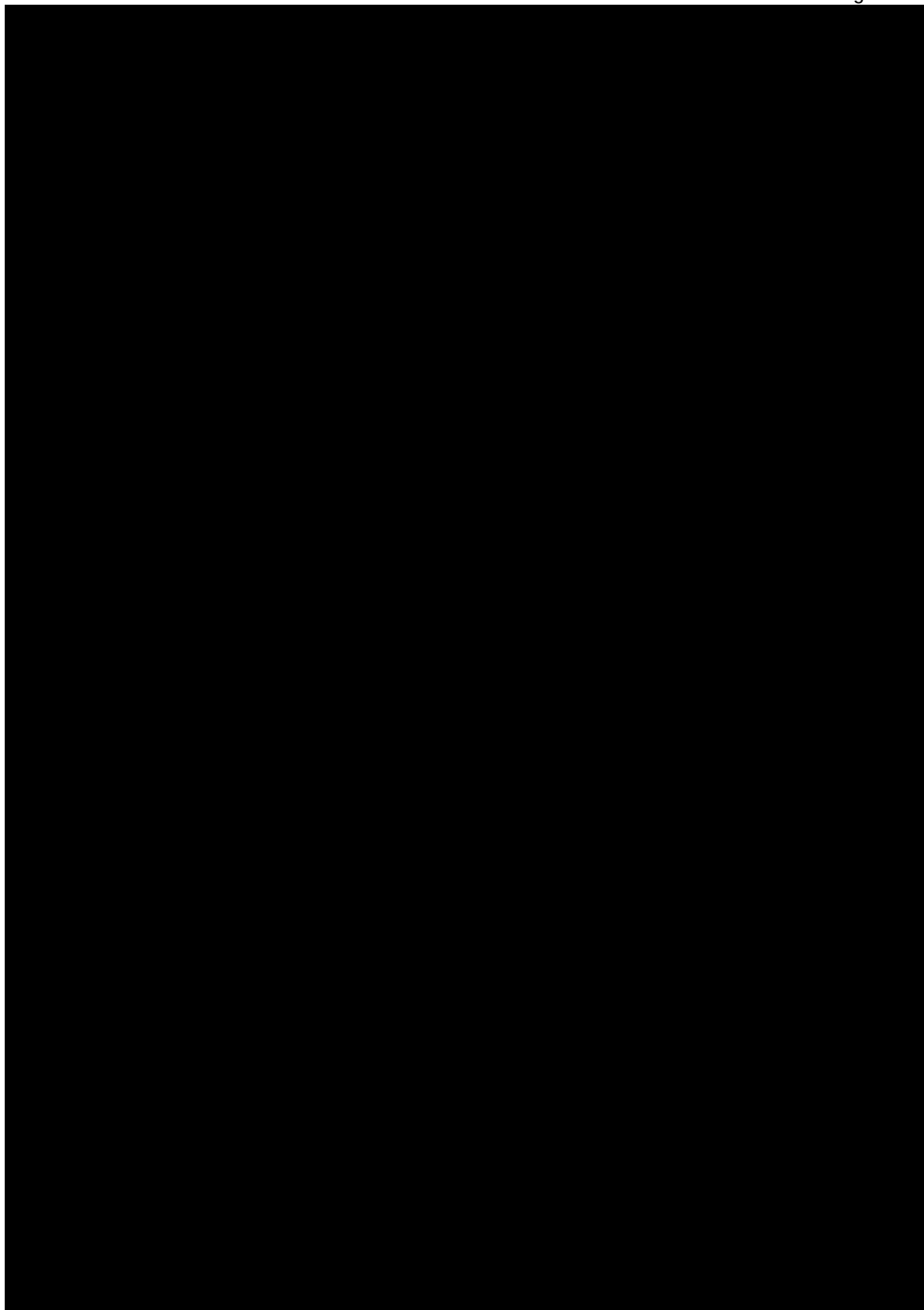
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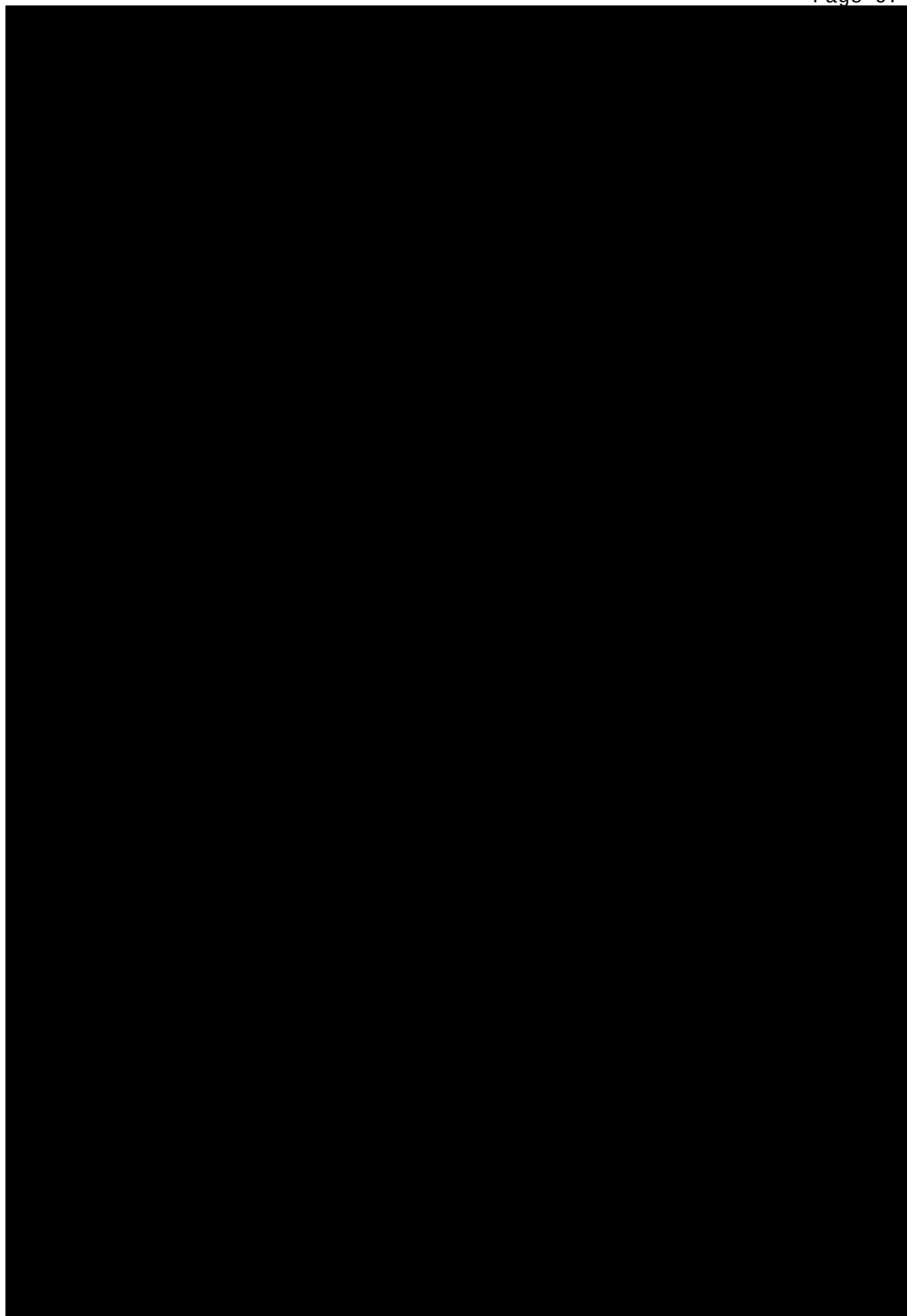
