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except SHAC, LLC

Electronically Filed Oct 27 2016 04:42 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

K-KEL, INC., d/b/a Spearmint Rhino Gentlemen's Club, et al.,

Appellants,

VS.

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION, et al.,

Respondents.

Supreme Court Docket: 69886

District Court Case: A-11-648894-J Consolidated with A-14-697515-J

Appellants' Appendix

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Law Offices of WILLIAM H. BROWN A Limited Liability Company

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June 20, 2012

William Chisel, Executive Director Nevada Department of Taxation 1500 College Pkwy., Ste. 115 Carson City, Nevada 89706 William Chisel, Executive Director Nevada Department of Taxation Grant Sawyer Bldg., Ste. 1300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Re: K-Kel, Inc. dba Spearmint Rhino Gentlemen's Club; Olympus Garden, Inc., dba Olympic Garden; SHAC LLC dba Sapphire; The Power Company, Inc. dba Crazy Horse Too Gentlemen's Club; D Westwood, Inc. dba Treasures; DI Food & Beverage of Las Vegas, LLC dba Scores, Deja Vu Showgirls of Las Vegas, LLC dba Deja Vu; and Little Darlings of Las Vegas, LLC dba Little Darlings

Supplement to Reply to Opposition to Taxpayers' NAC 360.135 Request for Subpoenas to Dino DiCianno, Michelle Jacobs, and Tesa Wanamaker.

Dear Mr. Chisel:

Attached please find two supplemental exhibits, 1) the Nevada Department of Taxation's Supplement to Production of Documents Pursuant to NRCP 26(e) and 2) the Deposition of Dino Di Canno.

Sincerely,

/s/ William ®rown

WILLIAM H. BROWN

cc: Brad Shafer, Esq.
Matt Hoffer, Esq.
Mark Ferrario, Esq.
David Pope, Esq.
Blake Doer, Esq.
Vivienne Rakowsky, Esq.

Appellants' Appendix SUPP.ROA03374

Appellants' Appendix

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The following documents are being produced with certain additional portions un-redacted.	DV00195 revenue officer's name DV 198 – 200 revenue officers name DV 00204- un-redact Kimberly Whitfield, Debra Tombs and Linda Fleischman DV 00204 un-redacted names of Department employees DV 195 – 198- Redacted name was "Debra Toombs"
DV001194- 1195	Spread sheet of LET collections by taxpayer group (the same document provided at hearing not bates stamped)

Respectfully submitted this 22 day of November, 2010.

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO Attorney General

Bv

Blake A. Doerr

Deputy Attorney General

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2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on the 22nd day of November, 2010, I served the foregoing NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION'S SUPPLEMENTAL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO NRCP 26(e) by causing to be delivered to Department of General Services for mailing at Las Vegas, Nevada, a true copy thereof, addressed to:

William H. Brown, Esq.
The William H. Brown Law Office, Ltd.
330 S. Third St., Ste. 860
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Bradley J. Shafer Shafer & Associates, P.C. 3800 Capital City Blvd., Ste. 2 Lansing, MI 48906-2110

And via Interdepartmental mail and email to:

State of Nevada Department of Taxation 2550 Paseo Verde Pkwy., Ste. 180 Henderson, NV 89074

An employee of Office of Attorney General

The following is a breakdown from calendar year 2004 of Live Entertainment. Fax revenue which was received from all taxpayers:

- \$8,295 from one time or annual events
- \$80,598 from sporting events
- \$1,151,788 from nightclubs
- \$114,776 from promoters
- \$950,560 from performing arts centers
- \$1.403,761 from raceways
- \$5,204,017 from gentlemen's clubs
- Total tax received \$8,913,795

For the first seven months of fiscal year 2005, \$4,306,370 has been collected to date. The economic forum projection for this fiscal year is \$8,700,000.



Cathy:

and I have consulted on this question and we agree on the following Gentlemen's Clubs in our District.
Originally (before LET). Definitely room to expand seating capacity.
Originally (before LET) . No reasonable room to expand.
Originally (before LET) Definitely room to expand seating capacity.
Originally (before LET) No reasonable room to expand.
DISTRICT
We only have two "Gentlemen's Clubs". They are the second second and second sec
is on the exempt list, and I have verified that their seating capacity is well below the 300.
opened after we put the LET database together. It has a lidid a field visit when they first opened as they had indicated they were going to add dancers later. They do have more than seating capacity, but the powner told me that he was the light of that area would be about 60. I will do a field visit after they open this afternoon to verify that they are using that area for the dancers.
Debra Toombs, Revenue Officer III Nevada Department of Taxation Compliance Division

MEMORANDUM

Date:

November 9, 2004

To:

Chuck Chinnock

From:

Cathy Chambers

CC:

Dino Di Cianno

Subject: Live Entertainment Tax information for LCB on Gentleman's Clubs

visit after they open this afternoon to verify that they are using that area for the dancers.

The total number of Gentleman's Clubs statewide is approximately 33. There are 4 in the Reno District all with seating capacity of less than 300; 2 in the Elko District both of which are currently below 300 seating capacity; Las Vegas District has the majority with 27 clubs operating. Of the 27 clubs, 2 have been referred to Gaming Control Board for LET registration, 16 have seating capacity of less than 300, and 9 with seating capacity of 300 to 7,499. Carson district does not have any of these specific types of clubs, only brothels with capacity for less than 300 patrons. See attached worksheet for reporting information. DISTRICT

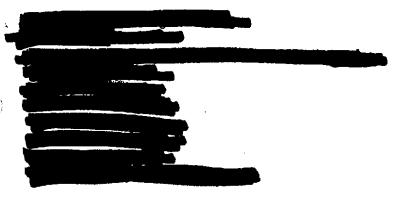
Cathy: have consulted on this question and we agree on the following Gentlemen's Clubs in our District. Originally (before LET) Definitely room to expand seating capacity. Originally (before LET) No reasonable room to expand. Originally (before LET) Definitely room to expand seating capacity. Originally (before LET) No reasonable room to expand. DISTRICT We only have two "Gentlemen's Clubs". They is on the exempt list, and I have verified that their seating capacity is opened after we put the LET database together. It has I did a field visit when they first opened as they had indicated t

but the owner told me that he was

e. The seating capacity of that area would be about 60. I will do a field

Debra Toombs, Revenue Officer III Nevada Department of Taxation Compliance Division

They do have more



- 3. Which businesses responded advising either they were not liable due to:
 - a. Being non-profit. Of the 366 original potential licensees contacted, 137 responded as being non-profit organizations and not subject to the Live Entertainment Tax.
 - b. Seating Capacity Below 300. Of the 366 original potential licensees contacted, 106 responded that the LET was not applicable to their business because the maximum seating capacity was below 300.
 - C. A change in seating capacity since the inception of the tax (July 2003). At this time, the Department is aware of the maximum seating capacity re-evaluated the later atrons by the inception of the tax. This club uses only part of a larger building that was originally issued a maximum occupancy permit building. See reports from individual districts explaining the process of changing maximum occupancy of a facility.
 - d. Discontinuation of Live Entertainment. At this time, the Department is aware of the but does not charge a cover or admission charge and requires no minimum drink purchase to enter the facility.
 - e. Potential licensees contacted by the Department that were found to be licensed gaming establishments reporting LET to Gaming Control Board. Of the original 366 original potential licensees, 37 have been cancelled with the Department because they belong to GCB.
- 4. Timing of events; review of when events are offered during the year; 1.e., timing of special events such as NASCAR, concerts, etc., that would have an impact on the payment of LET. See attached calendar of events.

E-mail attachments include northern and southern Nevada summary lists for LET as prepared by Kimberly Whitfield in Las Vegas Office, and a calendar of events for the large facilities statewide.

Requirements for changing maximum occupancy of a facility:

Elko: Debra Toombs checked with the area city/county building inspectors, they all use the Uniform Building Code specifications to determine the maximum seating/load capacity. They all use editions from various years but the seating capacity is determined completely by the square feet. For instance, the 1997 UBC uses 7 square feet per person for seating, but if they were calculating a casino for example, they would use 11 square feet. They said that casinos are calculated differently because it would not be assumed that they would be putting seats in the casino. The only way that a business or facility could get their capacity changed would be to move or build a wall which would change the square footage of the area.

Carson: Per Linda Fleischmann, she received the following information:



5/20/04. She provided the following information. The fire department works with the building department in issessing the safe seating capacity allowances for facilities in Carson City for the purposes of holding activities. But the building department actually makes the final decision and issues the "maximum seating capacity" signs that are posted on these premises. They use a formula based on square footage and the type of activity multiplied by a preset number of people for a safe such as dancing versus a sit-down concert for the purpose of keeping a safe environment.

The promoter actually regulates the number of people walking through the door. But they are not bound by this seating capacity license for each activity. Neither the neither building department nor the fire department has any way to consistently regulate if the number of people at these events are exceeding the allowable limit for the facility. If the promoter/owner of the facility chooses to, for instance, remove stationary seats to reduce the number of occupants in the area, they are allowed to do so. Leeann cited an example at the which they reduced a meeting area from 300 to 150 for insurance purposes. When the building department inspects these facilities, they base their findings on the type of activity on a case by case basis. If the facility promoter permanently alters the physical space, such as adding a room, they would be re-evaluated by the building and fire departments for maximum seating capacity. The city business licensing authority explained that they requires a layout sketch when the live entertainment involves blocking off city streets and thoroughfares.

Renor Don Christensen found the following information from the local authorities in Reno/Sparks & Washoe County areas:

City of Reno- Fire Marshal- Taxpayer requests re-inspection by writing letter. Inspection is done within one week. New permit is issued (usually) within one month. No annual re-inspection. Any re-inspection is done as a response to a complaint or after an incident.

City of Sparks- Fire Marshal- Taxpayer requests re-inspection by writing letter. Inspection is done within one week. New permit is issued (usually) within one month. There IS an annual re-inspection for nightclubs, cabarets, mens' clubs, etc. in Sparks.

Washoe County- Now consolidated with City of Reno. Above (Reno) rules apply.

In all jurisdictions there is absolutely NO difficulty for a business to reduce the occupancy permit. A business owner merely requests the occupancy number (ie: from 450 currently permitted to, say 295, a convenient target number) and it will be granted upon inspection. In the words of the Sparks Fire Marshal, a lower number is better for us (Fire Dept.) for obvious safety reasons.

Las Vegas: Paulina already E-mailed to you requirements for Las Vegas, Henderson and Clark County.



Luke Puschnic Legal Counsel

October 6, 2003

PECENED

TOT 0 9 2003

DI VEHI WENT OF YAXATION

Mr. Dino DiCianno
Deputy Executive Director
Department of Taxation
1550 E. College Parkway
Suite 115
Carson City, NV 89706-7937

Re: Proposed Live Entertainment Tax Regulations

Dear Mr. DiCianno:

The purpose of this letter is provide to the Department of Taxation some input as to the draft regulations for discussion in regard to the Live Entertainment Tax as imposed under Senate Bill 8 of the 20th Special Session.

As you may know, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority ("LVCVA") not only runs the Las Vegas Convention Center but also runs Cashman Center here in Las Vegas. The LVCVA is concerned because certain draft regulations may be interpreted to tax conventions/tradeshows/public events that are truly not events attended by patrons "for a primary purpose of viewing, hearing, or participating in live entertainment". The following comments relate to the draft regulations for discussion on October 2, 2003.

The LVCVA's main concern relates to certain conventions and public events at Cashman Center. Specifically, the LVCVA leases Cashman Center to public events such as home shows, recreational shows and consumer shows that may have "incidental" live entertainment beyond the live entertainment limitations set forth in Section 9. For example, when the Harvest Festival leases Cashman Center, the primary purpose for this event is not live entertainment but is mostly a forum by which artisans and other craft makers can display their goods and sell the same to the general public. During the Harvest Festival show, the show would have magicians, mimes and other ambient music/entertainment (like the piano players at Paris). Under the October 2, 2003 draft regulations, the Harvest Festival would then arguably be taxed. I do not believe that it is the intent of the Nevada State Legislature to tax the Harvest Festival or any like convention or tradeshow.

The above referenced concern also relates to any "convention" as opposed to a tradeshow, which may use Cashman Center and/or the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The LVCVA would suggest that you expand the scope of Section 9, which is the limitation of live entertainment, to include any "ambient entertainment" as well as ambient background music. This ambient entertainment could be defined to include mimes, magicians and other like live entertainment that is provided for the enjoyment of the patrons while they attend the event, so long as such entertainment is not the primary purpose of attending the event.

In relation to your definition of "tradeshow" set forth in Section 3, Subsection 5, I would respectfully request the language be changed to be read as follows:

"Tradeshow" means an event of limited duration, not open to members of the general public; during which the merchandise and services of a particular trade or industry are exhibited and/or matters of interest to members of the trade or industry or are discussed".

Thank you for allowing the LVCVA the opportunity to provide this written comment on the proposed regulations. The foregoing is preliminary only, and the LVCVA respectfully reserves the right to provide additional comments and suggestions as the process moves forward as additional draft regulations are considered.

uke Puschnig, Esq.

ខ្វា



October 17, 2003

Ms. Cathy Chambers Auditor III Nevada Department of Taxation 4600 Kietzke Lane Building O, Room-263 Reno, Nevada 89502

Re:

Proposed Regulations

Nonprofit Live Entertainment

Dear Ms. Chambers:

Thank you for speaking with us recently concerning the proposed regulations that your office is reviewing for purposes of paragraph (b) of subsection 5 of section 78 of Senate Bill No. 8 of the 20th Special Session. We have reviewed Sections 5 and 6 of the draft regulations and have the following questions or comments:

- 1. We assume, for purposes of Section 5, that the word, "inure", is being used in a manner consistent with Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and all related Treasury Regulations and Revenue Rulings. Thus, for example, a compensation arrangement between the Pioneer Center and a production company that is (i) consistent with the exempt purposes of the Pioneer, (ii) the result of arm's length bargaining, and (iii) based on reasonable compensation, would not result in prohibited inurement. This is clearly stated in Revenue Ruling 69-383; and
- 2. The Pioneer Center is very aware that a basic principle of its status is that no part of its earnings inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. We understand if any arrangement results in prohibited inurement, it could be grounds for revocation of the tax exempt status, as well as a basis for assessing employment tax liabilities for unreported income; and
- Given the foregoing, it would appear, so long as a nonprofit's tax exempt status remains in effect, that a nonprofit would always be exempt from the live entertainment excise tax.

I trust this is in order. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to working through any issues so that appropriate regulations can be adopted that are consistent with tax exempt organizations and their treatment under federal law.

Very truly yours,

Fred Boyd President/Board Chairman

/lit

100 South Virginia Street • Reno Nevada 89501 • (775) 686-6810 • FAX (775) 686-6830

Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts

October 27, 2003

(702) 383-8839

Dennis K. Neilander, Chairman Novada State Gaming Control Board 1919 E. College Parkway P.O. Box 8003 Carson City, Nevada 89702

Re: 10/07/03 Draft of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13 (LET)

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This will transmit comments and questions on behalf of MGM MIRAGE concerning the October 7, 2003, draft of "Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13." We were unable to offer testimony at your public hearing on October 8, 2003, because of insufficient time to make a thorough study of the new provisions.

