



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY CASINO CONTROL COMMISSION June 30, 1987 - 2:00 p.m. 3131 Princeton Pike Lawrenceville, New Jersey

In Regard to the Matter of:

Joint Petition of Donald J. Trump, Resorts International, Inc. and certain Class B stockholders of Resorts International, Inc. for

approval of the sale of certain shares of Class B common stock of Resorts International, Inc. to Donald J. Trump VOLUME II

Pages 156 thru 291

B E F O R E:

WALTER N. READ - Chairman
CARL ZEITZ - Vice-Chair
W. DAVID WATERS - Commissioner
E. KENNETH BURDGE - Commissioner
VALERIE H. ARMSTRONG - Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

KAREN BIACHE - Senior Procedures Analyst
THOMAS FLYNN - Public Information Officer

On Behalf of the Commission Staff:

STEVEN INGIS - Legal



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| 1  | On Behalf of the Division of   | Gaming Enforcement:                               |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2  | MICHAEL VUKCEVICH -  | Deputy Attorney General                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | EUGENE SCHWARTZ -  | Deputy Attorney General                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4  | On Behalf of Trump's Castle A  | SSOCIATES   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6  | BRIAN SPECTOR, ESQ.  | RIBIS, McCLUSKEY, GRAHAM & DeCOTIIS               |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 9  | On Behalf of Trump Organization:   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | HARVEY FREEMAN, ESQ.   | General Counsel and Vice-                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11 |  | President of Trump Organization                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | On Behalf of Resorts International, Incorporated:  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | JOEL H. STERNS, ESQ.   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 25 |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

PAGE:

177

186

209

214

232

233

234

238

242

249

255

271

277

280

198, 229

221, 231

25

## TABLEOFCONTENTS

| 1  |         | <u>E X H I B I T S</u>   |       |
|----|---------|--|-------|
| 2  | EX. NO. | DESCRIPTION  | EVD.  |
| 3  | C-1     | Report of the License Division   | 165   |
| 4  |         | dated June 24, 1987 by Assistant Counsel Catherine Walker re:          |       |
| 5  |         | Resorts/Trump petition concerning<br>Taj Mahal Economic Impact Hearing |       |
| 6  | C-2     | Analysis of Donald J. Trump's  | 165   |
| 7  |         | Proposed Concentration of Owner-<br>ship prepared by the Financial     |       |
| 8  |         | Evaluation Unit  |       |
| 9  | J-6     | Letter dated June 25, 1987 from Secretary W. J. Patton to Vice-        | 165   |
| 10 | ·       | President George Myers, Paradise<br>Enterprises, Ltd. and attached     |       |
| 11 |         | Certificate of Approval  | 7.5   |
| 12 | J-7     | Order confirming sale of stock dated June 15, 1987 re: Estate          | 167   |
| 13 | _       | of James M. Crosby   | 3 c B |
| 14 | J-8     | Order denying motion for rehearing, reconsideration or modification    | 167   |
| 15 |         | dated June 15, 1987 re: Estate of James M. Crosby                      |       |
| 16 | D-3     | Report of the Division of Gaming                                       | 167   |
| 17 |         | Enforcement dated June 26, 1987 by Deputy Attorney General             |       |
| 18 |         | Michael Vukcevich  |       |
| 19 |         |  |       |
| 20 |         |  |       |
| 21 |         |  |       |
| 22 |         |  |       |
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(Commencing at 2:35 p.m.)

(All five Commissioners present.)

MS. BIACHE: I would like to read an opening statement.

"This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the 'Open Public Meetings Act', the New Jersey Casino Control Commission at 9:14 a.m. on June 19, 1987 hand-delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State and caused to be posted on the bulletin board located outside the Secretary of State's Office at the State House, Trenton, New Jersey and at 11:30 a.m. on June 19, 1987 mailed to the Press of Atlantic City and to the Newark Star Ledger and to the Office of the Clerk of Atlantic City a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

"Members of the press will be permitted to take photographs of today's meeting. We would ask, however, that this be done in a manner which is not disruptive of

the meeting or distracting to the Commission and which does not interfere with the public's right to observe the meeting.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you. Call the meeting to order and note the presence of all five Commissioners.

Let's start it off, if you will, today, please, with the entry of the appearance of counsel.

MR. VUKCEVICH: On behalf of the Division of Gaming Enforcement, Michael Vukcevich, Deputy Attorney General.

MR. RIBIS: On behalf of Donald Trump, Nicholas Ribis, Harvey Freeman.

MR. STERNS: On behalf of Resorts
International, Joel H. Sterns and Paul
O'Gara.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you very much.

The matter before us today, of course, concerns the petition filed on June 17th by Donald J. Trump and Resorts
International requesting a determination that Mr. Trump's association with the operation of the Taj Mahal by virtue of his acquisition of a controlling interest in Resorts does not

result in an economic concentration under the Act.

As you will recall, on June 10th, the Commission ruled that the economic concentration concerned engendered in Section 12-1(b)12 did not constitute a bar to approving Mr. Trump's purchase of controlling interest in Resorts.

The Commission, however, expressly stated at that time that this decision did not include a consideration of the impact of the Taj Mahal on economic concentration and competition of the Atlantic City casino industry, since that facility had not been specifically addressed in the petition and presented issues that would not be at that time ripe for disposition.

At that time, I expressed the view that the implication of the Taj Mahal could not be considered because we had not yet received satisfactory assurances or representations concerning the contemplated configuration of the facility, nor have we received any reliable projections concerning the Taj Mahal.

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I further observed that on the receipt of this information, the Commission would be better suited for the proper disposition of the impact of the Taj Mahal on the economic concentration and competition in the industry.

An order was issued to that effect dated June 12th, and subsequently this motion for a supplemental declaration was filed.

Before we proceed further, let me just emphasize that the proposed operation of the Taj Mahal in conjunction with Mr. Trump's present casino operations triggers questions regarding possible economic concentration in the Atlantic City casino industry that must be addressed during this proceeding. It is imperative that we evaluate the extent of any market combination and its effect on competition in the industry and its effect on its competition in the industry to comply with the mandate of Section 1(b)12, which charges this Commission with the power and the duty to regulate, control and prevent economic concentration and to encourage and preserve competition.

Finally, I would remind the

petitioners of my earlier admonition regarding the contractual obligations pertaining to the uptown renewal tract and the need for demonstrating Mr. Trump's awareness of this matter and its obligations.

Now I would ask counsel whether there are any stipulations or premarked and stipulated exhibits which there are no admissibility objections.

MR. RIBIS: I understand that the Commission reports that were submitted on the statistical summary done by your financial staff and by your Facilities Division, we have no objection to having those marked as exhibits in evidence.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Vukcevich, any objection to those?

MR. VUKCEVICH: No objection.

CHAIRMAN READ: They will be received and marked C-1 and C-2.

MS. BIACHE: C-l would be the License Division report dated June 24th, 1987, and C-2 is the Financial Division report analysis of Donald J. Trump's proposal of ownership.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you.

(Exhibits C-1 and C-2 received in evidence.)

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you.

Are there any further exhibits to be brought to us?

MR. RIBIS: Just to complete the record, we will have to make some extra copies of this, a letter dated June 25th, 1987, from W. J. Patton, Secretary of the Bahamian Gaming Board, enclosing a certificate of approval regarding Mr. Trump's application there.

I would like to mark this as J-6 in evidence, if possible. I have a copy I will give to the secretary.

CHAIRMAN READ: No objection to that, Mr. Vukcevich?

MR. VUKCEVICH: No objection, sir. (Exhibit J-6 received in evidence.)

MR. STERNS: Mr. Chairman, the list of exhibits, there is J-4, which was available at the time of our last hearing, which was the report of the Administrator Ad Litem-to the court in Florida. Since that time, the court has confirmed that order, adopted that

opinion, and confirmed the order, and just so the record will be complete, I would like to add that report and the court has also denied a motion for a rehearing and reconsideration brought by one of the parties. Those have been distributed, and I think there probably will be J-7 and J-8.

CHAIRMAN READ: Which is which, Mr. Sterns?

MR. STERNS: J-7 would be the order confirming sale of stock dated June 15th, and J-8 would be the order denying motion for a rehearing, reconsideration or modification, also dated June 15th.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you.

No objection to any of that?

MR. VUKCEVICH: No objection.

CHAIRMAN READ: They will all be received.

(Exhibits J-7 and J-8 received in evidence.

CHAIRMAN READ: Are there any other comments?

MR. VUKCEVICH: Well, Mr. Chairman, in addition to D-l and D-2, which were admitted into evidence at the June 10th

proceeding, the Division has premarked as D-31 its June 26th, 1987 report entitled, "Joint Motion for a Supplemental Declaration to the 3 Division's Answer to that Joint Motion." CHAIRMAN READ: No objection to that? 5 We have no objection. MR. RIBIS: 6 CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Sterns, there is 7 8 no objection? MR. STERNS: No objection, sir. 9 That will be CHAIRMAN READ: 10 received as D-3. 11 (Exhibit D-3 received in evidence.) 12 CHAIRMAN READ: Does that complete 13 14 all of that sort of thing? If so, I would ask, are there any 15 other matters that need to be addressed before 16 we proceed with opening statements for today? 17 If there is nothing else, Mr. Ribis? 18 19 MR. RIBIS: Since this is a continuation of a prior hearing, I will waive opening 20 21 on behalf of Trump and Resorts and proceed to presenting witnesses, if that's okay with the 22 23 Commission. 24 CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Vukcevich? I would like to make 25 MR. VUKCEVICH:

an opening statement.

The Commission, as was stated earlier, on June 10th, 1987, determined, after conducting a hearing, that the economic concentration concerns of the Casino Control Act would not impact negatively upon Mr. Trump's having a controlling interest in presently operating Resorts International Hotel and Casino, the Trump Castle Hotel and Casino, together with the Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino.

The Commission further ruled that prior to the operation of the Taj Mahal, if permitted, Mr. Trump must, in view of the three casino license limitation of Section 82 of the Act, must divest himself of control of one of the existing casino operations that is either Resorts, Trump Plaza or Trump's Castle.

The Commission's June 10th, 1987
ruling, as we all know, did not encompass a
consideration of the impact of the proposed
Taj Mahal facility upon the economic concentration of the Atlantic City gaming industry.

Given the undeveloped record at that time, the Division suggested that if any ruling on the issue were to be rendered, that it could

only be preliminary and conditional in nature, subject to modification or refinement should the then present and existing facts and circumstances change at a later date.

Since, however, the issue was not specifically addressed by the joint petitioners in their moving papers, the Commission opted to defer any ruling, preliminary or otherwise, inasmuch as the issue was not sufficiently ripe for disposition.

We are here today as the result of a filing of a joint motion to which Mr. Trump, Resorts International Hotel and Casino and various members of the Crosby and Murphy families now seek a specific ruling by the Commission concerning the impact of the Taj Mahal facility upon the economic concentration in the Atlantic City casino industry. That joint motion presents facts and circumstances in addition to those presented by the joint movants, or joint petitioners, at the June 10th, 1987 hearing, concerning the actual operation of the Taj Mahal facility.

At that time, June 10th, Mr. Trump testified that two viable alternatives exist

as relates to his potential operation or control of operation of the Taj Mahal facility, either, one, the sale of the prsently operating Resorts International Hotel and Casino, or, two the merger of that facility with the Taj Mahal, with the presently operating Resorts' facility being a hotel only and the Taj Mahal facility being a casino-hotel facility with a 120,000 square foot casino.

Through the filing of the joint motion, which is the subject of this proceeding, Mr.

Trump has further refined his intentions.

Specifically, the joint motion proposes that the Taj Mahal operate as a casino-hotel facility, having a maximum 175 table games and 3,084 slot machines.

The joint motion further expands upon Mr. Trump's testimony at the June 10th, 1987 hearing, by alluding to the possibility of the total sale, or closure, of the casino portion only of the Trump Castle or Trump Plaza facilities, instead of the presently operating Resorts' facility, the means to comply with Section 82(e) of the Act.

It is with these factual assumptions

that Mr. Trump and the other joint movants asked the Commission to rule upon the question of economic concentration.

The policies underlying Section 1(b)12 of the Act, among other things, are intended to insure a degree of competition in the casino gaming industry, to prevent economic concentration in the industry and to prevent dissolution of the state regulatory powers, which would likely result in the entire industry was dependent upon a single casino operator.

A resolution of the issues raised by the joint motion must, therefore, be made in light and in view of the policy goals to be achieved and evils sought to be avoided under Section 1(b)12 of the Act. This, of course, as the Division has pointed out previously, involves fact sensitive analysis and a careful weighing of all those factors, including, importantly, other governing policies of the Act, and the effect of each of the possible scenarios as raised in the joint motion might have upon the Act's policies.

In view of the relief sought through the filing of the joint motion and in view of

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the new facts and additional circumstances that are set forth in the joint motion, the Division has performed a statistical analysis which assumes the existence of the facts and circumstances as presented both through Mr. Trump's June 10th, 1987 testimony before the Commission and as additionally are set forth within the joint motion itself.

The results of the Division's analysis was presented in a report form which was filed with the Commission last week. addressing the implications of the proposed Taj Mahal facility on the economic concentration issue, the report includes an analysis of the authorized casino floor space, the number of authorized slot machines, the number of authorized hotel rooms, revenue figures, table draw figures, and figures concerning the level of employees for each Atlantic City casino-hotel.

Also included are projections for the Taj Mahal facility, where possible. results of that statistical analysis was viewed in the context of all the facts and circumstances which the Division is presently

aware. The Division's investigation, using figures current as of May 31st, 1987, concluded that the Commission's June 10th, 1987 approval on the basis of Section 1(b)12 of Mr. Trump's having a controlling interest in the presently operating Resorts' facility, the Trump Castle facility and the Trump Plaza facility will invest, in Mr. Trump's case, assuming present conditions, approximately 27.85 percent control over the Atlantic casino market upon his acquisition of the Resorts' Class B common stock.