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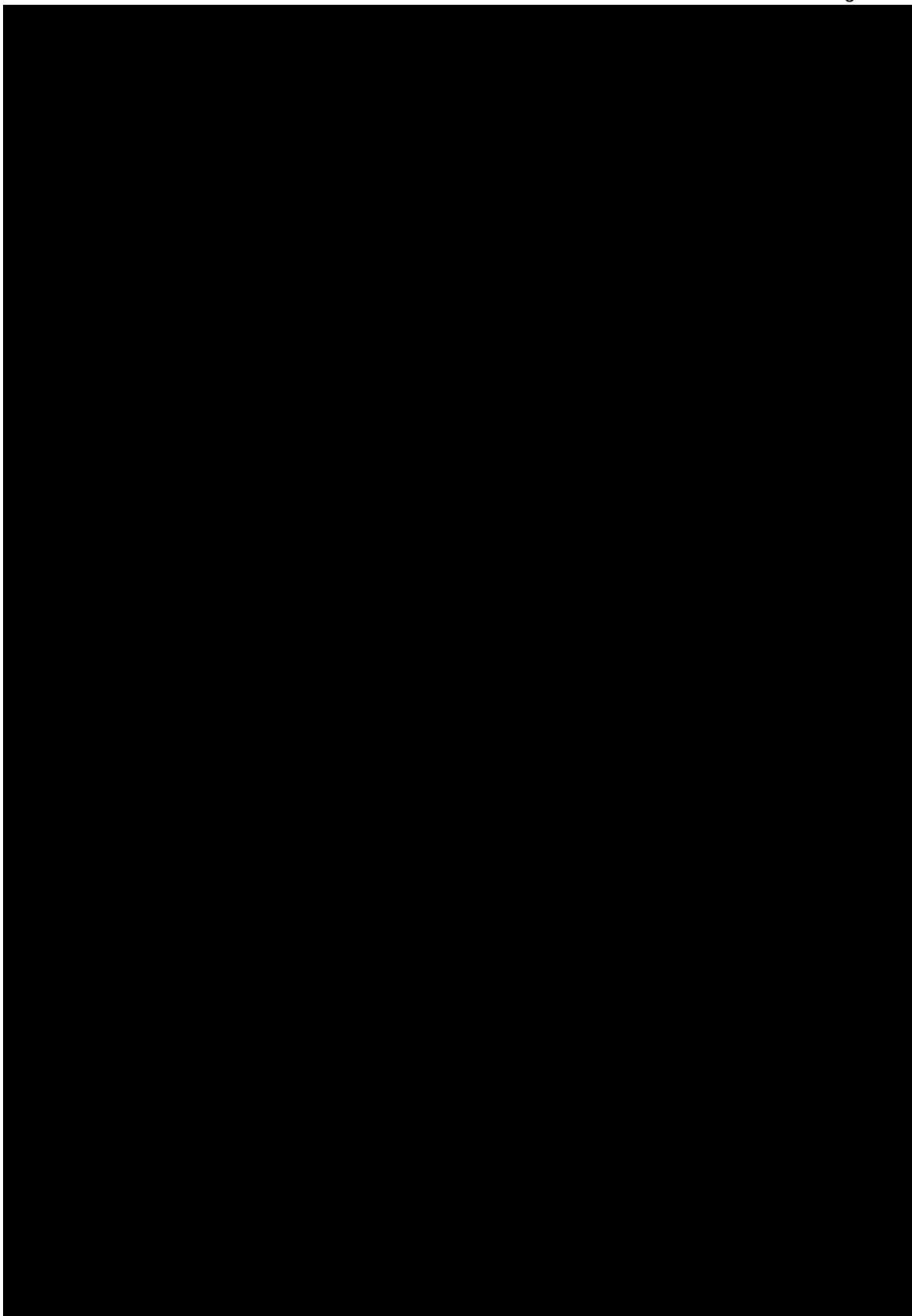
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