The comments and questions and the sections to which they are directed are as follows:

13.010 (5) - Is it intended that Superbowl parties to which tickets are sold would fall within the definition of "live entertainment"?

13.010 (5)(b) - We support Alternative B as being in accord with the provisions of S. B.

It may be that the language of Alternative B can be reshaped in some respects, but it captures—the necessary essence. Types of facilities that are properly excluded from "live entertainment" by this language are easino lounges and bars where the attraction consists of the food or refreshments sold and the ambiance provided. A part of the ambience is the presentation

Appellants' Appendix SUPP.ROA03386

DM000556

of recorded music that is facilitated by a person. Such persons act merely as facilitators of the recorded music, determining by the push of a button or the turn of a dial on electronic equipment - which music is most appropriate to maintain the desired ambience for the facility throughout the evening. These "music facilitators" have no substantial interaction with patrons, they do nothing that would constitute visual entertainment for patrons and their names are not advertised as an attraction for patrons.

13.010 (5)(e) - We support the exclusion for "instrumental ambient background music". We assume this exclusion is not affected by 13.010(5)(d)(1) if the facility in which the "instrumental ambient background music" takes place is a bar, lounge or restaurant located in or near gaming areas.

13.010(5)(e) - We recommend adding to this provision "or as part of the hackground ambience of the facility." An example of this would be an excerpt from an opera sung by a waiter in an Italian restaurant once or twice every hour.

13.020(5) - We support this language. This is an appropriate method to deal with sales in facilities with no admission charges that operate under a continual time schedule. If the food, refreshment or merchandise is ordered while the facility is in a live entertainment status, the charge is taxable, if it is ordered before or after the facility is in a live entertainment status, the charge is not taxable.

13.020(11) - For purposes of clarity and consistency, we recommend that "clearly" be inserted before "see and hear" in the last line.

13.025(6) - We recommend this provision be amended to read as follows:

"If the purpose of the event is not primarily for entertainment, live entertainment at:

"(a) Private meetings or dinners attended by members of a particular group.

or organization.

"(b) Casual assemblages.

"(c) An event that limits participation to persons who are participants in conventions, extended business meetings or tournaments and their guests."

We suggest that the addition of "group" to 13.025(6)(a) will provide for celebrations of such events as weddings, birthdays and anniversaries.

It appears to us that the language proposed as 13.025(6)(c) might read better as a subsection rather than a separate paragraph.

October 27, 2003 Page 3

13.050(6) - As the contracting parties are both gaming licensees, why is the approval of the Chairman necessary? Wouldn't it be sufficient for the Chairman to be notified who will pay the tax?

13.060(1) - We suggest the following be inserted in the fourth line following "prosecution":
"commenced prior to the end of the 5-year period".

Please let me know if there are any questions or if we need to supply clarification of any of our proposals.

Best wishes,

Robert D. Faiss

ce: Member Hobby Siller
Member Scott Scherer
Chairman Peter C. Bernhard
Chief Gregory Galo
Deputy Chief Lynda L. Hartzell
Deputy A. G. Antonia A. Cowan
Brace A. Aguilera, Vice President & General Counsel, Bellagio Hotel Casino

From: Sent: Ta: Subject: aalonso@lioneisawyer.com Thursday, October 09, 2003 10:55 AM

DINO DICIANNO

LET INFO



Here is the information that I spoke to you about. I hope it is useful to

you.

Hope all is well.

A

Alfredo T. Alonso Government Affairs Manager Lionel Sawyer & Collins

This e-mail message is confidential, intended only for the named recipient(s) above and may contain information that is a trade secret, proprietary, privileged or attorney work product. If you have received this message in error, or are not the named or intended recipient(s), please immediately notify the sender at 702-383-8888 and delete this e-mail message and any attachments from your workstation or network mail system.

Appellants' Appendix SUPP.ROA03389

1

MEMORANDUM

To:

Robert D. Faiss

From:

Louis V. Csoka

Subject: S.B. 8 -Construction of "Live Entertainment"

Date:

October 9, 2003

As requested by Bruce A. Aguilera, Vice President and General Counsel of Bellagio Casino Hotel, I have researched certain issues involving the proper construction for "live entertainment" pursuant to Nevada Senate Bill 8 of the 20th Special Session. Below is the result of my research:

ı. Questions Presented

- is the meaning of "live entertainment" identical under the amended Casino Entertainment Tax ("CET") and its successor, the Live Entertainment Tax ("LET")?
- Once promulgated, will the Department of Taxation's (the 8. "Department") definition of "live entertainment" be controlling under both the CET and the LET?
- C. Will the Department's definition of "live entertainment" supercede any other administrative definitions of the same promulgated for purposes of the CET?

II. Short Answers

- The meaning of "live entertainment" under the amended CET and LET is Α. the same.
- Once the Department determines the meaning of "live entertainment," 8. that definition will control under both the CET and the LET, regardless of which agency collects the tax.
- The Department's definition of "live entertainment" will supercede all prior or contemporaneous administrative definitions promulgated to explain that term.

From:

Nevada Taxpayers Association (info@nevadataxpayers.org)

Sent:

Wednesday, October 08, 2003 10:31 AM

To:

Dino OiClanno

Subject: Fw: Memo re LET

Gaylyn received a call this morning from GCB to confirm that they had received the attached which I sent via fax. She was told that they will probably not get to this reg until this afternoon.

I sent a copy to Bill Bible and told him about 233B. I couldn't write it in a way that satisfied me.

Carole

---- Original Message -----

From: Nevada Taxpayers Association

To: Barbara Campbell

Cc: Gaylyn Spriggs; David Turner

Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2003 6:30 PM

Subject: Memo re LET

FYI

Carole

NEVADA TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Las Vegas Office

2303 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. 203

Las Vegas, NV 89104 Phone: (702) 457-8442

Fax: (702) 457-6361

E-Mail: info@nevadataxpayers.org

www:nevadataxpayers.org

Carson City Office

501 So. Carson St., Ste 301

Carson City, NV 89701

Phone: 775/882-2697 Fax: 775-8828938



From:

Nevada Taxpayers Association [info@nevadataxpayers.org]

Sent:

Tuesday, October 21, 2003 2:02 PM

To:

Dino DiClanno

Subject:

Fw: 10/7/03 Draft of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13 (LET)

importance:

High





mgm mirage - Reg. mgm mirage - Reg. 13 comments ...

13 comments ...

Hi Dino -

Sorry I forgot to send you transcript. When I went on email just now to find it I came across this which I thought you might find interesting.

Carole

---- Original Message -----

From: "ROBERT FAISS" <rfaiss@lionelsawyer.com>

To: <info@nevadataxpayers.org>

Sent: Friday, October 17, 2003 3:39 PM

Subject: 10/7/03 Draft of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13 (LET)

Please see

This e-mail message is a confidential communication from the law firm of Lionel Sawyer & Collins and is intended only for the named recipient(s) above and may contain information that is a trade secret, proprietary, privileged or attorney work product. If you have received this message in error, or are not the named or intended recipient(s), please immediately notify the sender at 702-383-8888 and delete this e-mail message and any attachments from your workstation or network mail system.

October 21, 2003

(702) 383-8839

Dennis K. Neilander, Chairman Nevada State Gaming Control Board 1919 E. College Parkway P.O. Box 8003 Carson City, Nevada 89702

Re: 10/07/03 Draft of Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13 (LET)

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This will transmit comments and questions on behalf of MGM MIRAGE concerning the October 7, 2003, draft of "Proposed Amendments to Regulation 13." We were unable to offer testimony at your public hearing on October 8, 2003, because of insufficient time to make a thorough study of the new provisions.

The comments and questions and the sections to which they are directed are as follows:

13.010 (5) - Is it intended that Superbowl parties to which tickets are sold would fall within the definition of "live entertainment"?

13.010 (5)(b) - We support Alternative B as being in accord with the provisions of S. B. 8.

It may be that the language of Alternative B can be reshaped in some respects, but it captures the necessary essence. Types of facilities that are properly excluded from "live entertainment" by this language are casino lounges and bars where the attraction consists of the food or refreshments sold and the ambiance provided. A part of the ambience is the presentation

of recorded music that is facilitated by a person. Such persons act merely as facilitators of the recorded music, determining by the push of a button or the turn of a dial on electronic equipment - which music is most appropriate to maintain the desired ambience for the facility throughout the evening. These

appropriate to maintain the desired ambience for the facility throughout the evening. These "music facilitators" have no substantial interaction with patrons, they do nothing that would constitute visual entertainment for patrons and their names are not advertised as an attraction for patrons.

13.010 (5)(e) - We support the exclusion for "instrumental ambient background music". We assume this exclusion is not affected by 13.010(5)(d)(1) if the facility in which the "instrumental ambient background music" takes place is a bar, lounge or restaurant located in or near gaming areas.

13.010(5)(e) - We recommend adding to this provision "or as part of the background ambience of the facility." An example of this would be an excerpt from an opera sung by a waiter in an Italian restaurant once or twice every hour.

13.020(5) - We support this language. This is an appropriate method to deal with sales in facilities with no admission charges that operate under a continual time schedule. If the food, refreshment or merchandise is ordered while the facility is in a live entertainment status, the charge is taxable, if it is ordered before or after the facility is in a live entertainment status, the charge is not taxable.

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at:	<u>a the pur</u>	ose of th	e event is	пос ритан.	ly for enter	<u>tainment, 11</u>	ve ente	nainmen
_	"(a)	Private	meetings	or dinners	attended l	by members	s of a	particular
group		or organi	zation.			-		

"(b) Casual assemblages.

"(c) An event that limits participation to persons who are participants in conventions, extended business meetings or tournaments and their guests."

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13.060(1) - We suggest the following be inserted in the fourth line following "prosecution":
"commenced prior to the end of the 5-year period".

Please let me know if there are any questions or if we need to supply clarification of any of our proposals.

Best wishes,

Robert D. Faiss

cc: Member Bobby Siller
Member Scott Scherer
Chairman Peter C. Bernhard
Chief Gregory Gale
Deputy Chief Lynda L. Hartzell
Deputy A. G. Antonia A. Cowan
Bruce A. Aguilera, Vice President & General Counsel, Bellagio Hotel Casino

From:

Nevada Taxpayers Association (info@nevadataxpayers.org)

Sent:

Tuesday, October 21, 2003 2:05 PM

To:

Dino DiClanno

Subject:

Fw: LET/Gaming

Importance: High

FYI

Carole

----- Original Message -----

From: Nevada Taxpayers Association
To: Barbara Campbell; David Turner

Cc: Gaylyn Spriggs

Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2003 12:19 PM

Subject: LET/Gaming

Dear All -

I have attached a copy (both in Word Perfect and Word) of that portion of a transcript that Bob Faiss sent me re the Gaming Control Board meeting. I am not sending it to anyone else since I am not sure what the ground rules are concerning dissemination of transcripts. For this reason, I would appreciate it if you would use this just for your information and not share it with anyone else.

Carole

NEVADA TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Las Vegas Office

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Carson City Office
501 Se Canson St. St. 201

501 So. Carson St., Ste 301 Carson City, NV 89701 Phone: 775/882-2697

Fax: 775-8828938



FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Sen. Randolph Townsend TO:

FAX NO.: (775) 954-2023

Bob Faiss

(702) 383-8845

Carole Vilardo

(702) 457-6361

Dina DiCianna

(775) 687-5981

FROM:

Bill Bible

FAX NO.: (702) 735-4620

DATE:

November 17, 2003

TIME:

3:40 p.m.

PAGES:

3 (including cover page)

COMMENTS:

2 3773 HOWARD HUGHES PARKWAY #320 NORTH 2 M Estifecte Nones some m



November 17, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Barbara Campbell, Chairwoman, Nevada Tax Commission Peter Bernhard, Chairman, Nevada Gaming Commission Dennis Neilander, Chairman, State Gaming Control Board

FROM:

William A. Bible, President

120

SUBJECT:

Proposed Regulation on Live Entertainment Tax

At the Joint Workshop on the Live Entertainment Tax that was held on October 30, 2003, I testified that it may be necessary to develop a definition of, and an exemption for, "ambient entertainment" which may take place anywhere in either a gaming or nongaming facility in order to create mood and atmosphere. This type of entertainment is not the primary attraction of the facility and is not the main basis for why patrons come to the facility.

The latest version of the Gaming Control Board's proposed Draft LET Regulations, dated 11/14/03, includes a definion of, and exemption for, "ambient entertainment." Using this definition as a starting point, the Nevada Tax Commission's proposed Draft Regulation, dated October 30, 2003, could be amended to substitute the following definition of "ambient entertainment", with appropriate language change in Section 2(7)(a), for the proposed definition of "ambient background music":

- 2. "Ambient entertainment" means entertainment that contributes to the general atmosphere of a facility but is not its primary attraction. The term includes:
 - Instrumental or vocal music, which may or may not be supplemented with commentary by the musicians, in a restaurant, lounge or similar area if such music does not routinely rise to a volume that interferes with casual conversation and if such music would not generally cause patrons to wetch as well as listen;
 - Instrumental or vocal music performed in restaurants by employees whose primary job function is that of preparing or serving food, refreshments or beverages to patrons, if such instrumental or vocal music is not advertised as entertainment to the public.

5775 Howard Hudris Budway #520 Notice # # Los Victas, Nevada, 89109

- 3. Performers of any type who stroll throughout the facility; and
- 4. Performers situated within the gaming or nongaming areas of a licensed gaming establishment other than in nightclubs, lounges, restaurants or showrooms who enhance the theme of the establishment or attract patrons to the areas in which they perform, as long as any seating provided in the immediate area of the performers is limited to seating at slot machines or gaming tables.

It is also important to define the term "casual assemblage", found in Section 78(5)(i) of SB 8, 20th Special session, in order to create regulatory certainty. Proposed language is set forth below:

Casual assemblage includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Participants in conventions, business meetings or tournaments and their guests; or
- (b) Persons celebrating a friend's or family member's wedding, birthday, anniversary, graduation, religious ceremony or similar occasion that is generally recognized as customary for celebration.

I would also endorse the comments made by Carol Vilardo of the Nevada Taxpayers Association where she advocates the elimination of "cooking or product demonstrations" from the definition of live entertainment. There are a number of events such as a rib or chili cook off in Sparks or Laughlin that allows vendors to demonstrate their culinary skills and sell products associated with these skills that just do not seem like the type of entertainment envisioned in S88.

WAB-kd

c: Sen. Rendolph Townsend Members, Regulatory Committee Bob Faiss Carol Vilardo Dino DiCianno

From: Judy Sellin (JSellin@quirkandtratos.com)
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2003 3:19 PM

To: Barbara Campbell

Cc: 'Bob Faiss'; 'Terry Graves'; 'Ric Tuttle'

Ted Quirk Quirk & Tratos 3773 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500 North Las Vegas, Nevada 89109 Phone - (702) 792-3773 FAX - (702) 792-9002

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S CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE S VEGAS, NEVADA 89109 (702) 731-1925 • FAX (702) 731-3547

DATE:

November 5, 2003

MEMO TO: Barbara Campbell, Chairwoman, Nevada Tax Commission

RE:

Live Entertainment Tax

At the Tax Commission workshop last Thursday, you asked that I forward you the proposed text I read during the hearing. It was as follows:

> Service personnel whose job responsibility is to serve food, refreshments or merchandise shall not be considered live entertainment if they engage in infrequent, non-featured activities such as singing or dancing while performing their service duties.