The Division has determined that an approximate 1.43 percent increase of that market share would accrue to Mr. Trump should he, instead, control the operation of the Taj Mahal, together with any two of those three casino facilities. This reported increase in market share, predicated on the market place of 13 operating casino-hotels, in the Division's view, would not engender an unwarranted presence in the casino industry, in violation of Section 1(b)12 of the Act.

The Division's position with respect to that portion of the joint petition is

expressly based upon the assumption that, one,
Mr. Trump, prior to the operation of the
proposed Taj Mahal facility, will divest
himself of one of the three existing casinohotel facilities; two, that the facility
divested by Mr. Trump will be operated by
the purchaser as a casino-hotel facility;
and, three, that the facts as they presently
exist, do not materially change, prior to the
time of the opening of their proposed Taj Mahal
facility.

As noted in the Division's report, the other alternative which is raised by the joint movants, that is involving Mr. Trump's control in the Trump Plaza, Trump Castle and Taj Mahal, together with the presently operating Resorts' facility and the hotel owners caused different and more complex questions.

The closing of an existing casino, as well as the resulting increase in the hotel room space controlled by Mr. Trump, would raise his market share percentage to approximately 33 percent of the industry.

Further, the intentional and calculated closing of the viable casino facility, be it

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Resorts, Trump Plaza or Trump Castle, would, on its face, appear to be contrary to the Act's goals of promoting and achieving continuity and stability in the gaming industry.

might be argued that certain policy concerns of the Act, as those favoring the development of convention trade in this state, would seemingly be favored by the operation of the Taj Mahal facility. In view of the ramifications which may arise from the closing of an existing casino facility and the apparent competing policy goals of the Act which govern casinos, a full and complete hearing is necessary to resolve whether such would be consistent with the numerous and varied policy goals of the Act.

In other words, the public policy considerations implicated by this proposal would not necessarily -- on a collision course, may well be in competition with each other and remain, through experience, to determine how the balance is to be struck amongst all relevant and statutory goals.

In light thereof, the Division has

within its report detailed those relevant policies and statutory goals and, additionally, has set forth issues among those which, in its view, needs to be addressed at this hearing. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you, Mr. Vukcevich.

I think that brings us to the portion now where we are ready to begin hearing witnesses.

Mr. Ribis?

MR. RIBIS: Yes, I would like to call Dan Lee, please.

THE REPORTER: Would you raise your right hand, please.

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MR. LEE: I do.

THE REPORTER: Will you please state your full name and spell your last name.

MR. LEE: Daniel Lee, L-E-E.

DANIEL LEE, having been first duly sworn,

was examined and testified as follows:

## DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q.

BY MR. RIBIS:

Q. Mr. Lee, would you please tell us your current employment?

And your educational background?

- A. I'm a vice-president with Drexel, Burnham, Lambert, and have been for about seven years.
- A. I have a bachelor's degree in hotel administration from Cornell, and an MBA in finance and accounting also from Cornell.
- Q. Can you explain to the Commission

  Drexel, Burnham's association with the Atlantic City

  casino industry and your personal association with

  casino gaming?
- A. Well, at Drexel, Burnham, I have been the analyst in charge of following Atlantic City for seven years. Drexel, Burnham, for the past five years, as well, has raised \$4.2 billion for the casino industry. 2.8 million of that was just in the past two years. We have provided major financings for seven of the 12 casinos in Atlantic City.

Incidentally, we have not in the past represented either Mr. Trump or Resorts International, so two of the five.

DBL Realty, which is a division of Drexel, Burn-ham, was the developer of the Ocean Club Condominiums in Atlantic City.

- Q. Is it fair to say that you are familiar with the casino industry in general in New Jersey?
- A. We visit often, yes.
- Q. Have you had discussions with the Trump organization regarding the potential financing for Resorts' Taj Mahal?
- A. We have had very vague discussions, we have said we would be very willing and happy to help finance the Taj Mahal. There is nothing concrete at this time.
- Q. Do you believe that Mr. Trump's association with this project is important in your mind with the ability to finance Resorts as Taj Mahal?

  A. Actually, it's quite key. The Taj Mahal costs over, and it seems to be building, what was originally said to be 400 million, is now 500, and by the time you include preopening costs and capitalized interest, we are really talking closer to 700 million.
- In any financing, it's very important that you know who is going to be in control, both while it's being constructed and once it opens, and,

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hopefully, the person in control of the project like this would know something both about construction and about how to operate it when it's done, and, of course, Mr. Trump does.

Now, you have to kind of recognize the order of magnitude here. 700 million is an enormous amount of money, as it exceeds the GNP of many countries, and twice the size of any casino built, so we have, at one time, this is going back six months ago, had some discussions with Resorts about financing the Taj Mahal before Mr. Trump became involved. We were talking a much higher interest rate for much lower amounts of money. Mr. Trump's involvement allows us to approach the market in a much different way.

Would your company having underwritten seven of the 12 casinos in Atlantic City, does it concern the Trump organization, Trump Plaza and Trump Castle and the anticipated control of the Taj Mahal with the projected 120,000 square foot casino, would be in a position to dominate the market in Atlantic City?

Obviously, it's something that did concern us, it's something we look at pretty carefully. In fact,

whenever somebody comes in new and wants to finance a new casino, it's something we think about, do we want to finance yet somebody else to compete with all the money we have already arranged. In this case, though, we don't have to think that Mr. Trump will be able to dominate the market with the roughly one-third position he will have. There aren't very many economies of scale of owning more than one casino. If you think about it, it really requires separate management, it requires separate operating staff.

Notice, for example, Holiday Inns earned as much in the Marina, in fact, more in the Marina, before they operated Trump Plaza and after they operated Trump Plaza, and in the period of time during which they operated Trump Plaza, there didn't seem to be any real benefit at the other casino. The same thing seems to be true at Bally's. Bally's has now been operating Golden Nugget for several months. They don't seem to have gotten any benefit out of the fact of having two, rather than just one, and, in fact, you can say the same thing about Trump Castle. Trump Castle and Trump Plaza are doing better than a year ago, which was also, Trump Plaza in particular, has added the parking garage they didn't have.

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Domination, and I looked it up, knowing it's an important word, according to Webster it is a commanding control over, or prevailing over all others, and, yet, even after the Trump organization's purchase of Resorts International, of control of Resorts International, there have been eight independent operating entities in Atlantic City, several of whom, and the Pritkers (phonetic), for one, are significantly bigger than the Trump entities, and as wealthy and powerful as Mr. Trump is, he has a way to go before he catches Mr. Pritkers.

The Trump organization will have 23 percent of the casinos, 31 percent of the casino capacity by my count after the presumed sale of the Haddon Hall and the opening of the Taj Mahal. If Haddon Hall were converted to be a non-gaming annex, the numbers increase a little bit to 25 and 33, so he would have 25 percent of the casinos, instead of 23, or 33 percent of the casino capacity, instead of 31.

In my opinion, that is not enough concentration to exersize "demanding control, nor prevailing influence."

The numbers -- I will give you a few examples, Atlantic City was already a very competitive

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third share. There are two other ready examples in the casino business in the U.S. One is South Lake Tahoe, where Harrah's has 35 percent of the casino capacity, yet, is a very competitive market. Another one is the rapidly growing market of Lofland (phonetic) Circus Circus has 40 percent of the capacity in that market, and, yet, it's a very competitive market, and, in fact, it's kind of interesting, pulling together these numbers, I spoke with the vice-president of Holiday and he asked me why I needed them, because it's kind of a non-question, and I told him I was trying to figure out whether they dominated the market and he said what do you mean by dominate, and I said, well, if you wanted to reduce your bus promotions to South Lake Tahoe, could you do it arbitrarily, or would your competitors be able to put you in a position where you have to increase it, just using that as an example, and his response was interesting, he said, well, frankly, anything done to hurt market visitation hurts them more than anyone else in that market, because they are such an important part of that market.

market when there were only three, each having a one-

By corollary, allowing the Trump organization

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to increase its concentration, but without becoming dominant, links the interests of the Trump organization more closely to those of Atlantic City, so, for example, in terms of seeing the city rebuilt, they will have so much money invested in Atlantic City, frankly, that they should work harder than anyone else to see the city rebuilt because they will have more at risk than anyone else.

For example, other jurisdictions, if the Poconos looks to legalize casinos, Golden Nugget will probably be a major proponent of that today. A casino company with one casino in Atlantic City might be a proponent of legalization in the Poconos, but I would wager that Mr. Trump would be an opponent of it because he would have so much involved in Atlantic City, and, finally, with three casinos, it would be very important for him to see the marketing of the city as a whole improved as a destination, which I think we all are hoping for, so I guess, in summary, we don't really see his control of the Taj Mahal as being a problem for the other casinos that we funded.

I don't think it puts him in a position of domination. In fact, in a way, it puts him in a

position where he has to work harder to make the city as a whole work.

I just have a couple of other points

I want to make. A casino's square footage is not

that all important. Golden Nugget has been one of the

smallest, and, yet, consistently, has been one of the

highest net wins. Atlantis is one of the largest, and

has the lowest net win, and, of course, the additional

square footage is really only key in the peak period,

and everybody is pretty busy anyway. Whether you

have 20 tables empty or 50 tables empty really doesn't

matter, but when you get into a Saturday in July, the

additional capacity can be important.

More important than the capacity is probably the quality of management. The Taj Mahal could have 300,000 square feet and if it's not managed properly, it could do poorly, and I could also point out, too, that where the locations are, a well-managed Taj Mahal is probably critical to the long term success of Show Boat. If the Taj Mahal turned out to be a bomb, Show Boat would be hit behind it.

Design is probably almost as important as management because they kind of go hand in hand.

Atlantis and the Claridge are perfect examples. It's

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important to notice that the Taj Mahal was originally designed to have 120,000 square feet. I was down there about to weeks ago and toured the Taj Mahal and it was the first time that I had realized that the 30,000 square feet that was designed to be closed, or ordained to be -- ruled out of the original plans is a rather key 30,000 square feet. It's right at the main entrance as you come into the casino. Some architect spent a lot of time designing 120,000 square foot casino, and somewhere along the line it got distorted into something that didn't work as efficiently, and, then, of course, I point out the other amenities are very important, parking, restaurants, bus facilities, that sort of thing. Taj Mahal has twice as much as most of those amenities, and in some cases as much as four times, for example, meeting rooms, they have four times as many meeting rooms at the Taj Mahal as anywhere else, and, therefore, it's kind of important to have the same balance between the casino capacity and the other amenities that some of the other casinos Otherwise, you will have too many restaurants for the number of people in the casino, and vice versa, and, finally, I just make one final point, unless you have more questions, or anyone else does, but in the

D. Lee - direct/cross 186

financing of a casino, even though I personally do not

think such is going to make a whole lot of difference

whether it's 90,000 square feet or 120,000 square feet,

it looks a lot better in the perspectus. This place

cost twice as much as Trump Castle, it cost about

twice as much as the Tropicana, and to have only 50

percent more casino capacity is kind of tough to

explain when showing the perspectus, whereas if I

can show yes, it costs twice as much, but it's twice as

big, it's much easier to get investors to invest in

the bonds, even though I don't think the casino

capacity is that important operationally, I do think

it is important in terms of putting together financing.

MR. RIBIS: Thank you.

I have no further questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Sterns?

MR. STERNS: No questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Vukcevich?

MR. VUKCEVICH: Thank you.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. VUKCEVICH:

Q. You testified that one of the things that your company does is arrange for financing in terms of casino projects; is that correct?

That's correct.

Q.

- Q. And that \$400 billion, that was over what period of time?
- A. It was over five years, I believe it was 4.2, 4.2 billion, of course, I should point out much of that is refinancing. In other words, where Golden Nugget might issue a hundred million dollars worth of bonds at 14 percent interest rate, two years later interest rates might be 11, they borrow 200 million more to pay off the old money, and it gets kind of twisted sometimes.
- particular financing projects relating to Atlantic City casino hotels were you personally involved in?

  A. I have been involved, in one way or another, with virtually all of them, and sometimes it's just a matter of due diligence where our corporate financing department would ask me to go down and look at something under construction, give my opinion; other times, it was doing your own projections internally to

Without going into the details, what

Q.\_ In all of those situations, is one of the considerations that Drexel, Burnham looks at is the place in the market place of the facility that's going

figure out whether it makes sense.

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to be the subject of financing?

- A. By place, do you mean physical location or position it would have vis-a-vis the others?
  - Q. The position vis-a-vis the others.
- A. I mean we are learning, too. For example, we issued the bonds for Atlantis, we were the underwriters for the bonds for Atlantis, an offering we are not proud of, because within one year of the offering, Atlantis went into bankruptcy, and we learned right up front on Atlantis that design is very important.

If somebody -- suppose Circus Circus came to

Atlantic City, we would be happy to back them because

we think Circus Circus appeals to a family trade, which

Atlantic City doesn't have, so, in effect, we would be

backing Circus Circus and not really stealing money

from Golden Nugget. We did take that into

consideration.

- Q. What do you mean by not stealing money from Golden Nugget?
- A. I am saying Golden Nugget being more at the upper end -- see, we are underwriters, we don't actually loan money, per se, we convince investors to loan money, and, yet, much of our prestige is out there. In other words, we don't like to underwrite an offering

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and watch it go sour one year later.

to build an Atlantic City casino, and wants mortgage bonds, we would draw the line at that point, because we would be afraid that all the offerings that we have done before would go sour because there was so much new competition coming into the market. You have to —let me put it this way: We have underwritten so many casinos we are very concerned about the market.

There was a period of time -- to give you an idea, there was a period of time in approximately 1982, where Drexel, Burnham internally drew the line and said for a while we will not fund any more casino projects because we wanted to make sure that the market could absorb all that there was, I believe there were three open and six under construction, something like that.

Q. You mentioned Atlantis. Before your company became involved in the financing of that additional facility, was any analysis done with respect to the design of that casino floor?