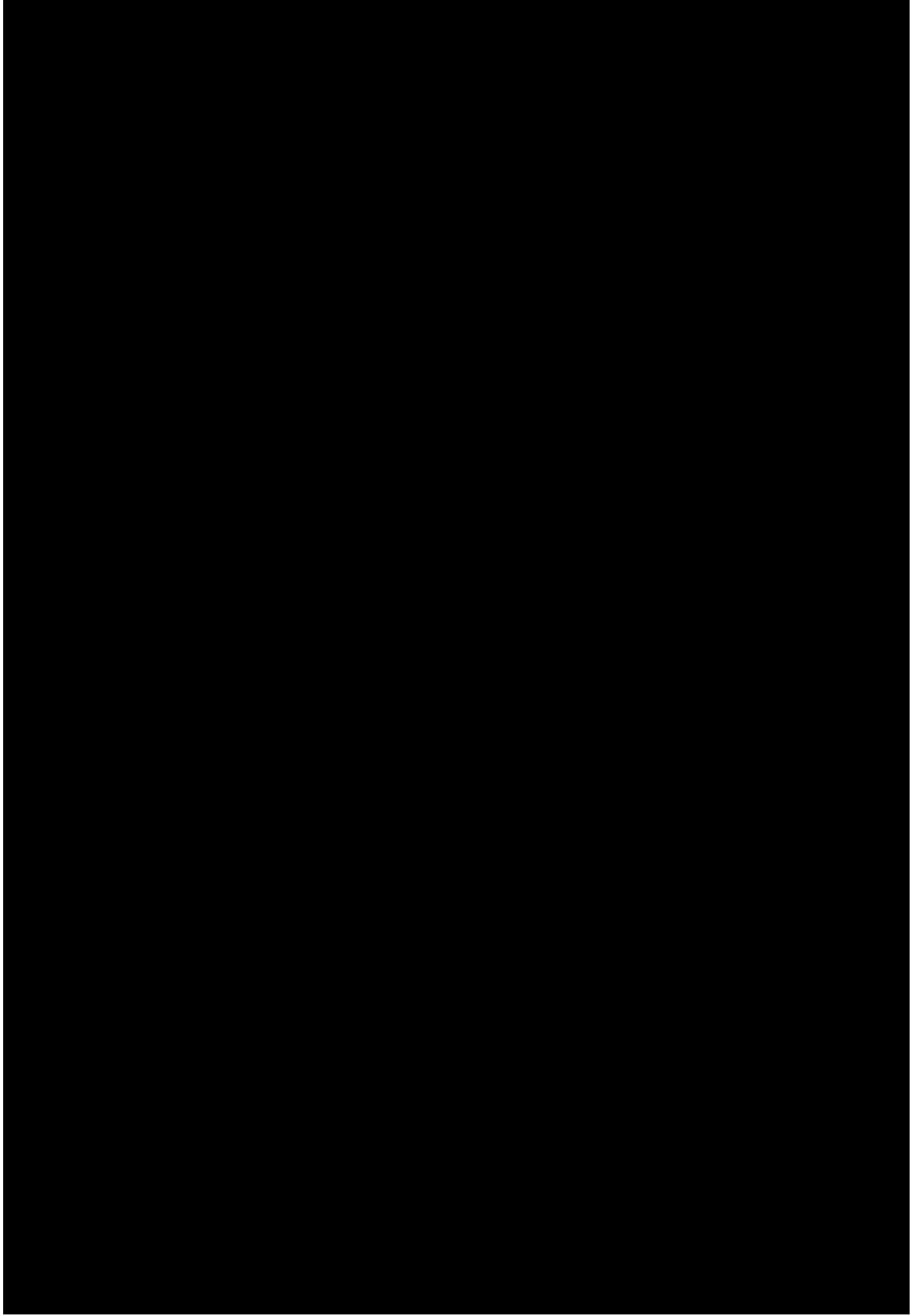
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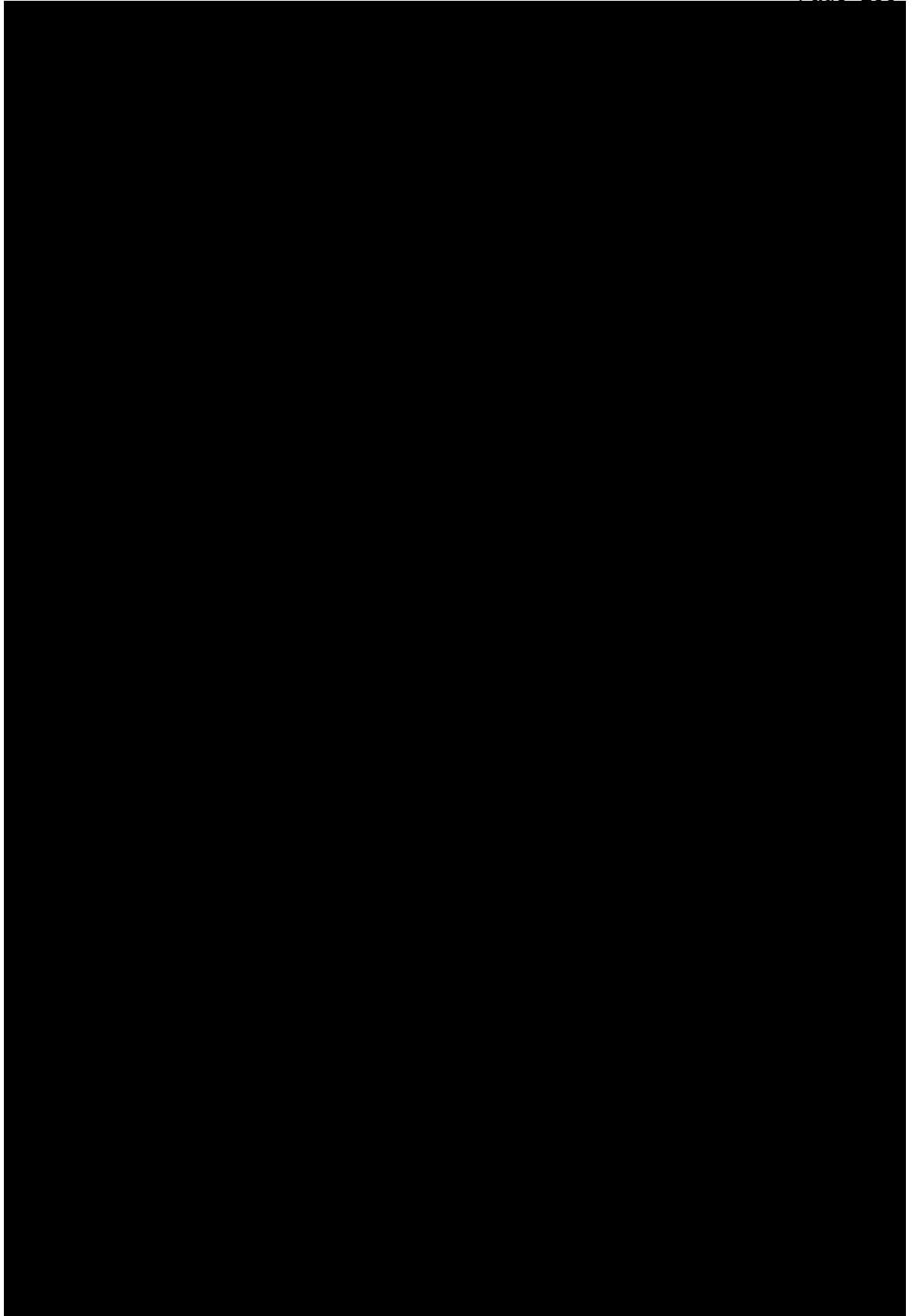