We also support the concept proposed by Mr. Faiss that would exempt ambient entertainment that is not the primary motivating factor or purpose of patrons visiting an establishment. We understand that Mr. Faiss, and others, are working to set forth this concept into regulatory language. I would be happy to work with anyone to assist in drafting language that includes these concepts.

We are greatly appreciative of the work being done by the Commission, Gaming Control Board, and ir staffs to work through this difficult issue. If we can be of any assistance in any manner, please feel free to contact us.

Ted Quirk

Barbara Campbell: dicianno@govmail.state.nv.us

CC:

Bob Faiss

Terry Graves Ric Tuttle

rfaiss@lionelsawyer.com

gravestk@aol.com rictuttle@beachlv.com

G:\USellin\EJQ\BEACH\tax-11-5-03.dog

Dennis Neilander Gaming-Control Board 1919 E. Collège Parkway P.O.: 8003 Carson City, NV 89702

I'm Polynesian, and I know many Polynesian musicians and hula-dancers. This entertainment tax is going to hurt some, and eliminate work for others. For instance, if a restaurant in a casino should decide to have a Hawaiian buffet one night a week, they will usually want to have a musician and a couple of hula dancers. The musicians will need to sing, and the girls will dance. Definitely causing patrons to look. However, this is not a show the patrons go to see, it simply adds atmosphere.

There are other-restaurants that like to-provide "fun" for their-patrons, and would occasionally hire hula dancers. This law is guaranteed to hurt many Polynesian musicians and hula dancers. Jobs will not be created which would have been.

I understand the difficult position you are in, but when people hear that in the "entertainment-capitol of the world," entertainment must "not be of a nature that would tend to cause people to watch as well as listen," people shake their heads and lose faith in the system. I don't envy-your-situation; you were tossed a hot potato, good luck in handling it! Hula girls and musicians should be allowed to add "atmosphere" to the dinning experience. Preventing them from working helps no one.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration!

Aloha,

Muneni Dew Hannani Dew 4512 Eugene Ave Las Vegas, NV 89108

cc: To others concerned.

From:

Campbell, Barbara Smith [bcampbell@mrgmail.com]

Sent:

Tuesday, November 18, 2003 9:34 AM

To:

Bill Bible

Subject: RE: LET Comment Letter

Bill

We are going to incorporate the following into our proposed draft language.

(Under section 11 (4) (b))

- Instrumental or vocal music, which may or may not be supplemented with commentary by the musicians, in a restaurant, lounge or similar area if such music does not routinely rise to a volume that interferes with casual conversation and if such music would not generally cause patrons to watch as well as listen;
- 2. Instrumental or vocal music performed in restaurants by employees whose primary job function is that of preparing or serving food, refreshments or beverages to patrons if such instrumental or vocal music is not advertised as entertainment to the public.

(Under Section 11 (7)

"Casual assemblage" includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Participants in conventions, business meetings or tournaments and their guests; or
- (b) Persons celebrating a friend's or family member's wedding, birthday, anniversary, graduation, religious ceremony or similar occasion that is generally recognized as customary for celebration.

The DAG has concerns about your recommeded language in Ambient Entertainment #3. In summary, he feels the language may lead to the exemption of "entertainers" at the Gentlemen Clubs. Therefore, we did not incorporate it in our draft. We certainly welcome comments at the hearing.

Ambient Entertainment #4 appears to be appropriate under the GCB. I'm not sure that it is appropriate for Tax. Again, we welcome your comments.

Barbara Smith Campbell 3950 Las Vegas Blvd. South Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 702-632-7770 LV office 702-597-2952 LV fax 775-328-9553 Reno Office 775-328-9505 Reno fax



-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Bible [mailto:williambible@lv.rmcl.net]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2003 4:08 PM

To: Barbara Campbell

Subject: Fw: LET Comment Letter

Barbara:

Original message came back as undeliverable. Hopefully, this comes through.

Bill

---- Original Message -----

From: Bill Bible

To: Qino Dicianno : 8arbara Campbell

Cc: ROBERT FAISS

Sent: Monday, November 17, 2003 3:39 PM

Subject: LET Comment Letter

Chairwoman Campbell and Deputy Executive Director DiCianno:
Attached are the NRA's comments on the latest draft of the LET Regulations.
As I indicated during our telephone conversations, both of you have done an outstanding job in developing this regulation in a manner that will help keep Nevada as the entertainment capital of the world!
We all appreciate your efforts.

From:

Bill Bible [willlambible@lv.rmci.net]

Sent:

Monday, November 17, 2003 3:40 PM

To:

DINO DICIANNO; Barbara Campbell

Cc:

ROBERT FAISS

Subject: LET Comment Letter

Chairwoman Campbell and Deputy Executive Director DiCianno:
Attached are the NRA's comments on the latest draft of the LET Regulations.
As I indicated during our telephone conversations, both of you have done an outstanding job in developing this regulation in a manner that will help keep Nevada as the entertainment capital of the world!
We all appreciate your efforts.

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Barbara Campbell, Chairwoman, Nevada Tax Commission Peter Bernhard, Chairman, Nevada Gaming Commission Dennis Neilander, Chairman, State Gaming Control Board

FROM:

William A. Bible, President

SUBJECT:

Proposed Regulation on Live Entertainment Tax

At the Joint Workshop on the Live Entertainment Tax that was held on October 30, 2003, I testified that it may be necessary to develop a definition of, and an exemption for, "ambient entertainment" which may take place anywhere in either a gaming or nongaming facility in order to create mood and atmosphere. This type of entertainment is not the primary attraction of the facility and is not the main basis for why patrons come to the facility.

The latest version of the Gaming Control Board's proposed Draft LET Regulations, dated 11/14/03, includes a definion of, and exemption for, "ambient entertainment." Using this definition as a starting point, the Nevada Tax Commission's proposed Draft Regulation, dated October 30, 2003, could be amended to substitute the following definition of "ambient entertainment", with appropriate language change in Section 2(7)(a), for the proposed definition of "ambient background music":

- 2. "Ambient entertainment" means entertainment that contributes to the general atmosphere of a facility but is not its primary attraction. The term includes:
 - Instrumental or vocal music, which may or may not be supplemented with commentary by the musicians, in a restaurant, lounge or similar area if such music does not routinely rise to a volume that interferes with casual conversation and if such music would not generally cause patrons to watch as well as listen;
 - Instrumental or vocal music performed in restaurants by employees whose primary job function is that of preparing or serving food, refreshments or beverages to patrons, if such instrumental or vocal music is not advertised as entertainment to the public.

- 3. Performers of any type who stroll throughout the facility; and
- 4. Performers situated within the gaming or nongaming areas of a licensed gaming establishment other than in nightclubs, founges, restaurants or showrooms who enhance the theme of the establishment or attract patrons to the areas in which they perform, as long as any seating provided in the immediate area of the performers is limited to seating at slot machines or gaming tables.

It is also important to define the term "casual assemblage", found in Section 78(5)(i) of SB 8, 20th Special session, in order to create regulatory certainty. Proposed language is set forth below:

"Casual assemblage" includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Participants in conventions, business meetings or tournaments and their guests; or
- (b) Persons celebrating a friend's or family member's wedding, birthday, anniversary, graduation, religious ceremony or similar occasion that is generally recognized as customary for celebration.

I would also endorse the comments made by Carol Vilardo of the Nevada Taxpayers Association where she advocates the elimination of "cooking or product demonstrations" from the definition of live entertainment. There are a number of events such as a rib or chill cook off in Sparks or Laughlin that allows vendors to demonstrate their culinary skills and sell products associated with these skills that just do not seem like the type of entertainment envisioned in SB8.

WAB:kd

c: Sen. Randolph Townsend Members, Regulatory Committee Bob Faiss Carol Vilardo Dino DiCianno



Dela Vu, et al. v. Nevada Department of Taxation Spreadsheet of LET Collections by Taxpayer Group

Musical Groups and Artists

Other Direct Selling Establishments

Other Spectator Sports

Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events without Facifiles

Recreational Goods Rental

Sound Recording Studios

Sporting and Alhetic Goods Manufacturing

Sporting Goods Stores

Sporting Goods Stores

Sporting Recreation Instruction Fine Arts Schools
Finess and Recreational Sports Centers
Food Service Contractors
Food Service Contractors
Food Service Restaurants
Giff, Novelty, and Souvenir Stores
Indees (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
Independent Artists, Writers, and Performers
Lessors of Nonresidential Buildings (except Miniwarehouses)
Motion Picture and Video Production nternen's Club

ants and Managers for Artists, Athletes, Entertainers, and Other Public Figures
Other Miscellaneous Store Retailers (except Tobacco Stores) porate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices metics, Beauly Supplies, and Perfume Stores king Places (Alcoholic Beverages) tronic Shopping Companies and Dinner Theaters Subtotal of All 10% LET payers collected by the Department Taxpayer Groups 10% LET payers 3,001,494,94 1,945,17 F / Q4 21,011.88 302.58 39,176.58 48,020.54 \$ 12,872 10 1,300.20 13,444.70 1,655.37 968,956.07 47,941.83 58,516.30 20,720.90 5,441,714.56 113,704.49 9,666.50 3,726.30 ,118,434,14 FY06 2,400.78 74,782.08 7,185,89 2 812 14 389 63 267 96 29近8年代和推广8 (548;942.9年代定约87722558735)。新疆187265,045.88中国第4月20707488248 6,890.235.73 FY07 141,593.95 900.17 982.20 18,017.16 220,534.24 61,020.46 293 80 1,096,763.03 38.50 774.60 1,123.30 FY08 339,214 97 46,142.18 3,905.69 26,655.95 173.50 125.11 ,088.44 100.00 150 00 73,418.34 \$42988473418344 \$24007.63 1,921.00 \$4558233333218 \$32982352383335218 1,145,338,40 FY09 159,338.03 • \$99,00±04#44#478289238 50,816.68 784 00 \$2,000,000,000.00 \$20,000,000,000,000.00 CASTOTAL

Appellants' Appendix

DV001194

Page 3547

Deja Vu, et al. v. Nevada Department of Taxation Spreadsheet of LET Collections by Taxpayer Group

5% LET payers

Gentlemen's Clubs as % of Total Collected per FY	iotal LeT (Gaming + Department)	Table Company of the Constitution	Department Total I ET Collected		Subtotal of All 5% LET payers collected by the Department: Scheduler Research Collected by the Department: Scheduler Research Collected by the Department: Scheduler Research Collected by the Department of the Collected by the Collected by the Department of the Collected by the Department of the Collected by the Department of the Collected by the Collected b	Unclassified	Sports Teams and Clubs	Sporting and Athletic Goods Manufacturing	Sound Recording Studios	Racetracks	Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events without Facilities	Promoters of Performing Arts, Sports, and Similar Events with Facilities	Other Spectator Sports	Musical Groups and Artists	Lessors of Norresidential Buildings (except Miniwarehouses)	Jewelry, Watch, Precious Stone, and Precious Metals	Gift, Novelty, and Souvenir Stores	Unnking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)	Cosmetics, Beauty Supplies, and Perfume Stores	All Other Miscellaneous Store Retailers (except Tobacco Stores)	Agents and Managers for Artists, Athletes, Entertainers, and Other Public Figures	Administration of General Economic Programs
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Docket No. 301549

DEPOSITION OF

DINO DI CIANNO

December 15, 2011

Reno, Nevada

REPORTED BY: DEBORAH MIDDLETON GRECO, CCR #113, RDR, CRR

LST JOB NO.: 148959

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1			
1	A	PPEA	ARANCES
2			
3	FOR THE PETITIONER:		Brandon E. Roos, Esq.
4			Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3773 Howard Hughes Parkway,
5			#400 North Las Vegas, NV 89169
6			(702) 792-3773
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14	EOD EUE DEGDONDENE.		Winiama Dalamala Ban
15	FOR THE RESPONDENT:		Vivienne Rakowsky, Esq. Deputy Attorney General
16			555 East Washington Ave., #3900
17			Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 486-3103
18			
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21			
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1	BE IT REMEMBERED that on Thursday, December 15, 2011,
2	at the hour of 9:48 a.m. of said day, at the offices of SUNSHINE
3	LITIGATION SERVICES, 151 Country Estates Circle, Reno, Nevada,
4	before me, DEBORAH MIDDLETON GRECO, a Certified Court Reporter,
5	personally appeared DINO DI CIANNO, who was by me first duly
6	sworn and was examined as a witness in said cause.
7	-000-
8	DINO DI CIANNO
9	called as a witness, having been duly sworn,
10	testified as follows:
11	EXAMINATION
12	BY MR. ROOS:
13	Q Good morning, Mr. DiCianno. My name is Brandon Roos.
14	I introduced myself to you. I represent RCI Las Vegas, which is
15	otherwise known as Rick's Cabaret Las Vegas.
16	A Okay.
17	Q We're here today to take your deposition.
18	Have you ever had your deposition taken before?
19	A Yes.
20	Q So you're familiar with the ground rules of a
21	deposition?
22	A Yes.
23	Q You understand that the oath that you've taken here
24	today is the same oath that you would take in a court of law?
25	A Yes.

1	Q And do you understand that the testimony that you are
2	to give here today is to be truthful and is subject to the same
3	pains and penalties for perjury as would be in a court of law?
4	A Yes.
5	Q All right. Let me lay some of the ground rules for a
6	deposition. I'm going to ask you about your recollection of
7	certain events in the past, and I don't need you to speculate or
8	guess.
9	If you don't understand a question, you can ask me to
10	rephrase it, and in fact, I would prefer if you ask me to
11	rephrase a question that you don't understand so that we get a
12	clear record.
13	The court reporter here today is going to take down
14	questions and answers, and so it's difficult for the court
15	reporter if we talk over each other, so try to wait until my
16	question is done, and then you can give your answer.
17	Do you have any questions about the deposition
18	process?
19	A Not at this time.
20	Q Okay. If you need a break at any time, it's okay.
21	Just if there's a question pending, I'd ask that you give an
22	answer to the question before you take a break.
23	You understand that?
24	A Yes.
25	Q All right. It's my understanding that at one point

1	you were deputy executive director of the Department of Taxation
2	for the state of Nevada; is that correct?
3	A That's correct.
4	Q All right. And I have also seen documentation that
5	indicates that you were the deputy director for compliance for
6	the Department of Taxation; is that also accurate?
7	A Yes.
8	Q Was there a difference between those two positions?
9	A No.
10	Q Okay. So sometimes people called you the deputy
11	director of compliance, and other times they called you the
12	deputy executive director?
13	A The official title is deputy executive director.
14	The department was split up into different divisions.
15	Q Okay.
16	A One was the compliance, which was audit and revenue.
17	Okay? Which I was the deputy director over. There's, there
18	was, at that time, another deputy director position that was
19	over administration.
20	They dealt with the fiscal end of the department,
21	which was the accounting and distribution of revenue.
22	Q And who headed up the administrative portion of the
23	Department of Taxation in 2003, if you can recall?
24	A 2003, I believe that would have been Woody Thorne.
25	Q Do you recognize, I'm going to butcher this name,

1	Chuck Chinnock, was it?
2	A Chuck Chinnock was the executive director.
3	Q Was he your immediate supervisor?
4	A Yes.
5	Q Okay. Did you have any other supervisors?
6	A No.
7	Q Let's focus on the 2003 time frame because that's sort
8	of relevant to what we're talking about.
9	What was your sort of role or responsibility at the
10	Department of Taxation as the deputy executive director?
11	A My responsibility was in compliance with the
12	direction given by the executive director at that time, was to
13	oversee the compliance division, which is made up of the revenue
14	officers, tax examiners and the district offices at that time.
15	One would have been here in Reno, the field office in
16	Elko, a district office in Las Vegas, and then the main office
17	in Carson City.
18	Also had the responsibility over the audit section.
19	Q Okay. Well, let's talk about the responsibility over
20	the compliance aspect.
21	Were you sort of in charge of setting the policy for
22	the enforcement of the tax code?
23	A No.
24	Q Who was in charge of doing that?
25	A That would either have been the legislature, or the

1	Nevada Tax Commission. I acted merely as an administrator.
2	Q Did you have any role in interpreting the tax code?
3	A No.
4	Q So you didn't provide any advice or insight as to how
5	the tax code should be interpreted in any way?
6	A Nope.
7	Q Okay. Whose responsibility was that?
8	A That would have been the legislature through the
9	assistance of the Nevada Tax Commission.
10	Q All right. Did you have any role in your position
11	with the Department of Taxation in participating in drafting
12	legislation or regulations?
13	A Not legislation. But in assisting the tax commission,
14	and both the chair of the tax commission and the chair of the
15	Gaming Commission at that time as far as regulatory meetings and
16	workshops.
17	Q And that would have been after legislation had been
18	passed?
19	A That's correct.
20	Q And so can you tell me the process that occurred after
21	the tax bill in 2003, and I believe it was SB 8?
22	Do you recall that?
23	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
24	Q How the process unfolded with respect to the
25	regulations created by your department?