A. We did a fair amount of analysis. In fact, we have had one person, not me, who went over to England to look at the Playboy Club, which is a multi-level

D. Lee - cross

casino, and came back and said, yes, they had multiple levels and were very successful.

I can remember walking through Atlantis with a hard hat on and looking at it and thinking well, it might not be the most successful place because it's three levels, but with 55,000 square feet, maybe it will overcome that, and we didn't realize how big a problem it would be, and, in fact, the things that we overlooked the most was that there were not enough escalators on the day that it opened, and it was just kind of downhill from there. We do make mistakes.

- Does your company profit in any way, any other way than aside from arranging for financing for casinos?
- A. No, only as investment bankers in the normal course of investment banking services. We also, for example, represent one company, they acquire another, or when one company acquires a casino of another.
- Q. Is a majority of your company's profits associated with financing of the casino hotel facilities?
- A. No, not even close.
- Q. What does the bulk arise from, bulk of profits?

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A. The bulk of our profits are from investment banking, but the casino industry is only a small part of the investment banking that we do.

- Q. You mentioned you had some preliminary discussions with the Trump organization in terms of financing for the Taj Mahal project; is that correct?

  A. In fact, we approached him and said you now have control of Resorts, we recognize Resorts needs financing, we know Atlantic City, we would like to finance it.
- Q. So you made the first step towards the Trump organization?
- A. Yes, we did.
- Q. Without going into any detail about what was discussed between you and the Trump organization and your company, can you give us an approximate time when that approach was first made?
- A. Frankly, it was made several months back. One investments banking client of ours is Southmark Corporation, who, of course, has a position in Pratt, Pratt had an offer on the table for control of Resorts. As long as that offer was out there, we could not approach Trump. When that offer expired -- we can go back and see when that was -- our conflict of interest expired,

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and at that point it was obvious Mr. Trump was involved, and we called him up, so it would have been last winter some time.

- Q. At this point in time, can you say whether or not you have any concrete deal with the Trump organization in terms of arranging financing in connection with the Taj Mahal casino?
- A. We have no concrete deal at this time.
  - Q. So that's pending?

D. Lee - cross

- A. Pending. As soon as he says he wants to do a deal, we will have to sit down and write up the papers, but he hasn't said he wants to do a deal. Historically he has used Bear, Sterns, which is one of our biggest competitors, so has Resorts today.
- Q. In connection with your testimony here today, approximately when were you first contacted about the possibility of appearing before the Commission?
- A. Approximately two weeks ago.
  - Q. And who contacted you?
- A. Harvey Freeman. In fact, it was at a meeting where we were suggesting to them we would be happy to raise the money, but before the meeting even started, Harvey pulled me aside and said we might want you to

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Q. He didn't tell you about what?

D. Lee - cross

testify, which was fine.

- A. I was here at your previous hearing, so I'm essentially right often sitting in the back watching, because I like to see what the Commission decides.
- Q. And when he asked you, or raised to you the possibility of testifying, what did you say?

  A. I said I would be happy to do so. We have different executives at Drexel, Burnham who have been testifying on financial matters for other casino companies, including myself.
- Q. Between that point in time and today, could you give us an idea what kind of research or analysis, in addition to your background in the industry, that you did or didn't do?
- A. Actually, very little. I came to Atlantic City for an initial interview with the attorneys, and, in fact, en route on the airplane, I wrote down my thoughts in terms of domination, and I handed an outline of my thoughts to the attorneys and they read it over and they liked what I thought, and that was it.
- Q. So your opinion was primarily based upon your own experience and reputation in the field?

  A. My own experience and reputation, that's true.

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Q. Do you see any difference in terms of the question of economic concentration turning upon the question of whether or not the existing Resorts' facility is sold or closed down and operated as a support facility and hotel only for the Taj Mahal? Well, of course, I think the issue is more one of economic domination, not concentration, and, obviously, if you close Haddon Hall, it means you have a slightly higher percentage of total capacity in the market. Does that constitute the domination? I don't think so, although I hasten to point out I -as though Mr. Trump very much wants to keep the option open, I believe, to close Haddon Hall for a reason I will go into in a second, but my own guess is the economics will compel him to keep it open, the economics alone. You could sell Haddon Hall, in my opinion, in excess of \$200 million and build new hotel rooms on the Taj Mahal and be much better off.

On the other hand, I am not sure who you could get to buy Haddon Hall before the Taj Mahal opens, even for 200 million, because one would want to see how well the Taj Mahal does and how well the city reacts. It might well be that his best course of action is to close the casino in Haddon Hall for six months, until

the Taj Mahal opens, the city recovers, and things look like they are going well, then you could probably sell Haddon Hall for a higher price, so I think you have to have that option, but in the long term, with the number of guest rooms that Haddon Hall would provide to the Taj Mahal, you could duplicate those guest rooms for quite a bit less than the resale value of Haddon Hall.

Q. Aside from the question of what would be better off for Resorts, or, for that matter, Mr. Trump's point of view, do you feel that the sale of Resorts, one, would be better off for Atlantic City and the State of New Jersey?

A. Not necessarily -- well, you see, the problem is if you close Haddon Hall and keep the casino closed, in effect, you are pushing some customers into all the other casinos, and it will be a short period of time before somebody else comes in and builds a new casino hotel, so Mr. Trump is not in a position where he dominates the market so much that he can close the casino and not have a new competitor pop up. It will happen.

There are lots of other casino sites and there are lots of other companies out there that could build

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casinos, so if he closes to try to enhance his business at his other facilities, it would be a very short phenomenon. Before you knew it, Holiday would be building on the Chalfonte right next door, so the only way it might make sense to close it from his point of view, this is my opinion, and it's something I haven't discussed with him, the only way it would make sense is if you thought you could get a higher price selling it shortly thereafter, it also makes sense from an employee point of view.

It will not be easy to find enough employees to staff the Taj Mahal. Perhaps here you have one casino that has a lot of experience, trained employees and management, move them over and hire 2,000 more because the Taj Mahal will take quite a few more than Haddon Hall, and then when you sell Haddon Hall, whoever buys that has to find still more employees, rather than trying to go into the market and -- I don't know quite what the number is, but I would guess the Taj Mahal would employ upward of 5,000 people. It'not going to be easy to find that many people at one time. It's hard enough to staff some of the 50,000 square foot casinos.

Q. Do you attribute any difference in

terms of your understanding of the following phrases, economic concentration, as opposed to economic domination?

- A. I think there is a difference. Concentration simply means somebody has a certain percentage of the market. Domination means they have such a percentage of the market that they have prevailing influence over all others. I think there is a very clear difference.
- Q. Setting aside the phrase economic domination, based upon your understanding, do you think that Mr. Trump's control of the Taj Mahal, together with the other facilities, would result in economic concentration of any kind?
- A. He would have, whatever the number is, 30 percent of the capacity in the market, that is a concentration of capacity. He can have a concentration of 10 percent, he can have a concentration of 40 percent. I think the issue is whether he is dominant enough to impact on the others.
- Q. And it's your opinion that he would not be? -
- A. It's my opinion that he would not be. He would not be able to react in ways that would force his

back to me, and in the case of U. S. Capital Corp., our

conclusion was that we could probably fund them to

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D. Lee - Vice-Chair Zeitz about the tune of 250 million, if I recall the number

I may have mispoken, I believe it was 275 --

Yes, as I recall, Resorts was looking for something in the low \$300 million range and the U. S. Capital Corp. could only put together 250, and they couldn't reach an agreement, and part of the problem was that the Taj Mahal was being built next door, but even then, I remember when we looked up the analysis, we said the Taj Mahal is going to be a lot bigger, we don't know how big an impact it's going to be, and that's part of the reason we could only put together 250, and the other part of the reason is U. S. Capital Corp. is very small, and the third part is they didn't have any experience operating casinos, but this was the type thing I was saying a minute ago, if the Taj Mahal opens -- well, one of thething we were looking at U.S. Capital Corp. was, had they bought it then, they still would have had close to two full years of operations of Resorts International before the Taj Mahal opened, which would have given them time to win over the loyalties of the employees there and also time to recoup a good part of their money in case Taj Mahal competitively was a factor.

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Now, if the Taj Mahal opened and six months later Show Boat is doing better than ever because of the synergy of the two places put together, then all of a sudden you could look at Haddon Hall and say, well, look at what the Show Boat is doing, now we can fund 300 million for Haddon Hall. It's the uncertainty that gets you, more than anything else.

- Q. So you think the potential price of Haddon Hall, I will call it Haddon Hall, too, Haddon Hall depends on the performance of the Taj Mahal when it is completed?
- A. The potential price of Haddon Hall will depend on a lot of things. It will depend on how far ahead or behind the opening of the Taj Mahal. In other words, how much would you pay for Haddon Hall a month before the Taj Mahal opened? You probably would rather wait until six months later and see how well Show Boat is doing, vis-a-vis, and get a better idea, so, basically, the price of Haddon Hall will decline until the time that the Taj Mahal opens, and then it should start going back up again. That's my guess.
- Q. Of course, the purchase and sell of casino hotels in Atlantic City is the availability of the license, possession of the license, or have the

ability to get one?

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A. It's not easy to find buyers. We have been in the position a few times where we have tried to find a buyer, but there are some.

Q. Do you think anybody would -- these are all vague hypotheticals. Do you think if the Taj Mahl opened and the Resorts Casino, the Haddon Hall had been shut down and Resorts had maintained possession of it, but be interested in selling it under Mr. Trump's control, that it would be easier to find, at that moment, an unlicensed buyer that you could structure a deal with different price levels, depending on the ability to obtain a license?

A. Yes. In other words, find somebody new to come into the industry to acquire --

O. Yes.

- A. I think it would be easier once the Taj Mahal is opened and people will look at how well Show Boat does right next door, on the other side.
- Q. Now, I think there has been considerable confusion as to what Mr. Trump's position is in Resorts and in the industry vis-a-vis his interest in, pending interest in Resorts. If he closes on the deal he has with it, the estate and with the Crosbys

and Murphys, he would control 72 percent of the voting power approximately of Resorts, is that correct?

A. I believe that's correct, yes.

Q. But only approximately 10 percent of the equity ownership would be vested in those shares, is that correct?

A. That sounds approximately correct.

- Q. So that when people speak of Mr.

  Trump controlling, he would control the corporation

  strategies through his votes, but he would have to

  pay attention to those shareholders having 28 percent

  of the vote, still having 90 percent of the equity

  values?
- A. Correct. He would still have to share responsibilities for the other shareholders, as did the Crosbys.
- Q. Including their equity interests in the Haddon Hall?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. As I said, I am going to be all over the place.

Do you happen to know offhand, roughly, what Bally's market share in Nevada for the two properties it has got out there?

D. Lee - Vice-Chair Zeitz

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Tropicana if it is completed and developed as it is proposed and as it is constructing, could have a hundred thousand square foot casino by statute?

- A. I don't know that I was specifically aware of that.
- Q. Bally's, of course, is adding approximately 800 rooms to its facility in Atlantic City?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And do you know whether or not that would entitle them, if they should seek it, or to seek a substantial casino extension?
- A. It's my understanding that it would, yes.

  In fact, I believe that they have already got the space laid out in their plans.
- Q. I have been doing this for seven years, which I think is how long you said you were with Drexel?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Would this be an accurate statement, that within the past seven years, of all the properties of hotels that have been built within casinos in Atlantic City, about 15,000 rooms have been added, or being added now to the Las Vegas market?

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That is approximately correct. Las Vegas has seen a real explosion of guest rooms, but, of course, percentage-wise, the number of guest rooms being added in Atlantic City is much greater because you have a much smaller base.

> Yes, I understand that. 0.

You talked about synergy, but would you attribute some of that expansion, most of the expansion in Las Vegas to competition?

No, I think you are seeing Atlantic City in kind of a different stage in its evolvement. You will see a lot more guest rooms being built in Atlantic City. Las Vegas, they don't have any other solution, if you want more people in the casino, you must add In Atlantic City, you can add a parking quest rooms. garage.

If you want to talk parking capacity, Atlantic City has added much more parking capacity in the past years than Las Vegas.

I think right now, we always use the number of 53 million people within 300 miles of Atlantic City, and it's kind of curious why did we use 300 miles as the range. The reason is simple, if you went out 250 miles from Las Vegas, all you found were whore Las Vegas over the past 20 years.

houses and missile silos, so they had to go out 300 miles to get LA. Atlantic City is not drawing 300 3 miles, it's only drawing about a hundred miles, and the market within a hundred miles, it has strongly 51 6 tapped, and now you have to start reaching out further and further, and you will see more and more hotel rooms being built because if somebody is going to travel 200 miles, they much prefer to fly and they virtually have to stay overnight, so I think over the 10 next 10 years, you will see the same type of explosion 12 in guest rooms in Atlantic City that we have seen in

Recently, a couple of casino hotels announced a project involving what they called people involvement. Do you think that in any way reflects competitive pressure from the end of the boardwalk where you now find Resorts, Show Boat and Taj Mahal under construction?

It's a very competitive market and everybody is trying to find their way around to get some edge. Everybody is afraid somebody has an edge over them. In fact, you know, I think if any of the other casinos 24 were seriously concerned about Mr. Trump having domina-25 tion, somebody probably would have been here with an

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D. Lee - Vice-Chair Zeitz objection, and I don't see anybody.

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As to that, I know various estimates and objections and proforma studies, it appears that if Mr. Trump owns, as he does now, the Castle and the Plaza and received a controlling interest in the shareholding of Resorts, he would then control Trump, with Resorts continuing to operate its present facility, perhaps 26 and a half to 28 percent as various measurements. I am generalizing all kinds of statistical tables we have seen, that if, as a controlling shareholder, Resorts was either closed or sold its present operation and opened the Taj Mahal, Mr. Trump, then, his share position there, and Castle and Plaza were variously controlled by various measurements, perhaps 29 to 30 percent, to a maximum of 32 to 33 percent, but let us say 29 to 30 percent as the more likely number, measured against the 26 and a half to 27 percent, and 7 and a half percent attributable to the first scenario, in terms of economic concentration, do you regard that increase as substantial, meaning less, negligible?