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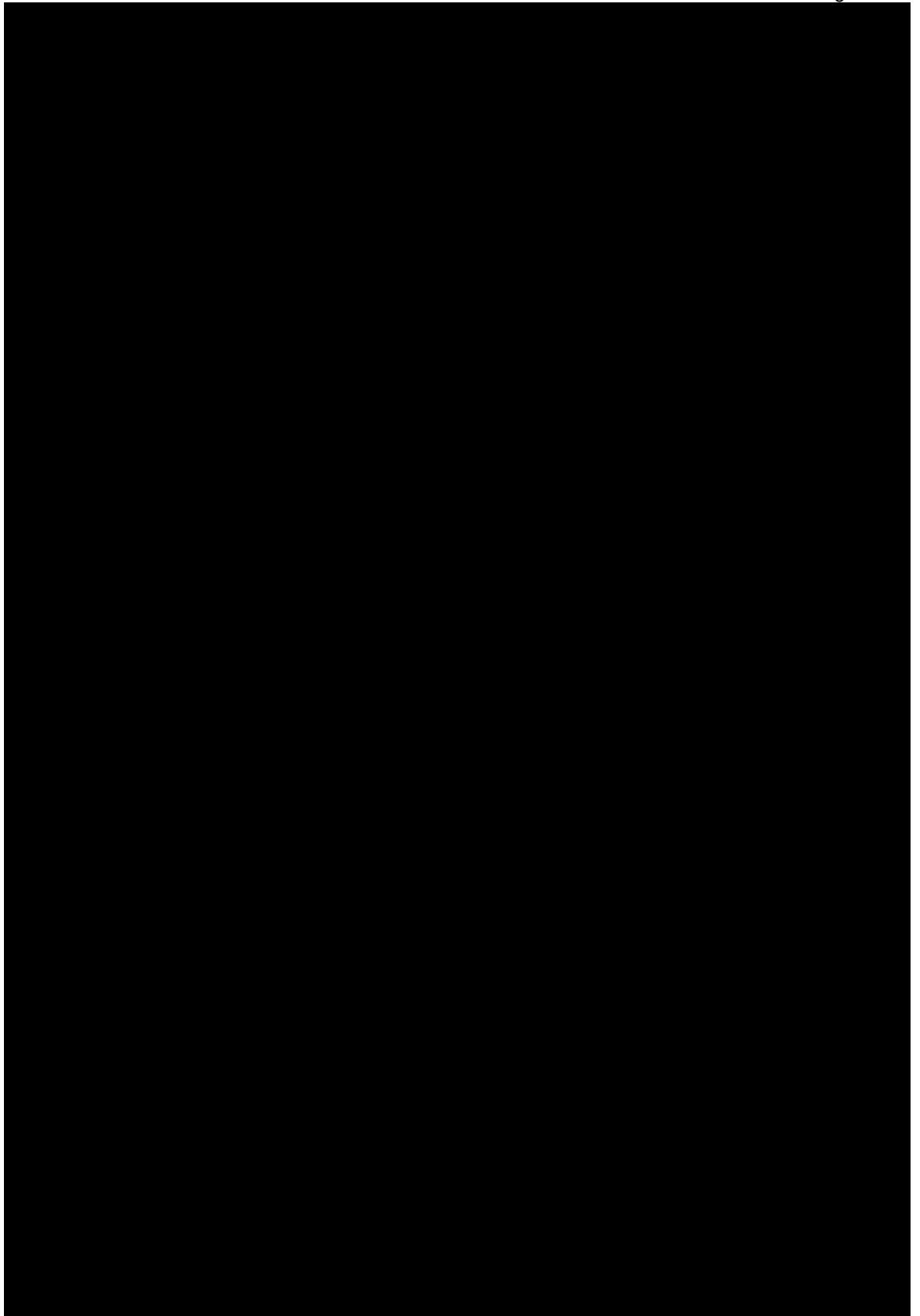
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