1	A At that time, Barbara Smith Campbell was the chair of
2	the Nevada Tax Commission. We did work together, along with the
3	chairman of the Gaming Commission, and I can't recall his name
4	right now, and I apologize for that, to set up public workshops
5	for the language that would be used to administer the tax as
6	created by the Nevada legislature at that time.
7	There were a number of different workshops that
8	occurred. I can't remember the exact number. I mean, it is a
9	matter of public record.
10	Q All right. So, and my understanding from reviewing
11	the legislative history on SB 8 is not exactly abundant, but my
12	understanding was that it was more of an omnibus tax bill that
13	had numerous different changes to the tax code, one of those
14	being the incorporation of a live entertainment tax.
15	Is that consistent with your understanding?
16	A That's correct.
17	Q So when you were holding workshops through the Nevada
18	Department of Taxation, were you holding workshops for all of
19	the components of the tax bill, or specifically with respect to
20	live entertainment tax?
21	A All of them.
22	Q And how long do you recall the workshop process
23	lasting from the standpoint of was it months, weeks?
24	A Yes, it was months.
25	Q Do you recall when Senate Bill 8 was passed and

1	adopted into law in Nevada?
2	A The specific date, no, not off the top of my head. I
3	would have to look at it.
4	Q Do you remember the time of year that you were dealing
5	with the workshops? Was it the fall of 2003?
6	A It would have been summer and fall.
7	Q Do you remember when the live entertainment portion of
8	Senate Bill 8 went into effect as Nevada law in 2003?
9	A Off the top of my head, I don't recall. I would have
LO	to read the bill.
11	Q Okay. If I told you that I believe it went into
12	effect January 1st of 2004, would that make sense from your
13	recollection of when you were holding the workshops?
14	A I don't want to speculate.
15	MS. RAKOWSKY: It calls for speculation. Objection.
16	BY MR. ROOS:
17	Q So part of the process of the workshops was to flesh
18	out how to implement the live entertainment tax; is that
19	correct?
20	A That's correct.
21	Q And what specifically did you do during these
22	workshops in order to figure out how to implement the tax code
23	that had been passed by the legislature?
24	A We requested language from the affected parties. We
25	also came up with the language that we reviewed, along, not only

1	with the, Barbara Smith Campbell, who was the chairman of the
2	tax commission at the time, but also the Gaming Commission,
3	because we were charged by the legislature together to come up
4	with a regulatory process in administering the tax.
5	The gaming, the gaming side would have live
6	entertainment associated with gaming, and then the nongaming
7	would be the responsibility of the Department of Taxation.
8	Q Okay. Let me focus on something that you just said.
9	It's my understanding, and you can tell me if this is
10	inconsistent with your recollection, but prior to passage of the
11	live entertainment tax, there was in effect at that time a
12	casino entertainment tax, correct?
13	A There was a cabaret tax that was administered by the
14	Gaming Control Board.
15	Q When you say "cabaret tax," what do you mean?
16	A That's what they called it.
17	Q But it applied to unrestricted gaming properties,
18	correct?
19	A That, I can't answer because that's, I'm not familiar
20	with that.
21	Q All right. And that was administered, your
22	understanding was that was administered by the Nevada Gaming
23	Control Board, and that's why you wouldn't have an
24	understanding?
25	A That's correct.

1	Q Did you actually take meetings or participate with
2	anybody in the legislature in 2003 regarding the shift from the
3	casino entertainment tax into the broader live entertainment
4	tax?
5	A No.
6	Q So the first time that you ever had anything to do
7	with the live entertainment tax is when you started doing
8	workshops?
9	MS. RAKOWSKY: That misstates his testimony.
10	BY MR. ROOS:
11	Q Okay. Does that misstate your testimony?
12	A To some degree, yes.
13	Q All right. What, how does that misstate your
14	testimony?
15	A I don't recall the exact dates, but I did provide
16	testimony at the legislature.
17	Q All right. What type of testimony did you provide at
18	the legislature to your recollection?
19	A To the best of my recollection, it dealt with the
20	fiscal impacts.
21	Q Did you perform studies or analyses regarding how the
22	change from the casino entertainment tax to the live
23	entertainment tax would either increase or decrease revenue for
24	the state of Nevada?
25	A Yes.

1	Q And how did you go about doing that?
2	A To the, again, to the best of my recollection, was
3	through the assistance of staff in determining the number of
4	different venues and potential admission charges to calculate
5	the tax.
6	Q Do you recall assigning any of your staff to go out
7	and do field studies regarding taxpayers that would fit within
8	the new live entertainment tax?
9	A To the, I don't know. It's possible, but I don't
10	remember.
11	Q All right. Do you remember generally how you came up
12	with a determination as to what the fiscal impact would be to
13	the state with respect to the live entertainment tax?
14	A It was based upon the best information available at
15	the time with respect to admission charges.
16	Q And what was the best available information at the
17	time?
18	A To the best I don't recall. Unfortunately, I don't
19	recall.
20	Q Do you believe that people within your department
21	actually went out to determine, or I guess audit, how much
22	revenue was being generated from cover charges for certain
23	businesses in the 2003 time frame?
24	A I'm going to ask you to clarify that question.
25	Are you talking about at the time the bill was being

1	discussed?
2	Q Yes.
3	A No.
4	Q All right. So what is it, then, what was your
5	testimony at the legislature about with respect to the fiscal
6	impact, if you can recall?
7	A To the best of my recollection, it would have had to
8	do with the fiscal notes, but that would not have been in the
9	policy committees. That would have been in the money
10	committees.
11	Q All right. And when you say "the fiscal notes," what
12	are you referring to?
13	A Every agency that has to collect revenue, associated
14	with any kind of, whether it's a fee or a tax, can be requested
15	by the fiscal division of the LCB, the Legislative Council
16	Bureau, to conduct a fiscal note to determine what the impact
17	would be to the general fund.
18	Q All right. And, I'm sorry, I'm not trying to be
19	difficult.
20	A No. No.
21	Q I don't understand. Obviously, I was not there when
22	you were doing this.
23	A I know.
24	Q When you're talking about providing, you know,
25	testimony to the senate about, or to the legislature about the

1	fiscal note or the fiscal impact, what I'm trying to figure out
2	is, how is it that you went about figuring out what the actual
3	fiscal impact would be, if you can recall?
4	A Again, I did not perform that.
5	Q Right.
6	A I relied on staff to give me that information. Now I
7	would again, I would only be speculating as to how they did
8	it.
9	I'm sure they probably tried to determine some level
10	of revenue associated in calculating what the tax revenue would
11	be.
12	But at best, at best, it's an estimate.
13	Q All right. So in order to clarify, it wasn't like you
14	sat your staff down and said, this is how I want you to go about
15	doing it?
16	A No, I did not do that.
17	Q All right. So you relied upon your staff to figure
18	out for themselves according to what they did in their job
19	capacity to figure out the fiscal impact of this?
20	A Yes.
21	Q And do you recall having any meetings with your staff
22	or talking to your staff about which facilities would be studied
23	or which ones would not?
24	A No.
25	Q And you talked about, during the process of the

workshop process, requesting language from affected parties. 1 2. That was a term that you used. 3 What did you mean by "affected parties"? Α We do that, we request, when we put out a public 4 notice, on that public notice, we encourage those that believe 5 6 that they are impacted by the regulation, to provide us language 7 to assist us in administering the tax. We do that for everything. 8 9 Q And so that process --Can I clarify that? Α 10 11 Q Sure. When I was there, that's what we did. Okay? 12 Α retired. Okay? 13 14 Q What year did you retire? This year. 15 Α 16 Q Okay. What are you doing now? 17 Α Absolutely nothing. Good for you. Congratulations. 18 Q Α Thank you. 19 20 How many years were you with the department? Q 21 Α Twenty-seven years. Did you always hold the position of deputy executive 22 Q 23 director? Α No, I did not. 24 25 Q What year did you take on that position?

It was in, the deputy position? It was 1996. 1 Α And you held that position all the way through your 2. 0 3 retirement? I became the executive director in March of 2006. 4 Α Other than the fiscal note, or fiscal impact portion 5 6 of the live entertainment tax legislation, do you recall 7 providing any other advice or assistance to the legislature in 2003 with respect to the live entertainment tax? 8 9 Α To the legislature, specifically, no, I don't recall. How about to any committees of the legislature? 10 0 Not that I recall. 11 Α How about to the Legislative Council Bureau? 12 Q Α Yes. 13 All right. What did you do with respect to the 14 Legislative Council Bureau in 2003? 15 16 Α 2003? 17 Yes. Q That would have related to the fiscal notes. 18 All right. So other than the fiscal note, you do not 19 Q recall providing any other advice or assistance to the 20 21 Legislative Council Bureau? Α No. 22 And that would be true with respect to the senate or 23 Q 24 the, I'm sorry, the legislature as a whole, as well, correct? Α That's correct. 25

1	Q And I'm sorry if I'm mistaken, but did you say that
2	your role was to oversee the audit division of the department,
3	as well, in 2003?
4	A That's correct.
5	Q And what did you, how did you go about doing that with
6	respect to the audit division?
7	A Well, I relied well, if you're asking what I did on
8	a daily basis with respect to the audit division, that, I relied
9	on the, I forgot their title.
10	Tax division managers. There's one in each district
11	office. I relied on them.
12	Q Did the tax division managers report to you about
13	audits that were going on?
14	A Not as far as live entertainment tax?
15	Q Yes.
16	A Not that I recall, no.
17	Q How did you direct the work of the tax division
18	managers, if at all?
19	A Well, the direction was to follow the regulations as
20	adopted by the Nevada Tax Commission, and to determine how many
21	audits could be performed, if you're talking about the audit
22	division, within, depending upon the number of auditors that we
23	had at that time, to do a proper determination as far as how to
24	audit businesses, not only just for the live entertainment tax,
25	but for sales tax and the other taxes that we administer.

1	Q And, all right. And did you direct anybody in the, in
2	the tax division as to who to audit, or
3	A No.
4	Q how to go about auditing?
5	A No. No.
6	Q All right. And they did not report up to you as to
7	the status of audits in any single way. I mean, did you have
8	monthly meetings or anything of that nature to determine?
9	A We did have quarterly meetings, but we did not, I did
10	not get into the individual details of those specific audits. I
11	tried to look at it from a, if you want to call it a
12	100,000-foot view, okay?
13	Q What was the purpose of the quarterly meetings?
14	A That is for all the district offices to make sure that
15	they are consistent in what they're doing across the board and
16	how they're treating taxpayers in the applications of the
17	regulations.
18	Q So one of the roles of the tax division is to provide
19	consistent application of the tax across all taxpayers?
20	A That's, that is the goal of the department in general
21	is consistency and predictability.
22	Q What do you mean by "predictability"?
23	A Well, predictability with respect to the taxpayer as
24	to what they can expect from the department.
25	Q How did you go about assisting taxpayers with

1	predictability regarding how the tax code would be applied?
2	MS. RAKOWSKY: Are you just referring to SB 8, or are
3	you talking about all the taxes?
4	BY MR. ROOS:
5	Q No, I'm really, honestly, I don't really want to get
6	into, because we'll be here all day if we're talking about sales
7	tax, use tax, all the other types of taxes.
8	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
9	Q I'm really, if I don't ask you specifically about
10	another kind of tax, you can assume that I'm talking about the
11	live entertainment tax.
12	A Okay.
13	Q And for the perspective of the questions I'm asking
14	you right now, I'm really focusing on the 2003 time frame, as
15	well.
16	Can you read back the last question that I had asked?
17	Record read by the reporter as follows:
18	"QUESTION: How did you go about assisting taxpayers
19	with predictability regarding how the tax code would be
20	applied?"
21	THE WITNESS: Well, if you're talking specifically,
22	and I'm trying to clarify the question in some respects, and
23	correct me if I'm wrong.
24	If you're talking about 2003, I seriously doubt there
25	would have been any audits performed on the live entertainment

1	tax, because in 2003 was the development of the regulations.
2	BY MR. ROOS:
3	Q Okay.
4	A Okay?
5	Q During the time frame when you were working on the
6	workshops in order to put together how the live entertainment
7	tax would be applied, what did you do in order to provide the
8	taxpayer with some level of predictability as to how it would be
9	applied?
10	A The predictability is through the public workshops.
11	Q All right. And what do you recall from the public
12	workshops as to the efforts that the Nevada Department of
13	Taxation undertook in order to provide predictability as to the
14	live entertainment tax code?
15	A Well, it was, because it's in the public forum, we had
16	to comply with the open meeting law. Any information that was
17	provided to that, in that workshop, needed to be made available
18	to anyone who was interested in it, and it was posted on our
19	website.
20	Q And then people would show up and say, I don't believe
21	that this tax should apply to me for X reason; is that kind of
22	how it worked?
23	A As far as the regulations were concerned, I don't
24	recall anyone doing that.
25	As far as someone saying that it doesn't apply to

them, the appropriate place for that discussion would have been 1 at the legislature. I mean, the law had already passed. 2. So you don't recall anybody coming to the legislative 3 workshops that you were handling for live entertainment tax, and 4 arguing with you or discussing with you, I guess "arguing" is 5 6 not a good word. 7 Discussing with you, why the application of the use tax should not, or I'm sorry. The live entertainment tax should 8 9 not apply to their specific circumstance? There may have been some discussion. I don't recall 10 Α 11 specifically. I know there was debate at the legislature. 12 I think it may have been later. It may have been in 2005 or 2007. 13 Okay? I don't recall specifically in 2003. 14 But there was discussion by -- but, see, that's the 15 16 I can't really start talking about individual 17 taxpayers because that's against, I mean, that's against the 18 statute with respect to the department. I mean, it's a misdemeanor to divulge information 19 about a specific taxpayer. 20 21 Okay. I'm not asking you to identify any specific taxpayer. I'm just asking you generally if you recall 22 23 individual taxpayers coming into the live entertainment tax workshops and discussing amongst you and the board that was 24 there, whether or not the live entertainment tax as passed 25

1	should or should not apply to their specific business?
2	A It's possible they did. But I don't recall.
3	Q And let's go off the record for a second.
4	(A recess was taken)
5	BY MR. ROOS:
6	Q All right. Back on the record.
7	Mr. DiCianno, I was trying to talk to you about the
8	workshops prior to going off the record.
9	And do you remember, do you remember an individual
10	senator named Senator Townsend?
11	A Uh-huh (affirmative). Yes.
12	Q And do you remember that he had sort of a leading
13	role, or more of a prominent role in the creation of the live
L4	entertainment tax bill?
15	A Well, I can't comment as to what he did or what his
16	role was. I do know that he did try to assist both the tax
17	commission and the Gaming Control I mean, the Gaming
18	Commission in the development of the language, but it wasn't
19	just live entertainment tax.
20	It was in discussion of all of them in SB 8.
21	Q Right.
22	But when you were having workshops with, specifically
23	with respect to the live entertainment tax, you do recall
24	Senator Townsend appearing at those workshops
25	A Yes.