A. Negligible.

Q. And if it were to go to 29 or 30 percent, using all the various indicators, slot

machines and a number of games, number of tables, type of drop, whatever?

- A. Still negligible. It's the other markets where people have 40 percent of capacity, and they are still very competitive markets.
- Q. Is there any economic rule that would translate market shares and concentration at that level, or different levels of the domination of an industry?
- think it's something you watch for. I mean, if you -I suppose one could argue that in the very early days
  of Atlantic City, Resorts International was dominant.
  They were the only one, so I don't know a hard and
  fast rule of percentage. I think it comes when one
  party is so powerful that they can react in a way that
  nobody else can react. I mean, if you wanted to
  eliminate bus programs, everybody else would eliminate
  bus programs, too.

The fact of the matter is if the Trump casinos eliminated bus programs everybody else would love it, and they would all increase theirs and Trump would be the loser.

Q. Just a few other questions.

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If you happen to know this, would you know what approximately the gross hotel sales were in the United States, excluding casino hotels in 1986, for example?

- A. There were 600 million room nights sold, and the average hotel rate is about \$50, so it's a very large number.
  - O. Is that three million?
- A. Approximately, yes, that's just room sales.

  Double that to include the food and beverage.
- Q. And what would the gross gaming sales be, if we regard the winners?
- A. Including the total U.S. net win, that's within the \$6 billion range.

VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Burdge?

EXAMINATION BY COMMISSIONER BURDGE:

Q. Mr. Lee, you testified --

THE WITNESS: Excuse me, I am sorry to interrupt. I believe we slipped a decimal, I believe it's 30 billion.

VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: Okay.

THE WITNESS: Okay, I am sorry.

BY COMMISSIONER BURDGE:

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Q. Mr. Lee, I believe you testified that before Mr. Trump became interested in Resorts, that you had spoken to Resorts people concerning the financing of the Taj Mahal, and that Mr. Trump could obtain probably better interest rates than the Resorts people?

A. That's correct.

- Q. Is that because of his dominance in the industry?
- A. No, because investors would have greater confidence in a project being completed near budget, near schedule, being operated successfully thereafter.
- Q. We all know Resorts was the first casino to open, and they certainly established themselves with the players and the repeat business, and identity over the years. If you close this casino for six months, wouldn't the people move to other casinos, not just the Taj? Wouldn't that decrease the value?
- A. Of the original casino?
  - Q. Of Haddon Hall.
- A. You will find, at least my experience, that casino players do not have a high degree of loyalty and they move around a great deal any way. I know

D. Lee - Commissioner Burdge 211
Resorts was first, I don't think that's the reason
why they continue to do well as Haddon Hall. I think
they could do well because they have a facility that

Q. If Mr. Trump is given approval and closes down Haddon Hall, in effect, won't he be reducing the revenue that the State of New Jersey can receive by closing down one casino?

is large and has a lot of amenities.

- A. I suppose it probably would be a little bit, but you can argue that Bally's is reducing the revenue that the State of New Jersey gets by not building a third one.
- Q. All right, let's go one step further. We talked about employees. We know how many people are working in Resorts today, but if Mr. Trump didn't buy the Taj and Haddon Hall kept operating, it would be X number of employees needed for the Taj, so, indirectly, aren't we immediately reducing the number of people that could be employed in the industry?
- A. You are assuming that Resorts International, without Mr. Trump, could arrange sufficient financing to complete the Taj Mahal and hire the five or six thousand employees that it needs. I'm not sure that

that's the only case.

Q. I don't believe it's six thousand.
You just jumped a thousand.

D. Lee - Commissioner Burdge

A. Five or six thousand, I said.

- Q. When you answered Mr. Zeitz, you said five. I don't believe the figure is six thousand.
- A. I don't know what the payroll budget is.

  I am using six because most casinos employ at least three, and I figured multiply that by two, it's about twice as big, and maybe there are some economies of scale.
- Q. Would Mr. Trump have an advantage on buying products from suppliers, from having control of three casinos? Would he have an unfair advantage over his competition?
- A. I do not believe so. Holiday and Bally's do not seem to have gotten any similar advantages, or the Trump organization with Trump Castle and Trump Plaza.
- Q. If you buy in volume, goods are usually cheaper, aren't they?
- A. In many industries, yes, but not in the types of industries that the casinos -- when you are buying meat, or you are buying blackjack tables, they are not

- D. Lee Commissioner Burdge usually large volume discounts --
- When you buy liquor and when you buy food, when you buy in volume, don't you buy them a little bit cheaper?

  A. Not much. There is a slight difference, but, frankly, even an individual casino hotel probably buys enough of those that they are already getting the maximum discount. There is a bigger difference between the local Days Inn and a 60,000 square foot casino with 1,000 guests and 500 guest rooms. Put it on a national scope, Holiday Inn operating over 200 hotels of their own and franchizing 1,600 throughout the country, does not seem to have any advantage in their cost of supplies over an individual hotel.
- Q. But, Mr. Lee, they are spread out all over the country. If you got three casinos in Atlantic City, doesn't cost as much to bring, to have goods distributed all over the country.
- A. Well, of course, the cost of supplies, when you really think of what does a casino have to buy to resell, we are talking about food and restaurants, the sheets on the beds, and things like that, that's very small, very small percentage of the operating costs of the casino. By far, the biggest operating

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D. Lee - Commissioner Burdge cost is payroll, and having three casinos is not going to give them any break on the wages they must pay the employees.

- All right, you mentioned it's difficult 0. to find help, it may be difficult to find help to adequately staff the casino. Would this control of three casinos give Mr. Trump an advantage over hiring employees from other casinos?
- It may give him a small advantage in that an individual employee might look forward to more promotional possibilities within the Trump organization from one casino to another, similar to the advantage that Hilton has, or Holiday, the same type.

Thank you. COMMISSIONER BURDGE: No further questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Ms. Armstrong? EXAMINATION BY COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG:

Mr. Lee, there has been some Q. discussion regarding the difficulty that may be encountered in finding enough employees to deal with Taj Mahal when it's opened, and if a substantial -number of the current Resort employees would defect to the Taj Mahal and if, in fact, for example, the Resorts casino was closed down for six months or

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D. Lee - Commissioner Armstrong longer and then pending a sale of that property, to what extent do you think that a real or perceived employee shortage would impact on a new person or entity obtaining financing to purchase Resorts? This kind of ties back with the response I

gave to Commissioner Zeitz earlier in that if you were buying Haddon Hall two months before the opening of the Taj Mahal, that would be a very real concern that you would lose a large number of your employees right after you bought the place. If the facility were closed temporarily, the employees taken to the Taj Mahal, the Taj Mahal opens, operates, over a time the labor market reacts, more people are attracted to Atlantic City, more people obtain the school and licensing needed, if you are talking six months after the Taj Mahl has opened, I think the labor issue becomes less of a problem because then you are not competing with

Granted, you would hafe to go through the whole process that any new casino goes through in staffing up, although, obviously, there would be some employees still there because you are only closing the casino part of it.

the Taj Mahal in trying to find competent employees.

You seem to feel that if Mr. Trump

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25 a new casino.

D. Lee - Commissioner Armstrong gained control of the Taj Mahal and retained the current Resorts' facility, but closed down the casino portion of it, but continued to use Resorts as a hotel, that that would not have any significant impact on the question of economic concentration that we are currently addressing?

That's correct. Maybe I haven't made myself I think long-term, it will be to Mr. Trump's economic advantage, and, in fact, to Resorts International's economic advantage to sell the old Haddon Hall, because even if the price you get is only 200 million to build a thousand new guest rooms, if that's the primary reason he wanted 700 guest rooms, he could do that for under 100 million and take the other 100 million and put it in the bank, and that's why, economically, the argument is very sound.

The difficulty in finding the buyer just before the Taj Mahal opens, that may not be an easy thing In terms of the impact on economic concentrato do. tion, let's suppose no buyer comes out of the woodwork and the decision is made to keep it closed indefinitely, as a result, as the casino demand increases in the town, that would speed the day that somebody builds yet

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In effect -- let's suppose, to make matters simple, Haddon Hall is closed. Because of that, the net win of all the other casinos in town goes up eight percent, that should be one-twelfth, profits would rebound and before you know it, somebody else would be adding casino capacity or building a new casino and Mr. Trump is limited at three, so he can't be building the fourth, so, in effect, closing the Haddon Hall and using it as a hotel that's just allowing somebody else to come in and build a new casino, and once that casino opens, everybody's net win drops eight percent again.

That's why, in effect, to close that and use it just as guest rooms is foregoing an economic positive for him. I think at some point it makes sense to sell it, but it may well make more sense to sell it six months after the Taj Mahal opens. That's all I am saying.

Q. You have alluded, I think, several times to the fact that there are essentially always other individuals or entities kind of lurking in the wings with an interest of developing a new casino.

You are aware of the fact, are you not, that Resorts currently controls substantially more casino sites,

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D. Lee - Commissioner Armstrong developed or undeveloped, in the city than any other entity?

Yes. Α.

That we have in town.

Does that factor enter, that control of the undeveloped casino sites, in any way in your mind on this question that we are dealing with of economic concentration?

There are actually many casino sites available that Resorts doesn't have. Just off the top of my head, the Dunes site has been available for some time, Golden Nugget would be a very willing seller of what's called the Del Webb site, the Sahara site, Caesars World would be a willing seller of the Traymore site, and the Chalfonte site has been available for some time, Golden Nugget, of course, has a site in the Marina that can be developed on, I believe there is another site in the Marina owned by, not a Resort entity that's available. I mean, there are quite a few other sites.

In fact, some of the best sites are not owned by Resorts. The Traymore, for example, is probably the best single undeveloped site in town.

So you think the availability of 0. those other sites would offset any possible negative

D. Lee - Commissioner Armstrong ramifications to Resorts' control of a substantial number of undeveloped casino sites?

A. In fact, it might even work the other way.

Mr. Crosby, who I knew somewhat, not well, but met him
several times, was a strong believer that since there
was only limited areas of casino land, he should buy as
much he can and hold it as long as he can, and that
seemed to be the name of the game in Atlantic City,
you either bought it from Resorts or you outdid Resorts
in buying it.

I can't speak for Mr. Trump, but I know it's not Mr. Trump's style to sit on huge tracts of undeveloped land, so he might very well be a more willing seller than Mr. Crosby would be.

Q. Just to follow up on something I think you were alluding to earlier, if the numbers we are looking at in terms of market share, casino floor space, et cetera, are evaluated objectively and it's perceived that there is not an unhealthy economic concentration, and if the approvals are granted as a result of this hearing to Mr. Trump, the Taj Mahal, is it likely, or possible that economic concentration could develop after the fact, after the approvals in the form, for example, of predatory marketing practices?

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A. See, this is, I guess, a case point I have been trying to make is, it's very difficult, he is not in a position to do predatory marketing any way. It's not -- he's not dominant.

For example, the Commission at one time was concerned about Bally's having such a huge market share of slot machines, and Bally's, and it was well over half, and Bally's was in a position to be a dominant marketer, and really could enforce people to pay exorbitant prices for their machines because there Trump will not be were very few alternatives. Mr. in that position. There are lots of -- there are nine other casinos, to be exact, and that's a very competitive market. If he tries to outprice his product, let's suppose he went to all \$10 table games, he could not force everybody else in the market to go to a \$10 table game, so bottom line is I don't see that he would be in a position for predatory pricing at this point.

COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank

you.

A. (Continuing.) Obviously, there would be a point if somebody had 70 percent of the casino capacity, that becomes dominant, I don't think that there's an

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D. Lee - Commissioner Armstrong exact line to cut out.

Q. I just was going to ask you that, is there -- in other words, if the Bally's slot machine case, 50 percent, that was the cutoff point. I gather that what you are saying is that you really cannot arbitrarily come up with a precise cutoff point in terms of casino licensees' dominance in the market.

A. I don't know what the cutoff point is. I'm not sure we have to worry about it, because you already have the limit of three casinos. Once you are at three you can't build more, that's said in the law, so it seems obvious to me that with roughly 30 percent of the capacity, Mr. Trump will not be in the position to dominate the market as the market stands today, and his dominance will probably not be any higher than it would be on the day that Haddon Hall opens, because other casinos are adding expansions also, which would bring that percentage down.

Eventually, there will be a 13th casino, or 14th casino, which should bring that number down even further.

COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG: All right, thank you.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Waters?

COMMISSIONER WATERS: I have no

questions.

## EXAMINATION BY CHAIRMAN READ:

Q. Mr. Lee, a couple of them.

You spoke of the redesign and desireability of 120,000 square foot of casino space as
contrasted with the 90,000 square feet. Where did you
get the numbers 90,000 square feet? The only thing
that this Commission has ever considered was 100,000
square feet.

- A. Resorts International, at one time, had scaled back, it was going to warehouse 30,000 square feet.

  I was under the impression, maybe I'm wrong, but that they had provided you with a set of drawings at one time for 90, and --
- Q. Well, they might have. We get a lot of drawings that we don't get to.
- A. Okay. This was designed for 120, and that was shown through --
- Q. We had actually considered a hundred, I think, and that was the specific request.
- A. Okay. I was shown through by a project manager, who was showing me the number 30,000 that was going to be warehoused, the 30,000 square feet.

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D. Lee - Chairman Read I was really quite surprised by it because it was right near where everybody would enter from the boardwalk entrance, and it looked like it would be a very awkward facility without that square footage in there. Maybe I'm mistaken, maybe it was 20.

I don't think it was the boardwalk Q. entrance either, but I may be wrong.

You spoke a great deal in answering Commissioner Zeitz about the question of dominance and dominating the market. Why do you use the term dominance? The statute talks about economic concentration, it doesn't say economic dominance.