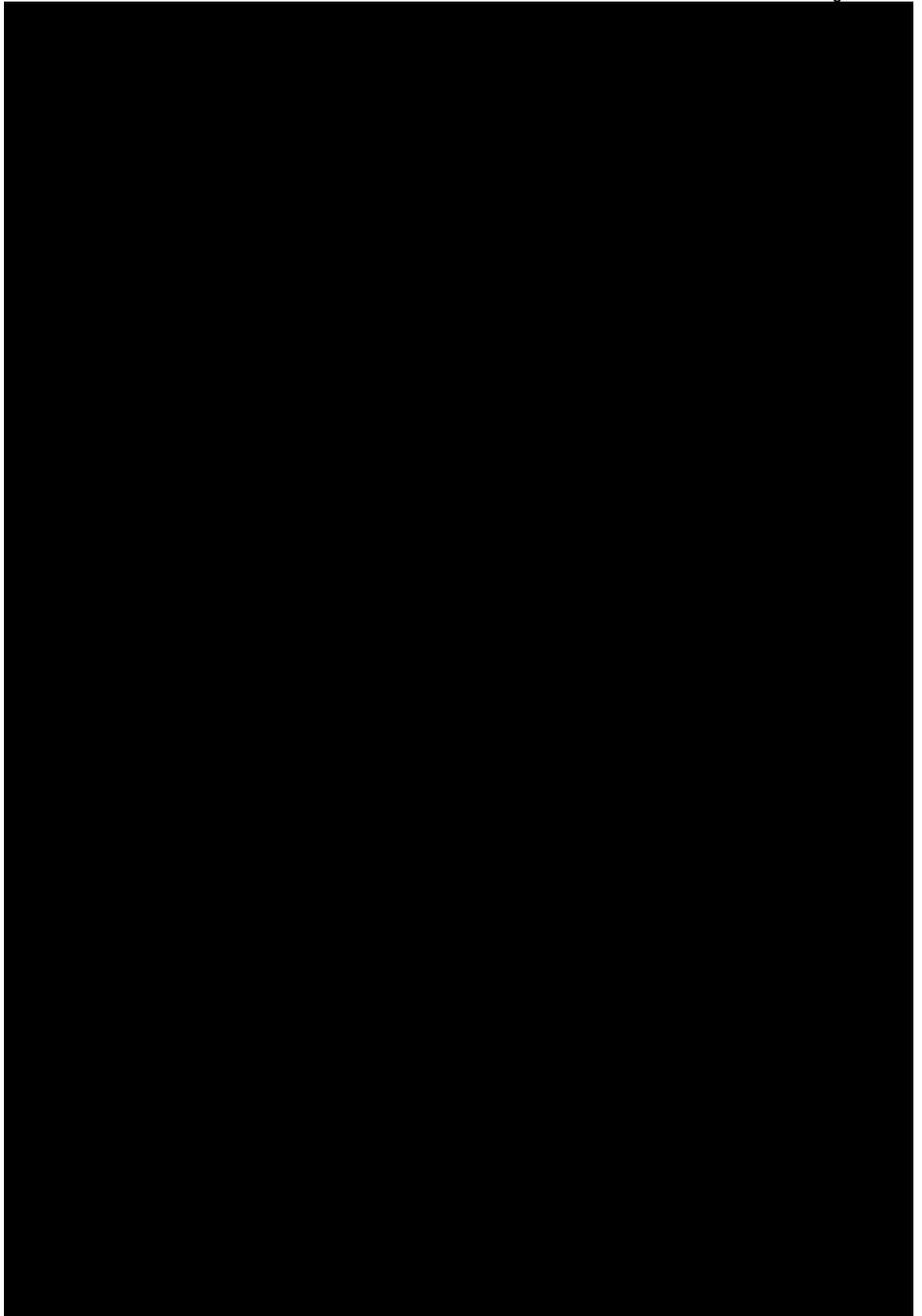
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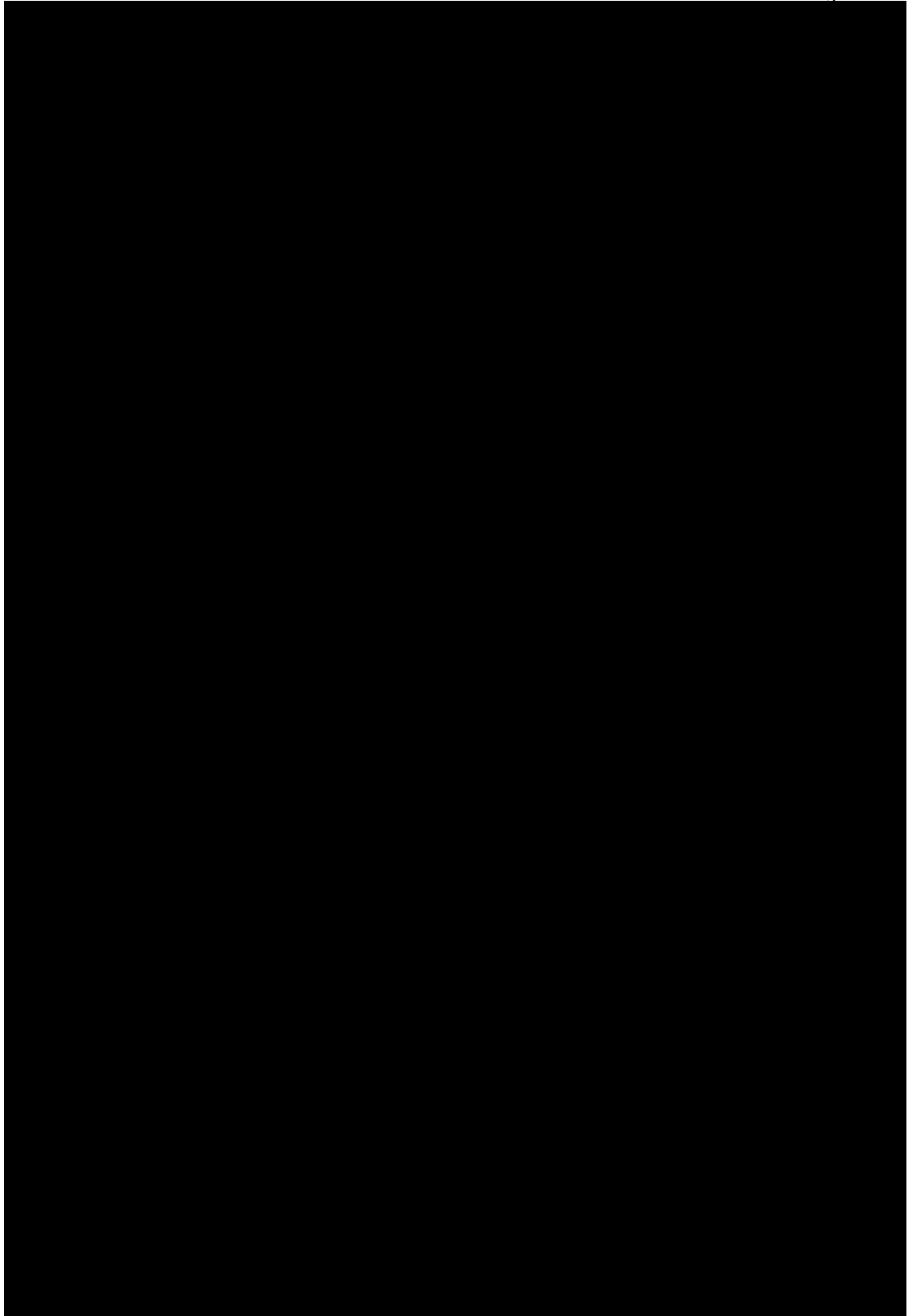