1	Q and assisting you in developing the regulations
2	that ultimately were applied to live entertainment tax, correct?
3	A Yes. Yes.
4	Q And he not only had a role in the workshops, he was
5	there to assist you with understanding what the purpose of the
6	tax was, correct?
7	A I believe he provided testimony as part of the public
8	record, yes.
9	Q And during the live entertainment tax workshops, I had
10	asked you whether or not you recalled individual potential
11	taxpayers coming in to ask you questions about how the tax could
12	or could not apply to their specific business, and you had
13	indicated that that might have occurred.
14	But you didn't have a very good recollection of that.
15	So I want to ask you about some of the specifics that
16	I recall from listening to the live entertainment tax workshops
17	to see if it refreshes your recollection.
18	Do you remember the discussion about The Beach, which
19	was an entertainment club, nightclub across from the convention
20	center in Las Vegas?
21	A I don't recall where they're located, but I do recall
22	that they did come and discuss their situation.
23	Q Right.
24	And one of the concerns that the individual taxpayer,
25	The Beach had, was that they had bartenders who stood up on the

1	bar and would throw napkins around, and they wanted to know
2	whether or not that would be construed as live entertainment tax
3	under this statute, correct?
4	A They may have. I mean, I don't recall the specific
5	examples.
6	Q Okay.
7	A But I know they did.
8	Q Do you recall that discussion occurring?
9	A Unfortunately, I'd have to go back and reread the
10	transcripts. Unfortunately, I haven't done that. So
11	Q Do you recall there being issues with respect to piano
12	players that
13	A Yes.
14	Q Okay. That was a big one, right?
15	The piano players were afraid that they were going to
16	lose their jobs because they were providing background music,
17	and they didn't want to be construed as live entertainment.
18	Do you recall that?
19	A The discussion centered around whether something was
20	ambience or actual live entertainment.
21	Q And did you go about through the process of the live
22	entertainment workshop to craft a regulation that would have
23	relieved those piano players from fitting within the live
24	entertainment tax statute?
25	MS. RAKOWSKY: When you're talking about him

specifically? Are you talking about the department as a 1 2. whole --MR. ROOS: Yes. 3 MS. RAKOWSKY: -- or are you talking Mr. DiCianno 4 actually sitting down and writing this? 5 6 BY MR. ROOS: 7 No. I'm not asking you that question. Q I'm certain that if you, you probably reviewed 8 9 language and commented on it. I'm certain that you weren't the 10 guy writing it down. That's not the intent of my question. 11 Did the tax department go about crafting, or assisting in the crafting of a regulation that would have relieved the 12 piano players from the live entertainment definition? 13 The difficulty I'm having in responding to that is the 14 way you have phrased the question. Whether the department tried 15 to facilitate the removal, I quess if you'd like to put it that 16 17 way, of certain venues that would not be subject to live 18 entertainment tax. That's not the role of the department. What we try to do is assist the commission and the 19 Gaming Control Board, excuse me, the Gaming Commission, at that 20 time in the discussions, in giving and making sure that they got 2.1 the testimony and the language that was provided to us, 22 basically, and given to them. 23 But wasn't it the Department of Taxation's role to 24 craft the actual regulation? 25

1	A Again, I'm having difficulty trying to respond to that
2	because we tried to facilitate. We don't try to pointedly
3	direct the language of the regulation. That's not what we're
4	there for. It's not what we do.
5	Q Okay. Well, who was actually crafting the language of
6	the regulation in 2003?
7	A To the best of my recollection, we did have assistance
8	from, I believe it was language that came from the parties at
9	the workshop.
10	But then again, see, the difficulty for me is, is I
11	have not gone back and reviewed the record. That's the problem.
12	Q Actually your testimony is consistent with my
13	understanding, as well.
L4	That people, such as lawyers from Lionel, Sawyer and
15	Collins, and some other attorneys in town, who were representing
16	individual parties, would submit language to the Department of
17	Taxation during the workshop.
18	My question is, who was it at the department of
19	workshop at Department of Taxation during these workshops
20	that accumulated those comments, and then decided which ones
21	were worthy of putting into a regulation and which ones were
22	not?
23	A To the best of my recollection, we included
24	everything. And then it was brought back to the following
25	workshop for discussion and that, in trying to make a

1	determination, not me, not the department, but the persons that
2	were involved in the workshops to determine which language was
3	going to stay and which wasn't going to stay.
4	Once we were able to create well, if you want me to
5	go forward.
6	I mean, if, once we had a draft, supposedly a draft,
7	and it may not have been total agreement from both sides, okay,
8	that was transmitted over to the LCB for their craft, for their
9	drafting. Okay?
10	To ensure that it did conform with the bill, okay?
11	Q Well, let's talk about the ambient music issue.
12	It seems to me from my review of the documentation,
13	that somebody somewhere came up with language that tried to
14	construe what it meant to be ambient or background music.
15	Do you remember that?
16	A I don't remember, I don't recall who did it.
17	Q But you remember conceptually that that occurred?
18	A Yes.
19	Q All right. And so with respect to that specific
20	language, how was that vetted or determined as to the final
21	language that would appear in the regulation?
22	A Part of that would have been through the discussions
23	at the workshop. Okay?
24	Q Right.
25	And so people would come in, and you would debate

1	whether or not that language was appropriate?
2	A Well, I don't know if the correct term is
3	"appropriate," but if it would be well, I guess you could say
4	appropriate, within the scope of the statute, yeah.
5	Q Right. And I'm not trying to be difficult.
6	A No. No. No. I'm not trying to be difficult, either.
7	Q My understanding, just from listening to the live
8	entertainment workshops, is that people came in, and they had a
9	concern.
10	And you as a body, as the Department of Taxation,
11	along with, you know, the Gaming Commission, took that under
12	consideration, and then determined that, for instance, the
13	ambient music was probably not something that was intended to be
14	included within the definition of live entertainment, and,
15	therefore, a regulation was crafted that would have taken that
16	out of the live entertainment tax; is that fair to say?
17	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form of this question
18	because you're going back and forth.
19	BY MR. ROOS:
20	Q Well, I mean, is that fair to say?
21	MS. RAKOWSKY: You're asking him to discuss about
22	intent. And I think intent belongs with the legislative
23	process, not with the Department of Taxation.
24	So I have an objection. And I don't mean to have
25	it

1 BY MR. ROOS:

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- Q You can go ahead and answer the question.
- A Well, I want to clarify something in your statement.

First of all, the department was not directing anything. All we were there for was to facilitate and assist, since we are the staff of the Nevada Tax Commission, the Department of Taxation, I answer to the Nevada Tax Commission, they are the head of the department.

And to cooperate and assist, in addition with the Gaming Commission, the chair who was there from the gaming side of it. Because we were charged, both the commission and the Gaming Commission, were charged to work specifically on the live entertainment tax.

So it was vetted in the workshops. Not that we as the department made a determination what should be in, what should be out. That was not the case.

Q Well, somebody at some point had to indicate to you that with, let's, I keep using this as an example because it's an easy one, the ambient music example.

At some point, somebody had to determine that that was not within the intent of the legislature to include ambient music in the live entertainment tax.

Now you've already testified that it was the department's role to have predictability and correct application of the tax code.

1	So my question is to try to understand how it is that
2	that was communicated to the tax department so that the tax
3	department could understand that ambient music should not be
4	taxed?
5	A Well, let me back up a little bit.
6	Some of this stuff is starting to come back now,
7	unfortunately.
8	You have to keep in mind that the way SB 8 was
9	written, they, basically, charged, and I could be, and I could
10	be, I can stand to be corrected, basically, charged both the tax
11	commission and the Gaming Commission in determining the
12	definition of live entertainment.
13	That will get to the answer that you're trying to ask.
14	The question you're trying to ask as to what was included and
15	what was not included.
16	That discussion occurred in the workshops, and it also
17	occurred in the final adoption in front of both the Nevada Tax
18	Commission and the Gaming Commission.
19	Q So, okay. So you did have a role as the Department of
20	Taxation in coming up with the definition of live entertainment?
21	A No.
22	Q All right. Tell me why that's wrong.
23	A The department does not craft the language. We assist
24	in the crafting, getting the information that comes from all the
25	different parties, and the direction that we get from the Nevada

1	Tax Commission, if you're talking specifically about live
2	entertainment, and again, also from the Gaming Commission.
3	Q Okay.
4	A That's what occurred.
5	Q So when you say "assist," and maybe this is what we're
6	struggling with, what is the assistance that you're providing?
7	A The assistance we're providing is to make sure that
8	the information that's received in the workshop that's discussed
9	in a public forum, at the time in front of, both by the Nevada,
10	represented by the Nevada Tax Commission and the chair of the
11	Gaming Commission, that is included in the document, okay, for
12	public discussion.
13	And then that language is transmitted to the
14	Legislative Council Bureau.
15	Again, it's a facilitation. We don't make the
16	determination whether it should say this or should say that.
17	That's not our role.
18	I feel like I'm back at work.
19	Q You would agree, though, that part of your role would
20	be, once that regulation was adopted, it would be your role in
21	the Department of Taxation to analyze and determine the
22	applicability of that regulation as to individual taxpayers,
23	correct?
24	A That's correct. That's correct.
25	Q And did you have internal workshop sessions to

1	discuss, you know, how this tax would be implemented across the
2	board to taxpayers
3	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form of the question.
4	BY MR. ROOS:
5	Q in the state of Nevada?
6	How did you go about internally determining who fit
7	within the tax and who didn't?
8	A The reason why I'm hesitating in responding is I'm
9	trying to recall what that was.
10	I believe there was some, there was information that
11	was posted in our tax notes, and I believe, to the best of my
12	recollection, that I think there were individuals from the
13	different districts, I believe they were revenue officers, that
14	actually went out and visited the different venues, and tried to
15	gather information with respect to not only the type of venue,
16	but also there were certain restrictions.
17	I think there was a seating capacity, if I recall,
18	that had to be met in order to apply to the live entertainment
19	tax.
20	Q Was it a 300-seat capacity?
21	A I believe that's correct. At that time. I think it
22	was changed later on.
23	Q Do you have any recollection as to who came up with
24	the 300-seating capacity?
25	A That was the legislature.

1	Q Do you have any recollection in any of your discussion
2	as to how the legislature came up with the 300-seat capacity?
3	A Not to my recollection, no.
4	Q This was, this live entertainment statute, this wasn't
5	a tax statute that had general applicability, correct?
6	A What do you mean by generally applicable?
7	Q Well, it didn't apply across the board to any business
8	that was generating revenue, correct?
9	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form of the question.
10	THE WITNESS: I don't understand your question.
11	BY MR. ROOS:
12	Q Well, a sales tax would be a tax of general
13	applicability. You sell something, you pay a sales tax. It
L4	doesn't matter who you are, doesn't matter what you're doing,
15	you're paying a sales tax, correct?
16	A Not necessarily.
17	Q Okay. Tell me why that's incorrect.
18	A I mean, retailers act as agents to collect sales tax
19	from consumers.
20	Q Right.
21	A Retailers also that purchase items that they use in
22	their business also have to report and pay use tax. Okay?
23	The guy that does the lawn for this facility here,
24	that's a service. That's not, that's not subject to sales tax.
25	Q Okay. Let's talk

1	A Nor is it subject to use tax.
2	Q Okay. And I agree with that. Let's talk about
3	retailers.
4	If you're a retailer, you're paying either a sales tax
5	or a use tax, correct?
6	A You are a collector. The retailer is a collector.
7	Retailer doesn't pay the tax.
8	Q Okay.
9	A The consumer pays the tax.
10	Q So you're remitting to the state
11	A Yes.
12	Q sales or use tax, correct?
13	A That's correct.
14	Q And so that generally applies across the board if
15	you're a retailer, correct?
16	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
17	Q The live entertainment statute was not a statute of
18	general applicability because it only applied to scenarios that
19	included you had to have live entertainment, which was defined.
20	Had to be a seating capacity of 300, and there was
21	numerous other exceptions, correct; is that your understanding?
22	A There were certain exclusions to the live
23	entertainment tax, that part is correct.
24	But as far as the applicability of the tax, that's the
25	policy of the legislature. That's not policy of the department.

1	Q Yeah, I didn't ask you if it was your policy. I just
2	asked you for your understanding.
3	Your understanding was that it was not generally
4	applicable to anybody providing live entertainment, correct?
5	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form.
6	THE WITNESS: I don't know how to respond to that.
7	BY MR. ROOS:
8	Q Well, I mean, you were tasked with administering the
9	legislation and collecting the tax.
10	Did you just go to everybody that was performing live
11	entertainment and collect a tax?
12	A The difficulty I'm having in trying to respond to
13	that, if we can go back to the sales tax example, not every
14	transaction is taxable.
15	That a retailer would collect the sales tax. It is no
16	different than any other tax. There are exclusions, and there
17	are exemptions.
18	Okay? The live entertainment tax was a transaction
19	tax. Based upon admissions to see or view or whatever, live
20	entertainment. Okay?
21	I don't know how else better to respond to that, to
22	that question.
23	Q Well, I guess here's my follow-up question, and maybe
24	you just answered it.
25	It wasn't just a tax to any single person that was

1	providing live entertainment because there were exclusions. You
2	just testified to that, correct?
3	A There were exclusions, yes.
4	Q So it did not generally apply to any person providing
5	live entertainment, correct?
6	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form, and it's been
7	asked and answered.
8	THE WITNESS: I'm not trying to be difficult. I just
9	see it no different than any other type of transaction tax like
10	the sales tax.
11	There are certain exclusions, there are certain
12	exemptions, there are entities that are not required to report
13	or pay. It's no different than sales tax.
14	BY MR. ROOS:
15	Q What entities are not required to pay or report sales
16	tax? Are there specific entities that are
17	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection.
18	BY MR. ROOS:
19	Q identified in the Nevada sales tax code as to not
20	having to pay sales tax?
21	A Yes, the feds, the federal
22	Q The federal government?
23	A The federal government. Local governments, state
24	governments. Right.
25	Q What about

1	A There are constitutional provisions that exclude.
2	Q What about specific individual business operators?
3	MS. RAKOWSKY: I would object to that because
4	Mr. DiCianno cannot discuss specific individual taxpayers.
5	BY MR. ROOS:
6	Q No, I'm not ask for names.
7	I'm saying as a group, are there any types of
8	businesses, private businesses, that are excluded from sales tax
9	in the state of Nevada?
10	A I'm trying to come up with an example. Unfortunately
11	I'm drawing a blank.
12	Well, private businesses that would be excluded from
13	having to report and pay sales tax is like the example I gave
14	earlier, which is the parties that provide services. Like this,
15	her service.
16	Q I understand. But we previously focused it on
17	retailers.
18	Are there any private businesses in the retail sector
19	of the world that you can recall that were specifically
20	identified, not by name, but by category and exempted from sales
21	tax in Nevada?
22	A Off the top of my head, I can't
23	Q But that did occur with respect to the live
24	entertainment tax, though, correct? Specific businesses were
25	identified?