I was under the impression that the reason for the statute being the way that it is was concern that somebody would dominate the market, and I would have to go back and look at the statute itself, which I have read several times. I guess in my mind concentration is not a negative thing. As the Holiday executive said, if you have somebody to whom Atlantic City is very important, then that's probably good for Atlantic City.

Domination, on the other hand, has a negative connotation in my mind.

> Well, that's my understanding, too, Q.

by the time they opened, it would be three years from

now and the market would have had two years to absorb

in the door, we probably would encourage them, because

No. Actually, today if somebody new came

the Taj Mahal, and that would seem to be about the

bottom line with the market growth.

You indicated also, I think, that with

and domination would be worse than economic concentration. That's the reason I wondered why you went to the extreme, when the statute doesn't require us to go that far.

A. I was under the impression that the statute said domination. I could be wrong, or perhaps --

Q. It says, and I'm quoting from the appropriate section, "It's the duty inferred by the Act to include the power and duty to regulate, control and prevent economic concentration of the casino operations and the ancillary industry regulated by this Act."

Beyond that, you indicated that in 1982, Drexel, Burnham had drawn the line for further construction financing. With Show Boat having just come on and the Taj about to, are we close to that same situation today, in your view?

the closing of the casino, Haddon Hall, that would actually speed the time when someone else would build, if I understood you correctly. Would that be correct?

A. It might speed the time, yes, sir.

Q. But you had earlier said that duplication of guest rooms could be done at substantially less price than the construction of Haddon Hall as going casino. Wouldn't that, therefore, indicate that it would be much easier to sell Haddon Hall as a going casino than to simply wait until another casino would be built?

A. Yes, if you could -- the problem is -- yes, it would be, if Haddon Hall could continue to operate as an ongoing casino hotel for six months after the Taj Mahal was opened, but there is a restriction in the law about three casinos, and Mr. Trump would have four in that period of time, so while it would be easier on the one hand, on the other hand, from Resorts International's overall point of view, by closing Haddon Hall, it moves the opening of Haddon Hall to some extent, so there is some benefit to be gained by closing it, actually in terms of the actual preopening hurdles of finding employees, what have you.

Over the long-term, I do think it makes more sense for

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it to be sold for precisely that reason, the fact that 3 the guest rooms alone cost much less.

With respect to closing of Haddon Hall for a time, I think you have addressed it in several different ways and indicated that the value of Haddon Hall will continue to be decline until after the Taj is open, and then will start to increase again.

Could you compare for me the benefit of selling Haddon Hall as a going operation, as contrasted with a closed facility?

Well, it's a matter of -- first of all, it's not entirely closed, only the casino room would be closed, kind of mothballed. The principle hurdle in buying it in that condition would be finding the employees, so you are talking recruiting costs, training costs of perhaps 1,000 out of 3,000 employees, or 1,500 out of 3,000 employees, because the hotel employees would still be there running the hotel part. What that number might be, may be \$5 million or \$10 million dollars, not a very large number, to be honest. I mean, figure the preopening costs of most brand new casinos have been in the area of \$15 million 24 to \$20 million, so if you had a facility where you had to go through the preopening of half the facility, it

D. Lee - Chairman Read 2 would be maybe half that number.

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- You probably would have equipment Q. 4 problems as well if it closed for any substantial time? 5|| A. Not necessarily. The building would still be 6 air conditioned, because you are still using the hotel 7 room part, and things like security cameras don't 8 deteriorate with age, you might have too -- you will 9 remember, since you were here and heard the testimony, 10 | I pointed out to Mr. Trump that there might be a 11 licensing problem leaving all that equipment simply 12 sealed in the casino room.
- You are aware of all that problem? 1411 Yes.
- So there would be an equipment problem, Q. 16 probably refinishing complete, or substantially complete?
- 181 Although recognizing the casinos have a lot of 19 wear and tear and the carpeting is replaced quite often anyway, and that sort of thing --
- 21 Q. I wasn't worried about the carpeting, 22 I was worried about the gaming equipment.
- 23 A. Sure, the slot machines and what have you.
- 24 In response to the question Commissioner Q. 25 Burdge asked you about the loss of income to the state,

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2 your answer was, as I recall, you might say the same 3||thing, that Bally's would be reducing such income by 4∥not building a third casino. You want to restate that 5 in a way that I will understand and make sense out of Isn't that something like saying Atlantis is 7 making something of less profit than Trump?

It was not a well stated answer.

In a sense, of course, opening the Taj Mahal, 10 | if you -- it depends on what you are comparing. 11 are comparing closing Haddon Hall at the same time that 12∥Taj Mahal opens, the state would be better off. If you 13 are assuming that Resorts International could continue 14 on its own and complete the Taj Mahal and open it, in 15 that situation, the state might have the highest revenues 16 from the casino revenue tax.

On the other hand, if Resorts continues with 18∥the Taj Mahal and is unable to complete it because it comes in so much over budget, the state could wind up in the worst situation, so it was not a very good answer previously.

> CHAIRMAN READ: I don't have any more questions.

> > VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN READ: Yes.

EXAMINATION BY VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ:

D. Lee - Vice-Chair Zeitz

- Q. Mr. Lee, how many casinos does DuBois now control or own, five maybe?
- A. It is approximately five, yes, sir.
- Q. Gross capacity, they may be the largest one in the country?
- A. Circus Circus would be larger in terms of casino capacity because their casinos are quite a bit larger, and they open, I think tomorrow they open the sixth.
- Q. Finally, just this one, were all this to happen and Mr. Trump goes ahead with that deal and becomes the controlling shareholder in Resorts, will Trump Castle and Plaza, notwithstanding that, remain competitive of Resorts International, no matter who controls it, or whatever that means in the Atlantic City market place? That seems to be where everything is sitting and what it's about.
- A. Yes, I believe they will, and it's interesting because I deal with the casino management of all the casinos, and I think you will find no other casino management is as competitive with each other as is Trump Plaza and Trump Castle, because they are both trying to look like they are the best Trump casino.

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- The same thing was true when Harrah's had two, the internal lines make them competitive.
- But I'm asking a different question, regardless of who controls Resorts or how, the way that is set up with two different kinds of shares, there are a lot of shareholders out there, and is not Resorts International going to be competing with all others, whether it's Taj Mahal, Resorts, with 12 others, including the Castle and the Plaza?
- I recognize that Resorts International is a Α. public company that is run by the Resorts International Board, and while Mr. Trump may be the controlling shareholder of Resorts International, the Board has the future and responsibility to their shareholders, that includes continuing to compete very actively with Trump Castle and Trump Plaza.
- Q. Will Mr. Trump be his own partner or his own competitor?
- He will be his own competitor. He will be in -- it's not an uncommon situation. The Pritzgers (phonetic) are in it often, for example, they have the Hyatt Hotel competing with Elsinore Corporation, for example, but, yes, he will have -- there will be competing between a facility, two facilities that he

D. Lee - Vice-Chair Zeitz 231

owns a hundred percent of and a casino that he owns

10 percent of, but has a separate board.

- Q. And it won't do the Plaza and the Castle any good if everybody thinks the Taj Mahal is good and go there and won't go to the other two?

  A. Correct, but Mr. Trump, in his role as fiduciary, he could not instruct the management of the
- Trump Castle because there are Class A shareholders of Resorts and he has a fiduciary responsibility to them as well.

Taj Mahal Casino to send all the high rollers back to

VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: Thank you.

# EXAMINATION BY CHAIRMAN READ:

- Q. For my clarification, Elsinore is publicly held and Hyatt is privately held?
- A. Hyatt is privately held by the Pritzgers, the Pritzgers own, I believe, now, 15 percent of Elsinore Corp. control.
- Q. So that they are somewhat comparable to the illustration you just gave here?
- A. Yes. In fact, it's even a stronger conflict of interest in some cases because the Hyatt Lake Tahoe is managed by Hyatt under management contract and Elsinore owns it.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you.

Mr. Ingis?

MR. INGIS: Yes, briefly.

## CROSS-EXAMINATION

## BY MR. INGIS:

Q. Mr. Lee, other than the total market share percentages, what factors do you consider significant in evaluating whether economic concentration exists?

- A. The main question in my mind is if Mr. Trump could act arbitrarily in a way to depress competition in the market. In other words, is he in a situation where he could suppress competition, and that becomes kind of a suggestive issue, but, in my opinion, he is not.
- Q. Do you contemplate any means by which he would be able to, by virtue of his market shares, hinder or suppress, in your words, competition?

  A. Not with 33 percent, no. Not with the other eight qualifying entities.
- Q. Did you take into account at all in evaluating the possibility of economic concentration any potential entry barriers into the Atlantic City gaming industry?

- D. Lee cross/redirect
- A. There are entry barriers, but they are not insurmountable.
- Q. Did you also take into account the strength of competition and positive development in the industry?
- A. Yes, I did.

MR. INGIS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN READ: Redirect, Mr. Ribis?

MR. RIBIS: Just a few quick questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. RIBIS:

- Q. You testified at length about temporary closing of the Haddon Hall and sale. You haven't discussed any of those factors with Mr. Trump, have you?
- A. No, not at all. Those are my own thoughts.
- Q. Those are your concepts here on the stand today, some of the things that could happen in the future?
- A. Right, my thoughts as an analyst.
- Q. And to your knowledge, none of those matters have been considered by the Board of Directors of Resorts to this point?
- A. That's correct.

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MR. RIBIS: Okay, I have no further questions.

MR. STERNS: Mr. Read, may I?
CHAIRMAN READ: Yes.

## CROSS-EXAMINATION

# BY MR. STERNS:

Q. If I could, Mr. Lee, your testimony, I think, raised a couple of issues I would like to explore with you at least briefly, I guess, from the point of view of Resorts and its shareholders.

First, let me ask you, I gather in the nature of your work that you have to be fairly familiar with the Casino Control Act?

### A. Yes.

Q. And that you have read it and know regulatory authority, and, as you say, you have attended here fairly often?

#### A. Yes.

Q. I wonder if you could comment on the question of economic concentration. I want to start with what the Chairman quoted to you, which is Section 12 of 17, preamble to the Act, which cites a number of goals, but in this particular one, says, "shall include the power that" -- we are talking about the

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regulatory and investigatory powers included by this
Act, include the power to regulate, control and prevent
economic concentration in the casino operations and
the ancillary industries.

I would like to turn for a second to the regulate and control aspect. Is this, in your opinion, based upon your experience, less restrictive to casinos, but casinos under regulation in Nevada and New Jersey, and wherever else, is this regulatory environment an environment where an economic concentration such as we have been talking about can take place to the detriment of other competitors, or does the regulatory authority of the Commission kind of rule that out in any way?

- A. It's a highly regulated, highly competitive industry.
- Q. That, for example, with regard to rules of the game, with regard to slot machines, with regard to busing, with regard to comps, with regard to all of those things, which would be marketing tools, would you say they were fairly highly regulated?
- A. Very highly regulated. It would take a monstrous market share to really dominate, and, in fact, I think it would be obvious to the Commission if someone

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236 D. Lee - cross reached that point.

Now, I would like to turn to the one other perspective Resorts would have, and that is from the point of view of economic concentration from the point of view from a regulated industry we have covered, after the point of view of the shareholders, from the point of view of a public company, I would like to just review with you briefly what the possibilities are that would confront a new majority shareholder, i.e., Mr. Trump and the Trump organization with regard to Resorts, one, and what it could do.

Would you agree that he could take no action, as a majority shareholder, that couldn't be justified as in the best interest of the public company?

- That's correct.
- Now, is it your testimony that it is Q. possible that it would be in the best interest of the public company to defer a sale of the present Resorts one to Haddon Hall?
- It may very well be, yes. Depends on what the price you might be able to get from selling Haddon Hall beforehand. If the Board of Resorts

International felt that the price that they could get before the opening of the Taj Mahal was not adequate, then that would be the situation where they would look to close it.

- Q. But aside from the regulatory constraints which are obviously placed by the Act and by the Commission, are there the constraints or fiduciary duties also required of directors, the management of a public company?
- A. There are constraints and fiduciary responsibilities involved, too.
- Q. Are you aware that is the case of Resorts International, and with the case also of several other public companies in Atlantic City, that there is a requirement for 50 percent independent board of directors?
- A. Yes, I am aware.
- asking this from your point of view, of course, as an analyst, with a major finance house, would that give comfort to shareholders that fiduciary duties would be carried out in a proper way, that is, with regard to the distribution of Resorts One and the Haddon Hall? And it certainly is one measure that you would

D. Lee - cross/recross

look for the fiduciary responsibilities to be covered.

MR. STERNS: Thank you.

I have no further questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Thank you.

Mr. Ribis?

MR. RIBIS: I have nothing further.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Vukcevich?

MR. VUKCEVICH: I just have a few

brief questions.

RECROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. VUKCEVICH:

- Q. In terms of your evaluation of financial aspects of casino hotel facilities, did you ever look into the proximity of one casino, as opposed to another?
- A. We have actually found an Atlantic City location isn't all that important. There are successful and unsuccessful casinos scattered around the boardwalk, and we look at some characteristics of site.

For example, we looked upon the Show Boat site somewhat negatively because they were not only at the end of the boardwalk, but they were the furthest from any of the three roads coming into town, and kind

D. Lee - recross

of hidden behind the Taj Mahal construction site.

We looked at the Caesars site positively because they were smack at the foot of the Atlantic City Expressway, we do look at locations, but it's more how the site is in relation to the relationship to the infrastructure around it, not to the boardwalk being better than the Marina or the center of the boardwalk being better than either end.

- Q. Speaking in terms of the proximity of the Taj Mahal facility to the Haddon Hall, can you give us an opinion, if you can, as to whether or not, in your view, the closing of the casino floor at Haddon Hall would help, harm or have no effect on the table and slot draw at the Taj?
- A. That's an issue two analysts could fight about forever, and I don't know the answer. It may well be that they are synergistic, it may well be that they would be competitive. For example, Trump Castle opened in the Marina and Harrah's Marina seems to do fine. It didn't seem to have a negative impact at all. On the other hand, it doesn't seem to have been synergistic, and maybe that's because they are not linked with the bridge.