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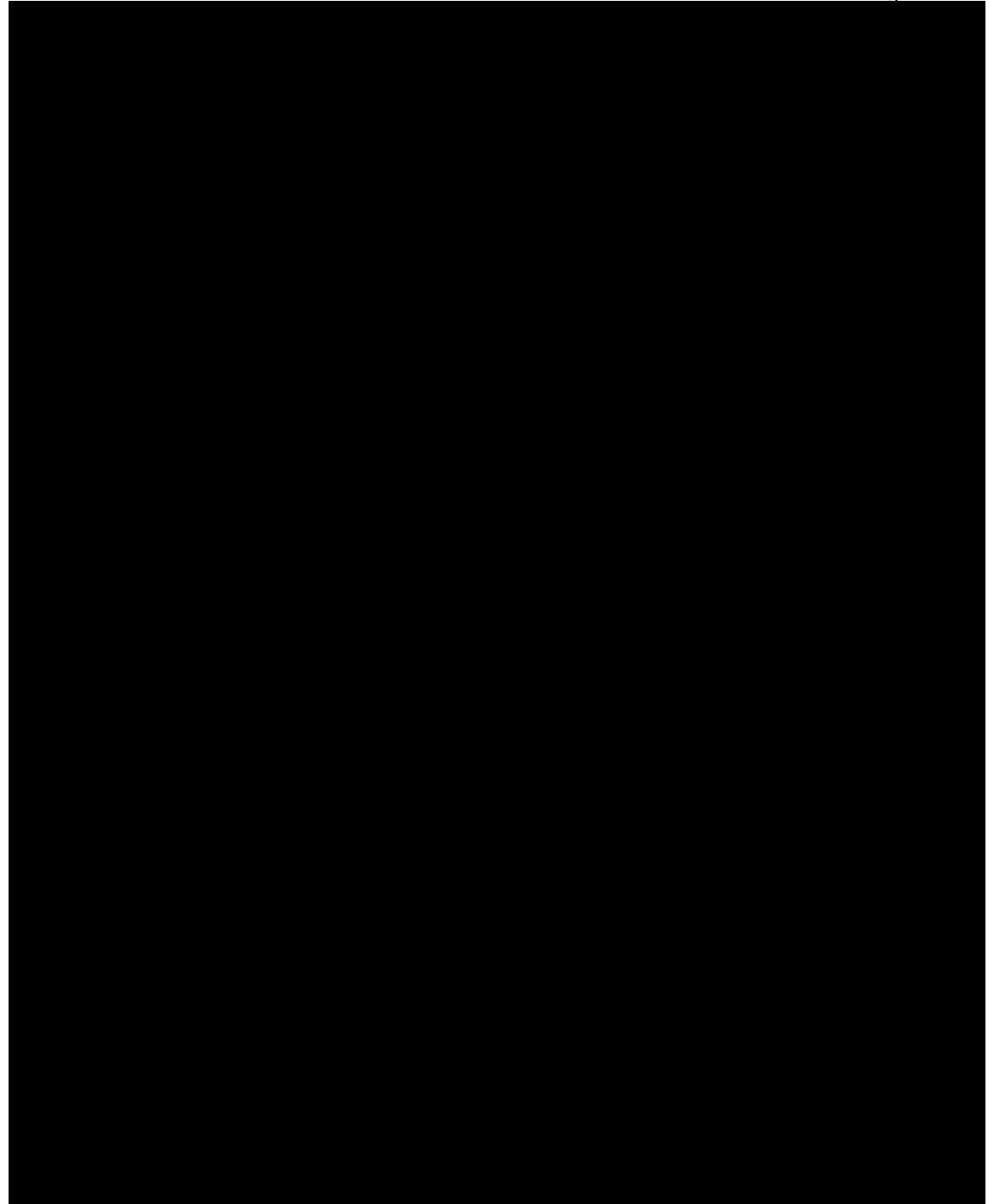
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(Thereupon, Closed Attorney-Client Session
concluded, a recess was taken from 11:43 a.m. until
11:47 a.m., after which the following proceedings were
held:)