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MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form of that question.
 1
                  THE WITNESS: I'm not sure what you're trying to ask
 2.
 3
       me.
       BY MR. ROOS:
 4
                  Okay. Well, let me give you an example.
 5
             O
 6
                  At some point, you recall there being a discussion
 7
        about whether or not the NASCAR race at the speedway should be
        specifically exempted from the live entertainment tax statute,
 8
 9
        correct?
                  That discussion occurred in front of the legislature.
             Α
10
11
             Q
                  Right.
                  In 2003, or do you recall it being in 2005?
12
                  It wasn't 2003. I believe it was 2005.
             Α
13
                  And at some point, in the infinite wisdom of the
14
        legislature, they decided that the NASCAR cup series race that
15
16
        occurs every year at the speedway is not subject to live
17
        entertainment.
                  You recall that, right?
18
             Α
                  Uh-huh (affirmative).
19
20
                  That's a yes?
             Q
21
             Α
                  Yes.
                  In your role as the administrator of the tax at the
22
             0
        time, you would agree, would you not, that watching cars race
23
        each other is a form of live entertainment?
24
                  It doesn't matter what I believe or don't believe.
25
             Α
```

1	Q Well, you
2	A The legislature as administrator for the Department
3	of Taxation, if the legislature specifically excludes or exempts
4	that from the administrative standpoint, that's what I do.
5	I don't pass judgment on whether or not it should
6	apply or not apply.
7	Q Oh, and that's not my question.
8	A Okay.
9	Q Okay. I clearly understand that the legislature
10	created an exemption for it.
11	My question is quite different. My question is,
12	absent that exclusion by the legislature, you would agree, would
13	you not, that watching cars go around in a circle racing each
14	other is a form of live entertainment under the definition of
15	live entertainment that was crafted by the legislature?
16	A I'd have to read the definition of the live
17	entertainment. If I could.
18	Q Well, I mean, you were involved in creating the
19	regulation that defined
20	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
21	Q live entertainment, you recall that, right?
22	A I recall that. But it's been a long time since I have
23	read it.
24	Q Okay. And I can give you the statute, and you can
25	spend the time looking at it, but is it your general

recollection that a car race would fit within the definition of 1 the live entertainment? 2. You're asking for my own personal opinion? 3 4 Q No. I'm asking from the standpoint of somebody who was 5 6 charged with administering the tax code, absent the specific 7 exclusion, which I grant you happened, you, in being charged with applying that tax code, you would have an understanding 8 9 that that would fit within the definition of live entertainment, 10 correct? 11 Α The way you have stated it, without the legislature providing an exclusion or an exemption, yes. 12 13 Q Thank you. 14 So in effect, the live entertainment tax does create exclusions for certain types of activities and businesses that 15 offer live entertainment, but the legislature decided should not 16 17 be taxed. That's fair to say, right? 18 Α Yes. 19 20 Okay. Do you recall discussions in 2003, whether it 21 be during the live entertainment workshops or in your capacity as providing advice regarding the fiscal note, that the 22 23 intention of the legislature was to expand the casino 24 entertainment tax? 25 In other words, let me phrase it that they were not

1	trying to reduce the overall revenue generated to the state, but
2	to increase overall revenue?
3	A I believe that was their intent, yes.
4	Q Okay. So everybody, do you recall discussions about
5	everybody that was currently taxed under the then-existing
б	casino entertainment tax, would still be taxed, and that the
7	legislature was just adding more potential taxpayers to the tax
8	base?
9	A That's, that may well be. But I'm not familiar with
10	the casino side of it, so I don't know.
11	Q No. I understand that, and that was your testimony.
12	What I'm asking is, do you recall that coming up in
13	conversations? That, look, we have this casino entertainment
14	tax?
15	What we're doing with the live entertainment tax is
16	not supposed to subtract from the casino entertainment tax.
17	It's supposed to add to the tax base?
18	A I believe that's, that's my understanding at the time,
19	yes.
20	Q All right. And so if you look at the tax code post
21	the passage of the live entertainment tax, there's a subcategory
22	of people who are new taxpayers under the live entertainment
23	tax, correct?
24	A Yes.
25	Q All right. And that would be, basically, all the

```
people who weren't previously subject to the casino
 1
        entertainment tax, which essentially stayed in effect --
 2.
                  Uh-huh (affirmative).
 3
             Α
 4
                  -- correct?
             Α
                  Yes.
 5
 6
                  And do you recall during your live entertainment
 7
       workshops, Senator Townsend, basically, stating to the effect
        that the live entertainment tax that was being created was,
 8
 9
       basically, geared towards capturing adult entertainment clubs?
                  I don't recall that.
10
11
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form.
        BY MR. ROOS:
12
                  You have no recollection of that?
13
                  Huh-uh (negative).
14
                  Do you have a recollection of talking with anybody in
15
16
        the 2003 time frame where you came to understand or hear in any
17
       way that the live entertainment tax was geared towards capturing
        gentlemen's clubs?
18
                  I believe they fell under the definition.
19
        correct.
20
21
             Q
                  Okay.
                  They were part of it, yes.
22
             Α
23
                  No, I'm not asking you if they're a part of it.
        They're clearly part of it.
24
                  My question is the different, do you remember anybody
25
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1	at any time during the 2003 time frame, including the workshops
2	that you handled, stating that it was, basically, the purpose of
3	the legislation to gear towards capturing gentlemen's clubs?
4	A No.
5	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form of the question.
6	BY MR. ROOS:
7	Q Do you disagree with that statement or that concept,
8	that this legislation was geared towards capturing gentlemen's
9	clubs?
10	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form. It calls for
11	speculation.
12	BY MR. ROOS:
13	Q You can answer.
14	A I can't respond to that.
15	Q Why can't you respond to that?
16	A That's not, that was not the role or purpose of my
17	position at the time.
18	Q Well, I'm not asking you if it was your role or your
19	position.
20	I'm asking you as a human being that lived through
21	this, and worked through the live entertainment shops, and heard
22	everything that was going on. I just told you what I believe
23	occurred.
24	Do you disagree with that? Do you have a reason to
25	disagree with that?

1	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form of the question.
2	THE WITNESS: You're asking for my personal opinion,
3	and I can't do that.
4	BY MR. ROOS:
5	Q I'm really not asking for your personal opinion.
6	What I'm asking for is, as you sit here today, do you
7	remember any conversations or communications with anybody that
8	you could point to where you could say, you know what? You're a
9	hundred percent wrong, and here's why?
10	A No, I can't.
11	Q Okay. Let me read you some of the statements that
12	Mr. Townsend made during the LET workshops and see if it can
13	refresh your recollection.
14	Well, first of all, let me ask you generally, do you
15	remember having any discussions during the 2003 time frame about
16	First, potential First Amendment issues with the live
17	entertainment tax?
18	A No.
19	Q You never had any conversations with anybody regarding
20	that?
21	A Not that I recall. No.
22	Q Okay. Do you remember ever hearing anything about
23	potential problems with respect to the First Amendment and the
24	applicability of the live entertainment tax in 2003?
25	A Not that I recall.

Q All right. Okay. This is September 19th, 2003, workshop. This is the comments of Senator Townsend.

2.

He says, first and foremost in the original discussions that I had with a number of my colleagues on the senate side, and I see Chairman Parks, who heads up taxation on the assembly side is here, and he can probably give you some insight as to what the other house discussed, but conversations that occurred in the senate were geared towards an emerging industry, particularly in southern Nevada, commonly known as gentlemen's clubs.

And our research that was certainly done by people much younger than myself led us to believe that many of the individuals that work in these establishments were in fact independent contractors.

So there was no work comp paid, very unlikely health benefits were paid, and most importantly, we're not paying any kind of tax other than property or a license fee, and as would have it, were a significant competitor to our largest industry in the fact that they were, obviously, encouraging many of the patrons of our largest industry to spend as much time as possible with them.

So the concept, the theory, the idea, the public policy, was to find a way to appropriately tax an industry that started to grow, and in many cases, create certain social obligations for which there wasn't a tax being paid.

In discussions with our general, with our council 1 2. bureau, we found ourselves on a very, very slippery slope 3 relative to the protections of the individual's First Amendment rights of freedom of expression being taxed and that being 4 5 prohibited. 6 So that took us into a discussion of bringing it under 7 what was commonly known as the CET. MS. RAKOWSKY: Are you reading this verbatim, or are 8 9 you picking out sentences? MR. ROOS: No, I'm reading it verbatim. 10 11 MS. RAKOWSKY: Do you have a copy for us? MR. ROOS: Yeah. Do you want to go off the record? 12 I'll make a copy. 13 MS. RAKOWSKY: Sure. 14 MR. ROOS: Go ahead and go off the record. 15 (Discussion off the record) 16 17 BY MR. ROOS: Okay. Back on the record. 18 Q All right. Mr. DiCianno, so the purpose of me reading 19 that testimony was to see if it refreshed your recollection 20 21 because I understand a lot of this occurred, you know, seven 22 years ago. Having heard me read that, and having read it 23 24 yourself, do you now recall there being discussions, whether 25 during the workshops that you were involved with, or at any time

1	in 2002 with regreat to the live entertainment too. that it
1	in 2003 with respect to the live entertainment tax, that it was
2	really geared towards capturing gentlemen's clubs?
3	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the question. Speculation.
4	And I think you should read the rest. If you're going
5	to put that portion into the record, I think you should put the
6	rest of the portion, rest of this into the record.
7	BY MR. ROOS:
8	Q Okay. Vivienne, you can do what you need to do and
9	make the arguments you need to make.
10	My question was simply, having heard that, having what
11	I just read to you, and having reviewed it, does that refresh
12	your recollection in any way about discussions that occurred,
13	whether during the workshop or at any time prior about the live
14	entertainment tax really being geared toward capturing strip
15	clubs?
16	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form.
17	BY MR. ROOS:
18	Q Go ahead. You can answer.
19	A Well, first of all, this is Senator, at that time,
20	Senator Townsend's opinion about what was occurring and what
21	happened at the legislature, and the role of the department and
22	the role of the Gaming Control Board. There's no question about
23	that.
24	Now, there were, other than just the gentlemen's
25	clubs, there were other venues that would become subject to the

```
live entertainment tax as the way it was defined, in addition
 1
 2.
       to, I call it the cabaret tax.
                  It was called, it got changed to the casino
 3
       entertainment tax. The old cabaret tax came from the federal
 4
 5
       government, but that was a long time ago.
 6
                  But the intent was to capture other venues.
                                                                There's
 7
       no question about that.
                  The intent, according to this, was to capture
 8
             Q
 9
       gentlemen's clubs, and my question to you is, do you remember
10
       there being discussions about the intent of the statute to
11
       capture gentlemen's clubs?
            Α
12
                  No.
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection.
                                             Form. Calls for
13
       speculation.
14
       BY MR. ROOS:
15
16
             Q
                  All right.
17
             Α
                  No.
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Just give me a second.
18
19
                  THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
       BY MR. ROOS:
20
21
                  So does this come as a surprise to you reading this
       that Senator Townsend --
22
23
             Α
                  No.
                  -- was talking about capturing gentlemen's clubs?
24
25
             Α
                  No, it doesn't surprise me. Again, this is his
```

1	testimony.
2	Q All right. And it's not your recollection of the
3	purpose of the live entertainment tax, fair to say?
4	A What do you mean by "purpose"?
5	Q To capture gentlemen's clubs.
6	A The purpose was to capture other venues in addition to
7	the casino entertainment tax.
8	Q And what other venues other than gentlemen's clubs
9	were intending to be captured?
10	A Those providing live entertainment.
11	Q You weren't
12	A Outside of the casino or would be under the purview of
13	the Gaming Control Board.
14	Q With the exception of the exclusions that were
15	created?
16	A That's correct.
17	Q So, for instance, no boxing event, licensed in the
18	state of Nevada, even though it's live entertainment, would be
19	subject to the live entertainment tax.
20	A There was specific discussion at the legislature with
21	respect to unarmed combat.
22	Q What do you remember about that specific discussion?
23	A That discussion was to, because of the licensing and
24	the venue and how it was put together, was not going to be
25	subject to the live entertainment tax.

1	This was my understanding. As to the specific reasons
2	as to why they wanted to exclude them, that, I do not know.
3	Q As you sit here today, you have no recollection as to
4	any discussions about why boxing would have been excluded?
5	A I may have heard discussion at the legislature, but I
6	don't recall specifics.
7	Q Okay. Do you recall generally what those
8	conversations were about?
9	A No.
10	Q So as you sit here today, you don't have any idea why
11	the legislature decided to exclude boxing?
12	A Not to my recollection. No.
13	Q Did you ever hear that boxing was excluded because
14	boxing was such a competitive type of event, meaning that other
15	states were competing against Nevada, to put on live boxing
16	events, and that Nevada shouldn't tax that and put that tax
17	burden on boxing events?
18	A I don't recall that.
19	MS. RAKOWSKY: Calls for speculation.
20	BY MR. ROOS:
21	Q You don't recall that in any way?
22	A Huh-uh (negative).
23	Q Is that a no?
24	A No.
25	Q But it wasn't just boxing either. It's any event.