It may very well be that the opening of the

Taj Mahal move the center of the boardwalk down towards that end and Show Boat's business improves, and that would be a good reflection on the resell value of the Haddon Hall, so it could work either way. At this point, nobody really knows.

- Q. One of the things that came up in terms of your testimony is the difference between the term control of Resorts and equity or ownership interest in Resorts. Could you explain what your understanding is of how those two terms are affected hereby?
- A. Mr. Trump will have absolute control, but he will still not be the only shareholder, and there are federal laws that regulate fiduciary responsibilities of persons in that situation. Just having control does not allow him to walk all over the shareholders. He must act in their best interests and in the best interests of a public company.
- Q. When you say that Mr. Trump will have absolute control, how will he have the ability to exercise that control, considering his fiduciary duties?
- A. He has the voting block, he will have the major, majority voting -- excuse me. He will have

the company.

majority voting control, meaning that even if all other shareholders voted against him, they could not overturn a decision he made. On the other hand, if he were to take some measure that strongly benefitted him at the expense of the corporation, they could sue him in court for neglecting his fiduciary responsibilities, the same as you could sue any director of any public company for neglecting their fiduciary responsibilities

In terms of the day-to-day operations

- and policies of Resorts International, Inc., upon Mr.

  Trump's acquisition of the B stock, will he have the ability, in consideration of his fiduciary duties, to control the day-to-day policies, et cetera?

  A. Yes, but only -- yes, he can, but he cannot instruct the day-to-day operating policies to be in some manner that benefits himself to the detriment of
- Q. Because of his fiduciary responsibilities?
- A. Because of his fiduciary responsibilities.

  It's similar to many other instances that come up in Atlantic City and many other businesses. Mr. Crosby, for example, if Mr. Crosby wanted to take \$20 million from the company and go and buy a weekend house, he

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couldn't do that because he had other shareholders in the company, and Mr. Trump being the sole shareholder of the Trump Castle, if his bond covenant allows it, which I don't believe they do at the moment, but if they allowed it, he could take \$20 million out of Trump Castle and go build a weekend house, but his fiduciary responsibilities at Resorts would prevent him from doing that.

> MR. VUKCEVICH: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER WATERS: Mr. Chairman,

I just have one question.

CHAIRMAN READ: Yes.

#### EXAMINATION BY COMMISSIONER WATERS:

Mr. Sterns raised the issue about 0. fiduciary responsibility, and there has also been discussion of it here. If I understand what you are saying, the implication is people always carry out their fiduciary responsibilities properly. Is that what you are trying to imply?

No, not that they always do so properly, but if they don't, then the shareholders can go to the court and sue that person.

> If they are aware of it? Q.

If they are aware of it, but that's part of my

D. Lee - Commissioner Waters job, frankly.

Q. Pardon me?

A. Part of my job is to watch on behalf of shareholders and write reports for shareholders.

This issue came up, actually, with Hilton, with the Hilton Foundation, which also had fiduciary responsibilities in terms of whether to vote their shares in favor of the bylaw changes, and they did vote in favor of the bylaw changes and there were a couple of shareholder lawsuits against them, which I believe were settled out of court.

- Q. Okay. I just want to -- I need for myself to clear away the impression that this is automatic, somebody has to react to it, and you mentioned the federal government. What mechanism do they have in place that they have utilized to safeguard this responsibility?
- A. It would be under the -- although I am not a lawyer, but I understand it would be under the purview of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The fact is the federal government is not likely to get involved in this unless it was something very flagrant. But, for example, at Resorts International there is an entity called Industrial Equities, Pacific

the situation?

Q.

Limited, which owns five percent of the Class A stock, approximately, controlled by the Brierly (phonetic) Group. The Brierly Group is the largest public corporation in New Zealand, worth about \$5 billion, and they control the fourth largest public company in Australia, and if Mr. Trump were to -- and they have investments in tens of millions of dollars, if Mr. Trump were to do something that they felt was unfair or that he had not acted responsibily in his fiduciary responsibility, they would most likely sue, and they are an entity that sued companies before for that same reason.

- Q. But I guess it is true, the SEC has no mechanism in place to insure fairness, otherwise they wouldn't have a situation today where one class of stock is controlling, even though it represents only a small percentage of the total equity ownership?
- A. I believe they have recently come out in favor of a new rule that would make it one share, one vote, although companies like Resorts International would be grandfathered.

Yes. So it really wouldn't change

- A. That really would not change the situation.
- Q. So the unfairness that exists today would continue?
- A. On the other hand, the shareholders who bought the Class A shares did so knowing that they had much less voting power than the Class B.
- Q. But I think they aborted in good faith, didn't they?
- A. It wasn't until recently --
- Q. That someone was looking out for their welfare?
- A. If you look at the trading prices of Class A and Class B, it didn't fluctuate very much at all, the Class B was always only \$2 or \$3 above Class A, until Mr. Crosby died, and then people started to say well, how much is the control premium worth, and then you saw the Class B shoot way up, and it's clear, at least to me as an analyst, that the voting power was really there.

CHAIRMAN READ: Isn't it right on

Mr. Crosby's death, they both shot way up?

THE WITNESS: They both shot way up,

B went up farther than A, then A came down,

yes.

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VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: Mr. Lee, isn't it true that anybody who wanted to could control for \$12 in 1978?

THE WITNESS: I think that's correct.

VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: But they didn't,

correct?

THE WITNESS: Even in the initial public offering of shares of Resorts, which is now, many, many years ago, decades ago, it showed the voting differential. In fact, we recently took a careful look at Four Seasons Hotels, which is a public company, which has a similar voting differential, but one little clause in it that makes it quite a bit different, and that is if the controlling shareholder dies, his shares revote to normal shares, and you live and learn on Wall Street too, and in the future, a differential voting is a very big role in trying to value one stock vis-a-vis another.

CHAIRMAN READ: I just have one question beyond that, that is the question of the real dominance as far as voting control is concerned. Is that going to be a problem with

D. Lee 247

tracking really good independent outside directors?

THE WITNESS: I don't think so. I don't think so. Mr. Trump has a very good name, and I think there are very many people who would like to work closely with Mr. Trump.

CHAIRMAN READ: I wasn't speaking of Mr. Trump personally, but just the concept of getting yourself in a position where the dominant shareholder might have a view different from yours, and, yes, your great duty presumably is to the substantial equity balance.

THE WITNESS: If you are appointed a director of Resorts International, it doesn't matter that Mr. Trump has whatever voting power he has. A proper, independent director must look and make his decision based on his own business judgment.

CHAIRMAN READ: But he still is going to know whether he is between two heavy balances.

THE WITNESS: He is, but that's not unusual, and, in fact, that is even the case

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D. Lee 248

in companies where a controlling shareholder has a much smaller interest. Mr. Mullane does not take lightly to directors who would vote against him, even though he owns very little of Bally's stock.

CHAIRMAN READ: I understand.

Further questions from anybody for Mr. Lee?

If not, Mr. Lee, thank you.

(Witness excused.)

MR. RIBIS: Marvin Roffman, please.

THE REPORTER: Would you raise your right hand, please.

Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give in this matter will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MR. ROFFMAN: I do.

THE REPORTER: Please state your full name and spell your last.

MR. ROFFMAN: Marvin Roffman,

R-O-F-F-M-A-N.

MARVIN ROFFMAN, first having been duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

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M. Roffman - direct

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. RIBIS:

- Q. Mr. Roffman, where are you presently employed?
- A. I'm with Janney, Montgomery and Scott, an investment firm based in Philadelphia.
- Q. Could you briefly describe for the Commission your experience in the casino industry and your knowledge of the casino industry?
- A. Yes. I have been following the casino industry as a security analyst for Janney, Montgomery, Scott for the past nine years. I have been associated with the company for 13 years. I am a vice-president of the company. I am very involved in the financial community in Philadelphia, from an educational aspect. I have lectured at various colleges, I am past president of Philadelphia Securities Association. I am a member of the Financial Analysts of Philadelphia for over 20 years.
- Q. Have you reviewed the potential acquisition of the Resorts B stock by Mr. Trump and its effect on the market place in Atlantic City?

  A. I have.
  - Q. And specifically calling your

asking me.

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attention to that transaction, could you briefly describe for the Commission, without repeating some of the areas, I guess, Mr. Lee has already covered, what your opinions are regarding that matter?

A. Well, I do not believe that his ownership of the Taj Mahal, or the large casino, would mean economic concentration, if that's what you are

- Q. Yes, and could you state for the Commission your reasons for reaching that conclusion?

  A. Yes. Simply because by law, no individual operator can operate more than three casinos, which currently represents about 25 percent of the number of casinos operating in Atlantic City, and to me 25 percent does not mean economic concentration.
- Q. And in considering economic concentration and the effect on the market place, have you looked to the Taj Mahal transaction and Mr. Trump's potential ownership of the B stock and its positive effects on the market place? Have you recently reviewed that?
- A. Yes, I have. I have written numerous papers on Atlantic City, and particularly with that property.
  - Q. And discussing that matter for the

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Commission, specifically addressing yourself to the positive aspect of the development of the Taj Mahal and the operation of it by Mr. Trump, could you explain the basis for your conclusions?

A. Yes. I think the Taj Mahal is what Atlantic
City really needs. It's unlike any other casino
property in town in that it's almost a self-contained
convention facility. It's a mini-convention hall.

Over the past nine years, over \$3 billion has been invested in Atlantic City. Most of that money has gone into 12 properties, yet, Atlantic City has not really delivered to the voters who approved the Act 10 years ago what -- the purpose of bringing casino gaming into Atlantic City was to revitalize Atlantic City, and to me Atlantic City has not been revitalized, unless you say, well, there are 40,000 jobs, a billion \$8 million has been paid in taxes, but the city is still a very shabby place to visit, and I think that Atlantic City has to make a transition from the kind of a market it is today, which is really a summer and a weekend daytripper market into a yearround destination resort that can attract people from vast distances, not just a day's drive of the city, and there has to be a lot of ancillary type of

businesses that develop, and this particular project, to me, is going to close that gap in that transition phase to move from that daytripper type market into a convention type of a market, a market where you can invite people in from all over the United States, where they can fly in, and not just come in by subsidized buses and automobiles, and be able to enjoy a real fine resort area.

I remember as a child, I used to go down to Atlantic City every summer and at night after -- where we would go out on the boardwalk and everyone wore a jacket and a tie, which is not the case today, and I think a lot of things will change over the next couple of years.

This is the kind of a project that will help make that change possible. The magnitude of it, and the amenities that it offers isn't like any project in Atlantic City today. More space is being dedicated to the public than any other project.

Q. Why do you think Mr. Trump's involvement and participation as a shareholder in Resorts International will aid in the completion of the construction of the Taj Mahal and the expansion of the market place to a convention type market

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place, with the completion of this facility?

A. Well, I have been watching this property for quite some time. If you take out the 1982 annual report of Resorts International, they have talked about this project, and over the past four or so years, the costs of the project just escalated. Originally, this was to be built for about \$200 million, it looks to me now, and I have published this in reports that I have written, that this project will probably cost in excess of three-quarters of a billion dollars, it's about \$750 million.

I question whether or not Resorts' current management, as it stands today, could complete that project. It really needs someone with vast financial resources behind him to do that, and I have been a follower of the Trump organization, just looking at the numbers that I see, and he runs a very -- he runs two very efficient casinos and they are very well managed.

Q. Specifically addressing yourself to Mr. Trump's potential ownership of the Taj Mahal, or control of the Taj Mahal and the owner of Trump Plaza and Trump Castle, do you believe, from your knowledge of the casino industry and the regulations and the

statutes of New Jersey, that that would be economic concentration of the industry and the market place of Atlantic City?

A. No, I do not.

- Q. And could you explain to the Commission why not?
- A. Yes. When I was listening to Mr. Lee's testimony, and I heard a lot of the things that the Commissioners were saying about this economic concentration and I was thinking about that, I was showering this morning and I thought well, that sounds so wrong, economic concentration, all of a sudden you start to think, well, if I controlled the Atlantic City market, I could price, I could set my own prices.

Well, the Atlantic City market is not a free market. The casino industry in Atlantic City is highly regulated and controlled and pricing in Atlantic City, from the standpoint of the casino patron, is really the payout, the casino payouts, and because all of the games are highly regulated, all the rules and the caps on the slot machine payouts, nothing can change.

No one who controls three casinos in Atlantic City could say, well, instead of paying out 12 or 13

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percent in my slots, I am going to reset them and I'm going to only pay out nine percent. Well, I'll tell you it will only take a couple of days before -- bettors are pretty smart guys, they know where to go. There's no way in the world that you could do that,

M. Roffman - direct/cross

and there is a cap, by law, anyway, so all this talk about economic concentration in a regulated industry just makes absolutely no sense to me at all, and especially with the way the law is written, that one

operator can only operate three properties.

There are 12 now, and by my projections, I see somewhere around 14 to 16 probably in the early 90's.

MR. RIBIS: I have no further questions. Thank you, Mr. Roffman.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Sterns?

MR. STERNS: No questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Vukcevich?

MR. VUKCEVICH: Thank you.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. VUKCEVICH:

Q. It seems clear that you understand there is no individual entity can operate more than three casino-hotel facilities, is that correct, Mr. Roffman?

M. Roffman - cross

A. Yes, that's right.

bit?

Q. Do you feel that it is at all possible for economic concentration to exist under any scenario, hypothetical or factual, where a person controls three casino-hotels?

- A. That is correct, it is impossible in

  Atlantic City under the current rules and regulations,

  where a casino can only operate right now 25 percent

  of the casino-hotel projects, to get that kind of

  economic concentration. It just cannot happen.
- Q. In view of the three-license limitation inherent in New Jersey law, do you think there was any necessity for a provision in the Casino Act relating to concentration?
- A. Say that again, please.
- Q. Yes. In view of the three-license limitation as set forth in the Casino Control Act, do you think there is any necessity for the provision of the Act relating to economic concentration?