1 CHAIR BROWN: Good morning again. The time is
2 now 11:47 a.m. and the closed meeting is
3 terminated, and the public meeting is reopened
4 right now.

5 Commissioners, we are addressing Items 15.1
6 and 15.2. Can I please get a motion on 15.1.

7 Vice Chair Repp.

8 VICE CHAIR REPP: I'd like a motion to reject
9 the settlement offer and give staff authority to
10 refuse all further settlement offers. We'll also
11 give PPI, the Respondent here, until two weeks,
12 until the 15th of this month to accept the
13 settlement offer. If it is not accepted by the
14 15th, we will give authority to staff to proceed
15 with litigation on this.

16 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Second.

17 CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Is there any discussion?
18 Seeing none, all those in favor say "aye".

19 (Aye responses.)

20 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Vice Chair Repp.

21 Now we're moving on to 15.2. Can I get a
22 motion on that?

23 COMMISSIONER CUDERMAN: Yes. I move to reject
24 settlement offer, authorize staff to offer the
25 settlement for \$10,000 with the innovation plan by

1 May 15th. If there is no response or the offer is
2 declined, then proceed to litigation.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Did you include the innovation
4 plan?

5 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

6 CHAIR BROWN: Is there a second?

7 VICE CHAIR REPP: Second.

8 CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those in
9 favor say "aye".

10 (Aye responses.)

11 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Are there any other
12 matters to address?

13 MS. VALENTINE: There are not. But just to
14 clarify for Item 15.1, did Commissioners also wish
15 to direct staff that should this proceed to
16 litigation to request from the Division of
17 Administrative Hearings the opportunity to amend
18 the complaint to add a violation of the rule that
19 requires a slot machine licensee to verify each
20 individual's identification and also to impose a
21 specific penalty, and if so what the penalty will
22 be.

23 VICE CHAIR REPP: Yes. I would like to make
24 that motion as stated.

25 CHAIR BROWN: With the insertion of the

1 penalty amount.

2 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

3 CHAIR BROWN: Vice Chair Repp.

4 VICE CHAIR REPP: With the insertion of the
5 penalty amount, you want the number?

6 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

7 VICE CHAIR REPP: 50,000.

8 CHAIR BROWN: Are we clear? Is there a
9 second?

10 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

11 CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion on the motion?

12 All those in favor say "aye".

13 (Aye responses.)

14 CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for the amended
15 motion.

16 And with that, are there any other matters to
17 address, Commissioners?

18 Okay. We stand adjourned. Thank you.

19 Thank you all for attending.

20 (Thereupon, the proceedings concluded at 11:49
21 a.m.)

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REPORTER CERTIFICATE

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF BROWARD

I, THOMAS N. SEVIER, Registered Professional Reporter, Florida Professional Reporter, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

Dated this 25th day of May, 2026.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas N. Sevier". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

THOMAS N. SEVIER, RPR, FPR-C