You were charged with applying this, so it wasn't just 1 It was any event that was sanctioned by the Nevada 2. boxing. Athletic Commission, correct, any live combat sport? 3 Α If I may respond, I think you have to keep in mind, 4 and I need to clarify something. 5 6 I was not the one providing the majority of the 7 testimony at the legislature in 2003 with respect to these taxes. 8 9 That was not my role. Okay? My role was to develop the fiscal notes, and to assist the chairman in those 10 11 discussions in the workshop, okay? I provided very limited testimony that I can recall or 12 remember. 13 14 Q Okay. 15 Α Okay? 16 Q My question is not really about the testimony that you 17 provided. My question is, as the person who is charged with 18 administering the tax, in what you have said is a predictable 19 20 and, I guess, evenhanded manner, you understood that it wasn't 2.1 just boxing that was excluded under this exemption. It was any form of live combat that was sanctioned by the Nevada Athletic 22 23 Commission, correct? That's my understanding, yes. 24 Α 25 Okay. I asked you about the NASCAR event being

1	excluded.
2	Do you, as you sit here today, know why the
3	legislature excluded the NASCAR event from the live
4	entertainment tax?
5	A Based upon what I heard as testimony in, and I can't
6	remember if it was on the assembly side, on the senate side, I
7	know there were individuals that were there that represented
8	NASCAR that, there were even drivers that provided testimony at
9	the legislature. I think this was in 2005.
10	My understanding was that they were attempting to
11	bring the national office to Las Vegas for NASCAR. That was,
12	that was discussed at the legislature in public testimony.
13	Q Okay.
14	A You can look it up. It's there.
15	Q And so your understanding was that that was the
16	purpose of the exemption?
17	A That's my understanding. But that, again, that's the
18	purview of the legislature. Not mine.
19	Q And in your role in enforcing the live entertainment
20	tax, you then did not ever charge live entertainment tax to the
21	events out at the speedway?
22	MS. RAKOWSKY: I object to the form. That misstates
23	testimony.
24	Are you talking about every event? Are you talking

about all the other races?

25

1	BY MR. ROOS:
2	Q Well, I'll ask you
3	MS. RAKOWSKY: Are you talking about NASCAR?
4	BY MR. ROOS:
5	Q Okay. Let's break it down.
6	Do you charge live entertainment tax to the speedway
7	while you were in charge of the department for events at the
8	speedway other than the NASCAR event?
9	A To the best of my recollection, prior to the
10	legislative change, I believe so, yes.
11	Q But after the legislative change, there was no longer
12	entertainment tax, correct?
13	A Not that I can recall, no.
14	MS. RAKOWSKY: And your question is just for NASCAR,
15	or for every event out there, all the other races?
16	You have to be specific.
17	BY MR. ROOS:
18	Q I think my question stands.
19	At some point, did the regulation that was crafted
20	through the workshop process actually put into law with respect
21	to live entertainment?
22	A That's correct.
23	Q Do you know when that occurred?
24	A I believe it was 2009. No. Pardon me. Back up.
25	It was either 2007 or 2009. I can't remember. I

believe, I'm, again, I'm not exactly sure. 1 I would lean towards 2007 that that was done, but not 2. only just the live entertainment tax, it was also for the other 3 taxes that were put in place in 2003. 4 Do you remember in any of your discussions why it was 5 6 that your regulation, the definition of live entertainment tax, 7 was actually put into the statute? Well, as I testified earlier, the -- based on the 8 9 original SB 8 bill, the Nevada -- if we're talking specifically about the live entertainment tax and the definition of live 10 entertainment, that was the charge that the legislature gave to 11 the tax commission and the Gaming Control Board was to come up 12 with that definition. 13 And clearly a regulation has effect of law. They felt 14 at the time it would be appropriate to make it part of the 15 statute, and they did. 16 17 Do you remember in 2004 in your role overseeing the Q Department of Taxation, having fiscal impact analysis performed 18 on the revenue that was being generated from gentlemen's clubs? 19 Α May have. I don't know. We may have. 20 21 Do you remember doing any fiscal impact analysis of any other industry in the state of Nevada for, to determine what 22 23 type of revenue another type of industry was generating under the live entertainment tax statute? 24

Not that I recall.

Α

25

1	Q Okay. And I haven't seen I have seen documentation
2	that I'll show you later that deals with specific analyses of
3	revenue generated from strip clubs, but I haven't seen any
4	related to any other type of industry.
5	Is that consistent with your understanding that really
6	the only investigation that was going on was how much revenue
7	was generated from strip clubs?
8	A That may well be the case. I don't know.
9	Q Is there any reason why in your role with the
10	Department of Taxation there wouldn't have been a study on how
11	much money other types of industries were generating
12	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to
13	BY MR. ROOS:
14	Q under the live entertainment tax?
15	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form. Because he says he
16	doesn't recall. He didn't say you're misstating his prior
17	testimony.
18	THE WITNESS: I don't recall.
19	BY MR. ROOS:
20	Q Do you know why in your capacity with the Department
21	of Taxation, the department would want to know the specific
22	revenue that was being generated from strip clubs under the live
23	entertainment tax?
24	A I believe that would have been because of the request
25	that would have come from LCB fiscal.

We do -- I mean, the department does analyses every 1 year with respect to the economic forum. We try to project 2. revenues for all taxes, not only just the live entertainment 3 4 tax. All right. Well, you testified that you believe that 5 this may have come from the LCB fiscal request. 6 Uh-huh (affirmative). 7 Do you remember anybody associated or affiliated in 8 9 any way with the LCB specifically asking you or your department 10 to go out and perform an analysis of the revenue generated from 11 strip clubs? There could have been, yes. I mean, it could have 12 Α come from LCB fiscal. It could have come from, it could have 13 come from either on the assembly side or on the senate side. 14 On the assembly side, it could have come from Mark 15 Stevens. On the senate side, it could have come from Gary 16 17 Ghiggeri at that time. They were the lead analysts for, Mark was the lead 18 analyst on the assembly side. Gary Ghiggeri was the lead 19 analyst on the senate side. 20 21 Could it have come from, I mean, let's see how to phrase this question. 22 Based upon your experience in the Department of 23 Taxation, could that request have come from an individual 24 25 senator or assembly person?

1	A Not that I recall. And that would be very unusual.
2	Q Would a request to perform a fiscal impact analysis,
3	or an analysis of the revenue generated from the live
4	entertainment tax, would that have come to you, or could it have
5	possibly come to somebody underneath you?
6	A It more than likely would come to me. Or, and let me
7	clarify that statement.
8	It could have gone to the executive director, who
9	would have, you know, basically, told me to deal with it.
LO	Q And that would have been Chuck Chinnock at the time?
11	A At the time, yes.
12	Q But under the structure of the department, whether it
13	came to Chuck Chinnock directly or you directly, you would have
14	been the one that would have been tasked with, basically,
15	sending out the troops to get the answer, correct?
16	A In most cases, yes.
17	Q And as you sit here today, you don't have any
18	independent recollection of somebody asking you to specifically
19	go out and figure out how much revenue was being generated from
20	the strip clubs?
21	A To the best of my recollection, I did receive a
22	request from Mr. Ghiggeri.
23	Q Did he tell you why he was specifically requesting a
24	revenue impact analysis with respect to strip clubs?
25	A I don't recall. Unfortunately, I don't recall why.

1	Q Do you remember Mr. Ghiggeri telling you to go out and
2	look at any other industry to determine how much revenue they
3	were generating as compared to other types of industries?
4	A Not that I'm aware of, no.
5	Q Do you remember there being discussions about making
6	sure that dancing among patrons would not be captured within the
7	net of the live entertainment tax?
8	A There was discussions, this was well after, if I
9	recall correctly, well after the regulations were done.
10	There were, we became aware that if there was gaming
11	at the facility, I believe if somebody were to put money in the
12	jukebox, and the patrons started dancing on the gaming side,
13	they would become subject to the CET.
14	We disagreed. If there wasn't gaming, that if someone
15	were to just start dancing because somebody put money in the
16	jukebox, we would not consider that live entertainment.
17	First of all, there would be no admission charge.
18	There's no admission charge. It was never advertised as an
19	entertainment.
20	So that's how we responded back to, that's how I
21	responded back to the individual at the Gaming Commission when
22	they made that, brought that discussion up.
23	Q Well, isn't it your understanding that there doesn't
24	have to be an admission charge inside a casino venue?
25	A May not. I don't know.

1	Q So why was it the Department of Taxation's position
2	that this specific form of dancing would not fit within the live
3	entertainment tax?
4	A As I indicated earlier, there's no, no one was
5	charging admission to watch patrons dance to some sort of music,
6	whether it's a jukebox or whatever.
7	Q Did the Department of Taxation go out and do a study
8	to determine that
9	A No.
10	Q Well, why not?
11	A Because under the definition of live entertainment,
12	and the regulations that existed at that time, we did not
13	believe that it was subject to tax.
14	Q No. My question is different.
15	How did you come to the conclusion that people weren't
16	charging a cover charge to have patrons come in and dance?
17	A Under most circumstances, if you go into a bar, there
18	is no cover charge to get into a bar.
19	Some bars have jukeboxes, okay? Someone goes up and
20	puts money in a jukebox, music starts, people get up and dance.
21	There may not be a dance floor. They just decide they want to
22	dance.
23	That, in our mind, was not live entertainment.
24	Q Right, but you didn't perform any sort of
25	A No.

1	Q analysis hold on.
2	A No.
3	Q You didn't perform any sort of analysis to determine
4	whether or not in fact there were venues out there that were
5	actually charging for patrons to come in and dance?
6	A Not that I recall, no.
7	Q All right. And if you had if you had done a study
8	that showed that there were venues that charged a cover charge
9	for people to come in and dance, are you saying that that would
10	be live entertainment, then?
11	A It's potential, yes. But then, again, we'd also have
12	to determine under whose jurisdiction it would be under.
13	If there were, if there was a slot operator that had
14	games in the bar that would have, that would be under the
15	purview of the Gaming Control Board.
16	Not us.
17	Q So who within the department made the determination in
18	their that the department did not view dancing among patrons
19	as live entertainment?
20	A Based on my discussions with the district managers and
21	others, I made the decision that it was not subject to tax.
22	Q Was that based on your understanding of what occurred
23	inside
24	A Yes.
25	Q the venues?

1	A Yes.
2	Q Your personal?
3	A Yes.
4	Q Okay. So with respect to dancing, the act of dancing
5	in and of itself may or may not be live entertainment?
6	A That's correct.
7	Q It just depends on who's dancing?
8	MS. RAKOWSKY: Calls for speculation. Object to the
9	form of the question.
10	BY MR. ROOS:
11	Q Does it depend on who's dancing? Because you've said
12	if a patron is dancing with another patron, it's not live
13	entertainment, correct?
14	A I would not well, you could view it as
15	entertainment, but as far as the application of the tax, no.
16	Q What do you mean?
17	A It does not meet the definition of live entertainment.
18	Q Okay. So it does depend on who's dancing? I don't
19	mean that to be facetious.
20	If you're a customer dancing with another customer,
21	that's not live entertainment?
22	A But there's other specifics that have to go along with
23	that.
24	Is it advertised, is there an admission charge? In
25	those cases where there wasn't, no, it's not live entertainment.

1	Q Okay. And if somebody advertised to come to their
2	club and dance, and if somebody charged an admission charge to
3	come in, and all that occurred was patrons danced with each
4	other, you would say that is or is not live entertainment?
5	MS. RAKOWSKY: Incomplete objection. Incomplete
6	hypothetical. Calls for speculation.
7	BY MR. ROOS:
8	Q Go ahead and answer. I used the examples that you
9	gave.
10	So my hypothetical is, you have said that
11	advertisement is important and admission charge, so I want to
12	give you those two.
13	They will advertise, they will charge an admission,
14	and patrons will come in and do nothing but dance with each
15	other, is that form of dancing live entertainment under your
16	understanding?
17	A Under my understanding under the definition of live
18	entertainment, no. It's not subject to tax. It is no different
19	than someone coming in and doing karaoke.
20	Q Which would not be construed as live entertainment?
21	A That's correct. Unless, unless, as you describe, they
22	provide advertising, they provide an admission charge, that that
23	is the entertainment that is being provided. Okay?
24	It is not a matter of the individual. It's a matter
25	of the venue. Okay?

1	Q When you say it's not a matter of the individual, it's
2	a matter of the venue, what do you mean by that?
3	A It's not a matter of whether it is an independent
4	contractor, a private individual, that isn't the point.
5	The point is how the live entertainment is structured,
6	how it's advertised, is an admission charged, and how it meets
7	the definition of live entertainment, okay?
8	Q Right.
9	And in the instance that I gave you, which is, a venue
10	advertises that you can come to their club and dance.
11	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
12	Q But then charges you a cover charge to get in. You
13	then go in and dance with patrons, you have testified that that
14	would not be live entertainment, correct?
15	A No, I do not say that.
16	Q Well, I think that was your testimony. Are you, do
17	you want to change your testimony?
18	MS. RAKOWSKY: Misstates his testimony.
19	BY MR. ROOS:
20	Q Okay. If a venue charged an admission charge, and the
21	venue advertised that you can come to their venue and dance, and
22	the only thing that occurs is dancing among patrons, under your
23	understanding of the live entertainment tax, when you were in
24	charge of enforcing it, would a live entertainment tax apply in
25	that scenario?

1	A Potentially it could, yes.
2	Q Well, you say "potentially it could." What are the
3	reasons that it might not?
4	A Well, there are discussions. I mean, I would assume
5	that they would want to have a discussion with the department
6	over, or whomever.
7	If there was gaming, also they would want to have a
8	discussion with the Gaming Control Board as to whether or not to
9	get a ruling, a formal ruling, as to whether or not it is
10	subject to the live entertainment tax. Okay.
11	Q Right.
12	But when you were charged with analyzing that
13	scenario, you understood that there was a specific exemption for
14	dancing among and between patrons, correct?
15	A When you say "exemption," it was my understanding that
16	that would not be considered live entertainment under the
17	definition of live entertainment.
18	Q Right.
19	So it's exempted from live entertainment?
20	A If you want to put it that way, yes.
21	Q So under the scenario where somebody charges a
22	coverage charge and advertises, and all that goes on in the club
23	is dancing to recorded music, that fits within an exception of
24	live entertainment, that would not be live entertainment?
25	A Probably not.

1	Q All right. So it depends upon who is dancing, does it
2	not?
3	A No. It doesn't matter who is dancing. That's not the
4	issue. The issue is how the venue is structured.
5	Q Okay. And what do you mean by "how the venue is
6	structured"?
7	A If there's advertising, if you're going to advertise
8	it. There's an admission charge.
9	Q Right.
10	A There's specifics associated with that, along with the
11	definition whether or not it meets the definition of live
12	entertainment that is currently well, at that time, it would
13	have been part of the regulation. Now it would be part of the
14	statute.
15	It's not the individual. It's how the venue is put
16	together. Okay?
17	Q Uh-huh (affirmative).
18	If somebody that was a professional came to dance, and
19	did a dance show, at the same club, amongst all the patrons,
20	dancing in the middle of the dance floor because he had some
21	special talent dancing, and it was advertised, and a cover
22	charge was charged, and that person is dancing among the
23	patrons, but he's a professional, that would be charged live
24	entertainment, would it not?
25	A Yes.

1	Q Okay. But the same scenario where that person is not
2	there, it's just individuals dancing with each other, but
3	there's also a coverage charge, and it's also advertised that
4	you can come there and dance, that would not be subject to live
5	entertainment?
6	A In my estimation, it would be subject to live
7	entertainment tax.
8	Q That particular circumstance where you charged
9	A Yes.
10	Q a cover charge
11	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
12	Q and you advertised that you come could there and
13	dance to recorded music, and all the patrons did was dance with
14	each other, you would say that that would be subject to live
15	entertainment tax?
16	A Most likely, yes.
17	Q Okay.
18	A But let me add, if I may, who in the world would want
19	to watch patrons dance? And pay for it? I don't know.
20	MR. ROOS: How long have we been going? It would be a
21	good time for a break.
22	(A recess was taken)
23	BY MR. ROOS:
24	Q Okay. Stevens and Ghiggeri, the individuals that you
25	had identified as LCB fiscal guys for lack of a better term.