  A. I do not.
  - Q. Could you explan upon that a little
- A. Yes. As I said, there are 12 casinos right now, one man cannot control more than 25 percent of

those, and I can't see how, in any stretch of the imagination, that could possibly mean economic concentration, and even when there were three operators back in 1979 that controlled the entire market place, no one -- how can economic concentration be a bad thing for the people who go into casinos, when the Act tells the operator how much of a payout there is going to be on the slot machines and the rules governing every game are really set forth by the Act, so -- once you set the rules down, that automatically sets payout. We know what the payout is going to be almost every single month, it's going to average somewhere around 16 and a half percent.

Q. I think I might be having a little difficulty in terms of understanding your testimony, so let me ask you a hypothetical question.

Let's assume that there are only five casinos in the State of New Jersey, and one operator controls three of those five casinos. In a situation as that --

A. But there isn't. The other operators aren't going to go out of business. There are six strong operators in New Jersey right now, and, as a matter of fact, if you take six operators in the whole State

want me to give you my reasons for that?

Q. Yes, sir.

A. The gaming market in Atlantic City is definitely a maturing market, and in looking back in 1986, the market, as measured by gross casino win increased about 6.7 percent over the prior year. That number has been coming down steadily from the past couple of years. It has been drawing about 10 percent for these three years prior to that, so that the market is definitely growing down, and, as a matter of fact, we think that the market is growing about 7 percent a year currently, and will probably continue to do that for the next couple of years.

Now, the amount of gaming capacity that has been coming on just this year is 10 percent, and during the month of April, when that 10 percent addition came on stream through the opening of the Show Boat, which was the 12th casino in Atlantic City, we looked at the April number, you will see that the April gross casino win was up less than 6 percent. Yet, when you look at the 11 properties where you can make year-to-year comparisons, only four of the casinos have up months and three of the four were really just marginal increases of less than two percent,

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- A. It's impossible, as long as the rules are three licenses and the other operators are not going to go out of business.
- Q. In terms of -- aside from your background and experience, did you perform any analysis or study in light of your testifying here today?
- A. I've done many of them, my last one was dated June 11th.
- Q. And what specifically did that concern?
- A. It really addressed the whole issue of casino gaming in Atlantic City, what I think the near term prospects were, and my long view.
- Q. And did that include an assessment of the effect of the closure of the casino floor of Haddon Hall?
- A. It is not mentioned in this report specifically but I have commented on that in the past.
- Q. Could you give us your opinion on that, please?
- A. Yes, I think if they closed the casino area and the convention hall, it would be a tremendous benefit near term to the entire industry. Now, you

M. Roffman - cross

want me to give you my reasons for that?

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so the slices of the pie are getting cut into thinner slices.

Now, with the opening of the Taj Mahal next year, that 120,000 square feet addition would be a 20 percent increase over the approximate 601,000 square feet of gaming area in Atlantic City today, so can you imagine a 20 percent addition coming on when the market is only growing 7 percent? The pie slices will get even thinner.

If the Resorts casino is closed and you take 60,000 square feet off and just bring on the 120,000 square feet, you still would be increasing the gaming capacity by 10 percent, which is still more than the industry is -- it's more capacity than the industry is growing, so next year is still going to be a really tough year, and this year is going to be a tough year, too, for the operators, so I think it's a blessing in disguise by closing down that property, at least temporarily.

Q. In terms of your analysis of the situation, did you give any consideration to the operation of the Taj Mahal as a potential convention center and the effect that would have on Atlantic City?

A. Absolutely. It is -- this market is going to have to change because people are -- industries are investing a tremendous amount of money and they are getting the kinds of returns that they should be getting.

Let me just give you an example. Last year, the industry had a net income of about \$55 million. On gross casino revenues, that was about 2.1 percent. That's a rate of less than half of what American industries are earning, so, obviously, all of these expensive projects that are going up, they are not going up for what you are seeing profit-wise today, these investors are looking beyond that, they are looking at a time, a couple of years down the road when you can start to market this city to a lot lower customer base than you have today.

Basically, of the 30 million visitors in
Atlantic City last year, 13 million came by bus.

\$213 million was paid by the casinos in giveaways to
bring these people down on a bus ride. This is not
what the voters envisioned 10 or 11 years ago, when
they approved this measure. They wanted to see this
city revitalized. It hasn't happened, but it will
happen, in my opinion, when Atlantic City can start to

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market to a much broader base and bring in people who are going to stay more than eight hours.

The average visitor in Atlantic City spends eight hours in Atlantic City and the average visitor in Las Vegas spends a little over four days. 50 percent of Las Vegas visitors come by air. Virtually nobody comes by air into Atlantic City. The percent is miniscule.

Q. Is it your testimony that the operators of the Taj Mahal would advance those -
A. Absolutely, because it's almost a chicken and the egg kind of situation. You've got to have a lot more hotel rooms to be able to initiate airline service into the city.

Now, at 1,250 hotel rooms is quite a sizeable base. We are now getting up to what I call my magic number of about 10,000 first-class hotel rooms, when the airlines really will start to get interested, because you have to be able to guarantee to these airlines X number of rooms, a block of rooms over, let us say, a seven-day period to entice these people to come down. Nobody is going to fly down there if there is no place to put the people, and what Atlantic City is doing right now, it's like chasing its own tail.

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You've got 30 million visitors, but really it's probably five million visitors coming back six times a year.

This industry has got to be able to go out and market in the midwest, it's got to be able to market elsewhere, and when that happens, when people come down and decide that they want to stay and you can have a sizeable convention business, then you can start to develop the ancillary businesses and have supermarkets and other businesses that thrive on that kind of visitor.

I see it coming, but you've got to bridge the gap. This is the first project in Atlantic City that really makes sense to me. I mean, it's entirely different than any project down there. If you take a look at what's going up there now, you will find that most of these casinos have offered 500 rooms -- that's how they were built -- with a casino area ranging anywhere from 45,000 to 60,000 square feet, and the biggest convention area down there -- I'm talking about public space dedicated to convention type business -- is probably 40,000 square feet.

Now, here is a property that will probably have at least four times that kind of public space, and

within a matter of one and a half blocks of either side of Virginia Avenue, you will have 2,500 hotel rooms, tremendous draw to the businessman, and the convention type business, and that's why I am all excited about that project, it really is -- it will mark the transitional phase. I see it over the next couple of years.

- Q. Before you became aware of Mr. Trump's potential purchase of the Class B of Resorts' stock, did you hold those same views of the importance of the Taj Mahal facility?
- A. I did, but I think what happened over the period of four years, I think from the conception until it got off the drawing board until it got built, the costs just skyrocketed, and, frankly, I don't think that the project could be completed as it stands, as it stands right now, today, as the kind of a project that Crosby envisioned when he designed this thing.

The costs just got out of control, and you can finish a project cheaply and you can do it right away, you can say well, I'm not going to have the suites, or I'm going to cut down on my restaurants, or I'm going to cut down on these amenities. I don't

think that the Trump organization works that way at all.

Now, all you have to do is go in and take a look at the projects that he runs and see what he's doing. I think if you take a look at the Plaza, for example, putting in that parking garage, to me, was absolutely a vital tool in making that project really get off the ground, by bringing parking into the downtown area, a very expensive thing to do, but absolutely vital.

He is an example, you look at the elevators in that hotel, I think there are five elevators in that hotel. Now, once you build a hotel, you don't add more elevators, but you have to find ways of making those elevators work more efficiently, and the details given just to make the elevators have more capacity by having less downtime and having proper maintenance, and having state of the art computers run those elevators is important to keeping the patron happy.

These are details that only someone who has foresight can really address to make those projects click, and everything that I see, he is the kind of a man that pays attention to all those little details to

make the project work successfully.

On the terms of your analysis from the

Q. In terms of your analysis from the point of forming an opinion concerning the Haddon Hall, did you at any time consider the impact of the City of Philadelphia's desire to become a major convention center and the effect that might have on Atlantic City?

Actually, I think that -- our city has come up with a plan to put up a convention facility that will cost over \$400 million. Frankly, it's the kind of a thing that I -- it just is ridiculous, because Philadelphia just could not offer what Atlantic City can offer.

As an example, if you take a look at Philadelphia, there are probably less than 3,000 first class hotel rooms, and very little in the way of entertainment. With Atlantic City, an hour and 10 minutes car ride, and probably soon to be less than an hour on the rail lines, which is on the way, I can't see putting up a \$400 million convention center in Philadelphia, because if I were making the decision of where I would want to go for a convention business, I would want to go to an area where there is lots of entertainment and lots of restaurants and lots of hotel

It's just impossible.

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10 closure of that casino floor, as opposed to its being sold to another person or entity? Can you repeat that question, please. 13 Sure. In terms of the presently

Resorts' facility, Haddon Hall, do you see any, or

can you give us your opinion as to the effect of the

rooms, and the hotel base in Atlantic City will

probably be 13,000 over the next three years or so,

and you can't possibly entertain any kind of a conven-

In terms of the presently operating

tion business with less than 3,000 first class hotel

operating Resorts' facility, can you give us your opinion as to any effect that the selling of that casino would have, the casino-hotel facility, as opposed to its operation by Mr. Trump and Resorts as a hotel facility only? How would that impact upon your analysis?

Well, we do know one thing, that somewhere down the road Mr. Trump has to make a decision, because he cannot operate four casinos, he can only operate Some way or other, one is going to have to go, and all I have been hearing here is Resorts' property, but he has other options, and, frankly, if I were in

casino, at least maybe in the short term, but if I had my options, I would sell one of the other properties and operate the Resorts' casino as a separate property.

Q. Why?

his position, and I have never discussed this with him,

I, if I had the option, I would not close the Resorts'

A. Because I feel that -- now we are going to get into a little longer dissertation, but this is my feeling.

Right now, the Marina area has been a very desirable location in Atlantic City. The two properties that operate there are the most profitable casinos in Atlantic City, or among — they are among the two most profitable in Atlantic City, and the reason is parking. They are really like big parking garages with casinos attached. That is — that competitive — in my opinion, is going to change dramatically over the next, even over the next two or three years, because there is tremendous parking coming on in the downtown area, and I feel that the Taj Mahal is such an important project in Atlantic City that it will probably tend to shift the action on the boardwalk towards the east end, and I feel where the Taj is right now will probably be an exciting area of

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Atlantic City, and the goal line, instead of starting down at the Golden Nugget, will probably start around Trump's Plaza.

I look at the Trump Plaza, it's like Times

Square in New York, and the area around the Resorts'

property is probably the business convention type of

property.

Now, the average visitor comes to Atlantic
City and likes to go from casino to the next, and it
is a statistical fact that the average visitor will
visit over three casinos during his eight-hour stay,
and he likes the mobility, he likes that stroll down
the boardwalk, and even likes to go from one property
to the other, and the disadvantage of the downtown
parking is going to disappear, so I think if I were in
the driver's seat, if I were sitting in Mr. Trump's
position, frankly, I would not. I think the Resorts'
property, as it stands now, or as you called Haddon
Hall, is going to be a very desirable property in the
future, and if I were him, that wouldn't be my option.

- Q. That's your opinion?
- A. That's my opinion. I haven't discussed this with anyone. That's just my opinion.
  - Q. Let me rephrase my last question.

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M. Roffman - cross

Do you feel that the closing of any casino floor in Atlantic City would benefit, harm, help or have no effect on the casino --

Over the near term, as I said, I think it's a blessing in disguise for the whole industry. There is too much capacity coming on stream at this present time. Profit margins are disastrously low and right now the investment community has turned a deaf ear on the casino stocks, and Wall Street really isn't very much interested in investing in casinos right now.

> MR. VUKCEVICH: Thank you. I don't have any other questions.

> > CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Zeitz?

## EXAMINATION BY VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ:

Mr. Roffman, you mentioned -- again, Q. I'm going to be somewhat all over the lot. mentioned a moment ago, you described the casinos in the casinos as parking lots with casinos attached. terms of the purpicasity of the casino industry, do you recall the Harrah's temporary permit hearing in 1980, when a ranking official of that corporation complained about the fact that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection made them build a garage with 2,400 spaces, as opposed to

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M. Roffman - Vice-Chair Zeitz
allowing their plans for 700 spaces for surface
parking?

A. No.

- Q. What does that say about the industry's ability to forecast what's going to be good for it?

  They complained then about having to spend \$12 million, and being worth a return of who knows what?
- A. Well, honestly, I don't remember.
- Q. I was there, that's what happened.

  My point is we hear so many complaints such as you voiced today, and time and again they don't happen to work out that way.

You said those are parking garages with casinos attached. The State of New Jersey, a regulatory agency, the Department of Environmental Protection, because of sensitive land use issues out there, made that company build a parking garage, rather than let them have one-third less parking, that they were required to build, and they asked for surface parking, and that's what you attribute the success of that company to be.

A. Well, remember in the early days of Atlantic City, there were going to be three major properties in the Marina area, and the initial concept was that

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M. Roffman - Vice-Chair Zeitz 273 all three would feed each other. If you are at the Trump property, it's not even easy to get to the other one. I think the advantages of going to those properties right now is really, I would say, the parking is the big feature.

- Free parking, too.
- And free. By the way, it's free almost everywhere else, too.
- It's an example that Harrah's started They didn't do too well when they charged for parking, did they?
- Well, yes. Α.
- You say the profit margin is down about two percent?
- 2.1 percent.
- That's after various management contracts set down management fees and the companies were paying themselves management fees --
- A few of them are taking out, that's right.
- Isn't it like any other business in this country, you play your money and you take your chances, and if you are good at your business and you have a good product, you sell it and make a profit, and if you don't, you don't?

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A. That's right. It also doesn't mean that the Taj Mahal is going to make a profit, either. There is a tremendous risk involved in that property. If the property comes in at 750 or 800 million, just to break even they will probably have to do \$31 million a month in the casino. There's a tremendous risk involved there.

Q. A risk nobody is forcing on anybody to take?

- A. That's right, exactly.
- Q. Now, to the Casino Control statute. There is a statute, is there not?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And is that not why we are here today, because it speaks of economic concentration, we do not invent these things, do we?
- A. Yes, but when I was asked the question whether or not any casino presently could have economic concentration, I just cannot see how that would be possible in the current situations today with the number of operators that are down here, plus the fact that you have a regulated controlled, highly regulated and highly controlled environment where you really can't set prices -- I mean, where prices are

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the history of the casino?

My question was, what your answer was Q. on that. I understand that. My question is, do you understand why the question is being asked in the first place?

- No, I don't.
  - You understand there is a statute?
- Yes.
- And you understand that this Commis-Q. sion, every member of it, takes an oath of office to uphold that statute?
- Absolutely.
- And these inquiries into the casinos Q. must be made in public?
- Oh, sure.
- Because otherwise, we have questions Q. about the integrity of the industry and ourselves, and isn't that what causes people to stay away from the city in the first place?
- Listen, the way the rules are written now, the only ones that can come into Atlantic City are the financially strong.
  - And isn't that to the benefit, given Q.

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- 23 A.
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- VICE-CHAIR ZEITZ: That's all I have,
- I believe.

- It's to the benefit of the patron. The patron certainly has a much more pleasant experience in going
- into a casino that's financially secure.
- I mean isn't it to the benefit of the body politic of New Jersey because twe operators are susceptible to untoward influence of organized crime,
- as they were in Nevada?
- I think you fellows are doing an absolutely superb job, and I never doubted --
- Mr. Roffman, I'm not trying to be Q. facetious, and I would appreciate it if you wouldn't, 13 because that's not the point.
- My point being that if this law creates so much regulation that, as you say, only the economic-16 ally strong can come in here, it is part of reading out the problem that plagued this industry that caused it to have problems for so many years, the kind of problems 19 that if it still had, we would not have it, Mr. Trump 20 wouldn't be interested, other major corporations would 21 | not be, and you wouldn't be analyzing it for the public, 22 because nobody would be investing in it?
  - That's right.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Burdge?

COMMISSIONER BURDGE: No questions.

CHAIRMAN READ: Ms. Armstrong?

## EXAMINATION BY COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG:

- Q. Mr. Roffman, you indicated earlier that, in your opinion, promises to the voters as to what was going to result from the casino voting has not been delivered, and but for the casino sites that have been developed, Atlantic City has not been revitalized, it's a shabby place --
- A. My opinion.
- Q. Yes, in your opinion, and that certain transitions have to take place.

I also recall that several years ago, there was a series of newspaper articles written by George Anastasia of the Philadelphia Inquirier in which you were quoted as indicating if you want to locate there, meaning Atlantic City, you've got to shop at Resorts, and the article also indicated thatyou said one other thing government has to do is make it easier and less expensive for the developers to put together land parcels, unless you go to Resorts, which controls a great deal, you have to take off one parcel, and that situation, you add one guy can kill a whole deal by

that's still the case?

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24 | I mean the way the Act was written, you don't want

25 anybody to come in unless they can support at least a

Well, economically, it doesn't make sense any more to build a casino unless you are going to have probably something like eight to 10 acres. This is my opinion. It just doesn't make economic sense to come in to spend 250 million, and opt to build on a two-acre parcel. You need a larger parcel to spread your costs, and I can't really -- even though there a lot of parcels available for development, I really don't think, with the high cost of coming into Atlantic City today, that there are going to be that many more casinos there operating even 10 years from now. I only see maybe two or three down the road, and that's it. That's my opinion. It's just too expensive to come in, and besides, if you look at the industry today, the industry in the United States, and we are talking about a five and a half billion dollar gross casino win, it's probably 80 percent of that whole market is in the hands of maybe six to eight operators.

It takes a tremendous financial backing to

23 open one of these properties. I mean you just can't --

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M. Roffman - Commissioner Armstrong 279 500-room hotel with 500 parking spaces.

It just can't make economic sense to put 250 or \$300 million into a small site, so there are really very limited number of sites that I think are really developable economically

Do you think that it's a fact of life 0. for someone to come in and develop anything, including a non-casino property, whether it be a hotel property or some kind of housing, that it's a fact of life that Resorts really has to be dealt with in terms of attempting to acquire parcels of land?

I think that the real fun in seeing Atlantic City develop into a really fine destination resort is just about to happen, and, as I said, I really think there are very few more casinos coming to Atlantic City, so the land is going to have to go into -- a lot of the land is going to go into noncasino use, as I see it. Nobody is going to be holding out any more, whatever. If you are not there now, you are probably not going to come.

The kinds of financial resources you need to get there, that will have taken you there. The costs of entry now is so high that I just don't see very many more people coming in. I think what you will

probably see, maybe one or two of the operators down there maybe building another casino, but I really don't see any new entries, any new kids on the block. I really don't see it, too expensive.

M. Roffman - Commissioner Armstrong

Now, I think the land is going to start to go into a lot more efficient uses.

COMMISSIONER ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you.

CHAIRMAN READ: Mr. Waters?

COMMISSIONER WATERS: I have no questions.

## EXAMINATION BY CHAIRMAN READ:

- Q. Mr. Roffman, straighten me out. You indicated that three casinos equal 25 percent, and, therefore, that's not economic concentration, is that right?
- A. Yes, that's my opinion, not when you have --
- Q. So you are equating a license to a share of the market, as I understand, when you say that, is that correct?
- A. I'm sorry, please?
- Q. You are equating a license to a share of the market?
- A. That's correct, I am not judging it by square

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- M. Roffman Chairman Read footage, because square footage really isn't relevant -
- I understand. You indicated that Q. Show Boat is opening, you said that would increase capacity by 10 percent. You are not equating a license to a percentage there.
- Well, then, let's take it from 11 to 12 is just about 10 percent.
  - Q. But it isn't 10 percent?
- Let's say it's eight and a half.
- Okay. How do you equate, when we are Q. really talking about economic concentration, what measure do we take? It's not just a license, is it? Well, the way the Act is written, I interpreted that it was a license.
- But you didn't indicate that it was Q. anything other than just it was a shear number of Isn't that your understanding of the Act? licenses? My understanding of the Act was it wasn't by square footage, but simply by the number of actual casinos in operation.
- And so when the section of the statute that we were discussing with Mr. Lee talks about economic concentration, your interpretation is that that doesn't mean anything more than the number of

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To me, yes, that is my interpretation. Α.

- When you went into the question as to Q. whether or not there is economic concentration here, did you take into consideration at all Resorts' land holdings?
- No, that did not enter my calculation at all. I am really only interested in the casino angle.
- But we are talking about economic Q. concentration?
- Α. Yes.
- You indicated, in your response to a Q. 14 question from Mr. Vukcevich, that there was absolutely 15 no scenario that you could imagine at all that would 16 really raise the question of economic concentration.
- 17 Not per se in the casino industry.
- I wonder, we are only talking about the Q. 19 | number of casinos in the casino industry.
- 20 A. Exactly.
- 21 But your indication to him was there Q. 22 was no scenario that you could imagine at all that 23 economic concentration would be offensive under the Act.
- 24 | A. That's right.
  - Let's assume for the moment that Resorts Q.

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M. Roffman - Chairman Read and/or Mr. Trump, or a combination of them, went out and bought all of the casino-owned land in Atlantic City, would that be offensive to you?

A. As I said before, I really don't feel that there are going to be that many more casinos --

- O. I didn't ask that --
- Okay. Α.
  - Q. I said if that happened --
- Α. Okay.
- If that happened, would that be economic concentration that was offensive under the Act, in your opinion?
- To buy up all the sites?
- If that economic situation occurred, would it violate the Act, in your opinion?
- I don't know. I have to think about that.
  - I can wait.
- I can't see how anybody would go out and buy up casino sites and not be able to develop casinos on I mean it makes no sense at all.
- Maybe he just likes to keep everybody else out of the business.
- There's a big No, no, casino sites. difference, because casino sites, when you talk about

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M. Roffman - Chairman Read 2|| the acreage and the dollars per acreage that you pay for it, they go for extraordinarily high numbers, and nobody in their right mind --

I understand that, but you are avoiding Q. the question, whether it's economically feasible and desireable or offensive or what.

My fundamental question to you is, whether or not that happened, that would violate the Act, in your opinion?

- No, it wouldn't, because they couldn't build casinos on them.
  - And neither could anybody else. 0.
- But why buy the land if you are not going to develop it?
- The point is, the fundamental question Q. there as to whether or not it's a good deal. trying to get you to accept the fact that here is a premise, and is that economic concentration?
- What you are saying to me is that he is not going to -- by having all this land, he isn't going to sell it to other casinos, so there are going to be  $23\|_{-}X$  number of casinos.
  - I'm trying to get you to face the fact Q. there may be economic concentration over and above the

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M. Roffman - Chairman Read question of how many licenses you hold. You obviously don't think that, it may be ridiculous --

- I guess not, because as a prudent businessman, I just can't see buying and not developing those into casinos. It doesn't make economic sense.
- And it's your understanding that the Q. economic concentration provision of the statute does not say anything more than three licenses, and that's all we look at?
- That's how I look at it.
- I will tell you I don't presume to speak for my other Commissioners, but I don't agree with that conclusion.

You indicated that the close down of the Haddon Hall property would be a blessing in disguize, at least on a temporary basis. Let's go back to the question that Commissioner Burdge asked Mr. Lee back a while, and put it a little different way, I will put it in your words, will that be a blessing for state revenue in the short term? When this project was originally designed, and when I had discussed it with the Resorts' management, which I have for many, many years, if this property -- if the Haddon Hall wasn't to be sold, and

A. To the industry.

we all know that the project actually -- that the project was on the auction block for some time, it's no secret, it doesn't make economic sense to operate that property and have a 60,000 square foot casino directly to a large casino. It just doesn't make economic sense, and, originally, long before Mr. Trump came into the picture, the Resorts International management was going to scale down that casino floor considerably from where it is today just because it didn't make economic sense to operate two large properties. It just isn't good business sense.

Q. I guess the problem you and I are having, Mr. Roffman, is you don't seem interested in the question I asked, and I am, and I like the answers you give and the questions you pose, but I would like to have you answer the questions that I pose, if you don't mind.

A. Okay.

- Q. Now, let's assume that Haddon Hall is closed down as a casino totally and the Taj Mahal opens
  A. Okay.
- Q. You said that would be a blessing in disguize?

- Q. It would be a blessing in disguize to the rest of the industry, I understand. I would like you to explain to me how it would be a blessing in disguize to the State of New Jersey.
- A. Because I think that the market in Atlantic City is growing at let's say around the seven percent rate, so whether it's divided up among 12 casinos or 13 casinos or 10 casinos, it's still going to be the same amount, the same revenues generated through the state. I don't think that's going to change at all. Just more will come from one property or the other. The market is growing just so much. People come in with X number of dollars. Where they go is their decision.
- Q. Are you saying that it's your observation that every time a new casino opens, there is absolutely no influence on the size of the market in Atlantic City as a whole?
- A. No, there is ultimately, but presently the industry is marketing to a certain segment. It is presently well marketed out, you've got to go beyond where they are marketing today. To do that, you have to be able to accommodate people and put them up over night.

Right now, the only means of transportation into this city that makes economic sense are buses and automobiles. The market is growing at a certain rate. We all know that. It doesn't matter whether there is one casino less, if the market is going to be 2. billion instead of going into 12 casinos, it will go into 11 casinos.

- Q. I think you answered the question both ways.
- A. Every analyst has to be able to do that.
- Q. Are you saying that there is no difference at all in the amount of the market regardless of how many casinos are open, because it's constantly going to grow at a roughly seven percent rate no matter how many casinos are open?
- A. Over the short time, as long as there are constraints where you can market. There is just so much growth in this market place. We've seen what's happened. We have gone from 10, 10, 10, down to below 10. It's growing in the single digit right now.

I mean, these casinos are spending an awful lot of money marketing and they are just so many people that you can market to.

Q. Well, I guess I go back to the one

M. Roffman - Chairman Read 289 statement you made earlier, obviously, with the completion of Taj Mahal, people will start wearing ties on the boardwalk again.

A. Well, I will be the first one to do it, and I'd do it today.

Q. That's not a change.

Mr. Ingis?

MR. INGIS: I have nothing.

CHAIRMAN READ: Redirect?

MR. RIBIS: I have nothing.

CHAIRMAN READ: Anything on recross?

MR. VUKCEVICH: Nothing, Commissioner.

CHAIRMAN READ: Any questions?

Thank you, Mr. Roffman.

(Witness excused.)

MR. RIBIS: Mr. Flexner has come up from Washington, and he's a very short witess. I would like to ask the indulgence of the Commission, so he doesn't have to come up on Thursday, if possible.

(Off the record discussion held.)

CHAIRMAN READ: I hate to do it, but it is 5:20, I think we ought to start again Thursday.

MR. STERNS: What time, sir?

CHAIRMAN READ: 10 o'clock.

(Hearing adjourned at 5:20 p.m., to reconvene Thursday, July 2, 1987 at 10:00 a.m.)

## <u>CERTIFICATION</u>

I, Leroy Earl , Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the State of NEW JERSEY, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of my Stenographic Notes in the matter of: MOTION FOR SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION IN THE SALE OF CERTAIN SHARES OF CLASS B COMMON STOCK OF RESORTS INTERNATIONAL, INC. BY THE ESTATE OF JAMES M. CROSBY, CHARLES E. MURPHY, et al.

held at the place and on the date hereinbefore set forth.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am neither attorney nor counsel for, nor related to or employed by, any of the parties to the action in which this hearing was taken.

AND FURTHER that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties or attorney or counsel employed in this case, nor am I financially interested in the case.

Dated: July 1, 1987

Certified Shorthand Reporter

# 526