1	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
2	Q Are you aware of whether or not they did their own
3	independent fiscal analysis of the live entertainment tax?
4	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
5	THE WITNESS: I don't know.
6	BY MR. ROOS:
7	Q Okay. Would it be the pattern and practice in your
8	dealings with the department over the time frame that you worked
9	with Mr. Stevens and Ghiggeri, that they would deliver
10	information to you if they had done a fiscal impact?
11	A No.
12	Q Okay. So they may have very well have done a fiscal
13	impact that never reached the Department of Taxation?
14	A That's possible.
15	Q Okay. With respect to the exemptions that I have
16	discussed so far, boxing, and MMA, let's talk about that one.
17	Were you ever tasked with doing a fiscal analysis to
18	determine how much revenue the state could potentially lose by
19	not taxing boxing or MMA?
20	A Not that I recall.
21	Q Okay. What about with respect to NASCAR?
22	Were you ever tasked with going out and performing an
23	analysis to determine how much revenue the state could
24	potentially be losing by not taxing the NASCAR events?
25	A We may have been asked to do a fiscal impact on the

1	bill during that time period that would have exempted NASCAR.
2	Q Are you talking about SB 8?
3	A No. This would have been after that, a while after
4	that.
5	Q Because I haven't seen, in the documents that have
6	been produced, an actual fiscal analysis, meaning somebody went
7	out and got the exact information from the hold on. The
8	speedway, sorry.
9	I don't recall ever seeing information produced by the
10	state where somebody from your office went out to the speedway
11	and got exact figures, and then analyzed the potential revenue
12	that would be gained by taxing NASCAR.
13	Is that consistent with your understanding?
14	A Well, let me clarify that a little bit.
15	First of all, it's not, in some, not in all cases, but
16	in most cases, no someone from the department would not be
17	going out to those venues to make that determination.
18	They would either gather the information, either over
19	the phone, ask for it, or they would analyze it based upon prior
20	period returns
21	Q Okay.
22	A that would have been provided.
23	Q But a report would be generated within the Department
24	of Taxation?
25	A There would be a fiscal note. If we would have been

requested to have a fiscal note done, that's what we would do. 1 We would not just generate it just to generate it. 2. 3 Q Okay. And so if there does not appear to be a fiscal note related to a fiscal impact with respect to NASCAR in the 4 documents that I have been provided from the state, that likely 5 6 means that the state, your department, did not do that? 7 I don't know. I do not know. I don't know what you've received, so I can't --8 9 Q Well, let me ask you a different question. 10 If had you generated a fiscal note regarding NASCAR 11 and the revenue that could have been generated from NASCAR with respect to live entertainment tax, you would expect it to be in 12 the documents related to the live entertainment tax from the 13 14 department, correct? I mean, it's, as far as the documentation that was 15 16 provided by the department? 17 Q Yes. I would assume so. Α 18 The problem is, the fiscal notes are not contained in 19 the same, the actual fiscal notes, the hard copies, are separate 20 from all the other stuff. I mean, we keep things based upon the 2.1 year of the legislature. 22 23 So if it was '93, that information would be contained in the box that related to the legislature in 1993. 24 where those fiscal notes would be. 25

1	Q Okay. Why were common areas of a shopping mall not
2	included within the definition of live entertainment, if you can
3	recall?
4	A To the best of my recollection, I think there was some
5	discussion at the workshop that had to do with the Forum.
6	Q The Forum Shops?
7	A Yes. Now I don't know, I don't recall what the
8	outcome was, to be honest with you. I don't recall what the
9	outcome was. I know there was discussion about the Forum Shops.
10	Q Okay. Do you recall there being discussions about
11	exempting live entertainment at a trade show?
12	A No. I don't recall that.
13	Q Well, as you sit here today, having administered the
14	live entertainment tax, do you know that trade shows, if there's
15	live entertainment at a trade show, that that's not taxed?
16	A These are outside venues?
17	Q What do you mean by "outside venues"?
18	A Outside of a building. They're out in, you know,
19	like, a craft fair.
20	Q Well, how about at the Las Vegas Convention Center?
21	If they have a convention, and somebody does live
22	entertainment, and they charge the conventioneers to come in,
23	does the state then go to the convention and, say, pony up live
24	entertainment tax?
25	A Given well, simplistically, given the example that

1	you have provided, my initial reaction would be, yes, they would
2	owe live entertainment. Now if they were specifically exempted,
3	that, I don't recall.
4	Again, I'd have to review the current regulation and
5	the current statute.
6	Q Okay. As you sit here today, you don't recall
7	discussions about trade shows being exempted?
8	A I don't recall that discussion.
9	Q All right. Do you recall discussions about whether or
10	not amusement rides that were incidental to live entertainment,
11	or I'm sorry. I got that backwards.
12	Do you remember there being discussions about live
13	entertainment that's incidental to an amusement ride being
14	exempted from the live entertainment tax?
15	A I don't recall that.
16	Q Well, let me see if, this is kind of a guess on my
17	part.
18	But do you remember there being discussions about the
19	Star Trek Experience at the Hilton?
20	A Yes.
21	Q Okay.
22	A Yes, there was discussions about that. I think that's
23	at the Hilton. At that time, it was at the Hilton.
24	Q Do you remember why those discussions came up, or why
25	people believed that that should not be included within live

1	entertainment?
2	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
3	THE WITNESS: I don't recall, but that would have been
4	a discussion that would have occurred on the gaming side and not
5	with us.
6	BY MR. ROOS:
7	Q So those discussions were never had in your presence?
8	A Not that I recall. No.
9	Q And so if it was on the gaming side, you would not
10	have been tasked with doing any fiscal impact analysis on that?
11	A No.
12	Q What about professional minor-league baseball? Do you
13	remember that discussion coming up as an exemption to the live
14	entertainment tax?
15	A Yes.
16	Q And what do you recall about the discussions that were
17	had about professional baseball being exempted from live
18	entertainment tax?
19	A I don't have recollection as to the specific
20	discussions that occurred. I really don't. I'd have to go back
21	and review the testimony.
22	Q But you do, as you sit here today, recall that?
23	A There was, I recall that there was a discussion about
24	it, yes.
25	O All right. Were you tasked as the Department of

1	Taxation with going out and figuring out how much revenue would
2	be gained or lost depending on whether or not professional
3	baseball was taxed under the live entertainment tax statute?
4	A It's a possibility, but I don't recall whether we did
5	or didn't.
6	Q And then do you also recall outdoor concerts being
7	exempted from the live entertainment tax?
8	A There was discussion about that, yes.
9	Q What do you recall about that discussion?
10	A All I can recall is that there was a discussion
11	concerning whether or not it should be taxable or not.
12	Again, I'd have to go back and re-review the
13	transcripts or the tapes at the workshops.
14	Q And so would it be fair to say that you don't have a
15	recollection of actually doing a fiscal impact study on the
16	types of outdoor concerts and the revenue that those concerts
17	have generated over time?
18	A Not that I recall.
19	Q Okay. Do you remember the sale of merchandise outside
20	of the live entertainment venue being exempted from the live
21	entertainment tax statute?
22	A There were discussions as to whether or not there
23	should be an additional sales tax application to the selling of
24	items at a live entertainment venue, like T-shirts, and things
25	of that nature.

1	That there would be, if I remember correctly, there
2	was, the rate as 10 percent over and above the existing sales
3	tax rate.
4	Q Right.
5	A In addition to the existing sales tax rate.
6	Q And there was a decision at some point that the
7	merchandise that was sold outside of that type of a live
8	entertainment event would not be taxed?
9	A That's possible. I don't recall that discussion.
10	You're talking about something that was outside the
11	venue.
12	Q Right.
13	A That, I would assume so. It would not be subject to
14	that.
15	Q And again, as you sit here today, you would have no
16	recollection of doing a fiscal impact study to determine how
17	much revenue would be gained or lost depending on whether the
18	merchandise was charged under the live entertainment statute?
19	A There could have been, but I don't recall. Not to my
20	recollection. I don't recall that there was one done.
21	Q Would it be fair to say that the live entertainment
22	statute was a difficult statute to interpret and enforce in your
23	position as the deputy executive director of the Department of
24	Taxation?
25	A As a transaction tax, yes, it was difficult.

1	Q What made it difficult?
2	A Well, what made it difficult was trying to determine
3	whether or not a particular venue met the criterion under the
4	statute and the application of the regulation. That's the
5	difficulty.
6	I mean, it was a new tax. It was something brand new
7	for the department to administer.
8	Q It was a new tax in 2003?
9	A That's correct.
10	Q It wasn't a new tax when you left the Department of
11	Taxation?
12	A No. No.
13	Q Do you remember in the 2004 time frame there becoming
14	a discussion about lowering the seating capacity requirement for
15	live entertainment tax from 300 seats to 200 seats?
16	A There was, I recall that there was discussion, yes.
17	Q What do you recall about those discussions?
18	A My understanding of the 300-seating capacity was tied
19	to the fire marshal.
20	We tried to find an indicator that would assist people
21	in trying to determine whether or not something was subject to
22	live entertainment tax or not, and they used the fire marshal's
23	determination for seating capacity at that time.
24	The reason for dropping it from 300 to 200, right now,
25	I can't recall exactly what the specific the specifics were

1	Q Okay. Do you recall anybody at any time talking about
2	the notion that the Department of Taxation was not capturing
3	enough of the strip clubs because of this 300
4	A No.
5	Q That never occurred?
6	A Not that I recall, no.
7	Q Do you recall any discussions that if the seating
8	capacity was lowered from 300 to 200, that the department would
9	capture additional strip clubs?
10	A Specific to the way you have asked that question, no.
11	I don't believe so.
12	Q Well, what about the specific way I phrased the
13	question is causing you difficulty?
14	A Because I don't believe that that was the case.
15	If we would have received a request to make a
16	determination on the fiscal impact, given the fact that the
17	seating capacity would have been changed from 300 to 200, then
18	we would do an analysis to determine what additional types of
19	venues would now be captured under that.
20	Q Okay. So then did you, then, go out and do an audit,
21	not in the sense of financial terms, but an inspection of, like,
22	nightclub venues to determine how many additional nightclub
23	venues would be captured within the live entertainment tax if
24	the seating capacity was dropped from 300 to 200?
25	A I don't recall whether or not individuals went out and

did physical inspections.

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They may have done phone calls and gathered information through that type to determine whether or not there would be additional revenue associated.

Q Do you recall that happening?

A I believe it did. But I don't recall specifically when it happened.

Q Who do you believe would have done an analysis regarding whether additional nightclubs would be captured if the seating capacity was lowered from 300 to 200?

A Again, like I indicated earlier, if we would have received a fiscal request, which we probably did, to try to make a determination what it was, it probably would have been assigned to the Las Vegas office to take the lead on it to determine what the revenue would be.

Q Okay. And who from the Las Vegas office do you believe would have been tasked with that?

A At that time, I think the district manager was Paulina Oliver. Now we would have also probably contacted the Reno office, too, to coordinate and work with the Las Vegas office in doing that.

Now I don't recall who the district manager was at that time because that's changed several times.

Boy, I can't remember who it would be at that time. We went through two or three different district managers out of

1	the Reno office.
2	Q Do you believe that a similar type of study was
3	performed with respect to bars and restaurants lowering the 300
4	seating capacity to 200-seating capacity?
5	A If there was a gaming venue, so to speak, I don't, I
6	would not know that.
7	Q What about nongaming venues?
8	A I don't believe so.
9	Q Do you know if at, any sort of study was done to
10	determine whether or not certain aspects of the speedway would
11	be impacted by lowering the 300-seat threshold to 200 seats?
12	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form.
13	THE WITNESS: To the best of my recollection, there
14	are, there were different venues down at the speedway other than
15	NASCAR that would have been subject to the live entertainment
16	tax.
17	Now whether or not they would no longer be subject to
18	it, that, I can't recall. I do not know.
19	BY MR. ROOS:
20	Q You don't recall one way or the other whether or not
21	anybody did an
22	A I don't.
23	Q Did an analysis to determine whether or not lowering
24	the 300-seat to 200-seat would somehow impact the revenue
25	generated from the smaller race venues out at the speedway?

1	A Not that I recall, but to be clear, one has to
2	remember now the statute also talked about venues that were
3	7500-seating capacity and greater, which had a different
4	application.
5	Okay? So, again, I don't know if that was done or
6	not.
7	Q Yeah.
8	And I understand that the 7500-seat issue doesn't
9	really involve the question that I'm asking about.
10	A Okay. All right.
11	Q Clearly had they not been exempted, it would have fit
12	in the 7500-seat capacity?
13	A I would assume so.
14	Q But the question really focuses on, in this time frame
15	when the legislature is dropping the seating capacity from 300
16	to 200, my question is very specific:
17	Whether or not somebody within your department, the
18	Department of Taxation, actually went out and figured out
19	whether or not the speedway would be impacted in any way by
20	lowering the 300-seat capacity to 200-seat?
21	A That's a possibility, but again, I would have to go
22	back and look at the fiscal note request at that time whether
23	one was done or not. To the best of my recollection, I don't
24	know.
25	Q Where would somebody go about finding these fiscal

	notes other than within the Department of Taxation?
2	A I believe a record is kept at LCB. They should be a
3	public document because they are provided in a public forum, but
4	again, I mean
5	Q These are called fiscal notes?
6	A These are called fiscal notes, but again, you have to
7	understand, I would caution a little bit because these are done
8	under a very limited time frame.
9	They're usually about a five-day turnaround, so we
LO	have to really hump to get them done, and try to get the best
11	information we can.
12	Now as far as accuracy, they're to best of our
13	knowledge, best of the estimate at the time, okay?
14	The department should have those.
15	Q The Department of Taxation?
16	A Yes, I know I put them in the box.
17	Q The fiscal notes?
L8	A Yes.
L9	Q Okay. And I'll ask you the same question with respect
20	to performing arts-type venues in the state of Nevada.
21	Do you recall your staff being tasked with the idea of
22	going out and figuring out whether or not performing arts venues
23	would be impacted by lowering the seating capacity from 300 to
24	200?
25	A That's a possibility, but to the best of my

1	recollection, I don't know if it was done or not. It may been
2	done. It may not have been done.
3	Q But you do know that that was actually done for strip
4	clubs specifically, right?
5	A Yes.
6	Q And what was your role in that, if anything, in
7	determining how revenue generated from strip clubs would be
8	impacted by lowering the 300-seat capacity to 200 seats?
9	A I would have asked staff to perform an analysis.
10	Q Do you remember who asked you to perform that
11	analysis?
12	A Like I indicated earlier, it could have come from LCB
13	fiscal, it could have been from Mark Stevens, or it could have
14	from Gary Ghiggeri.
15	Q Okay. Let me show you a document that we'll have
16	marked for identification as Exhibit Number 1.
17	(Exhibit 1 marked for identification)
18	BY MR. ROOS:
19	Q Take your time and read through it. I won't ask any
20	questions until you are through it. Let me know when you're
21	ready.
22	A I'm ready.
23	Q Is this what you've been referring to as a fiscal
24	note, or is this something different?
25	A This is something different.

1	Q Okay. What is this?
2	A This is something that would come, came as a request
3	from the director at that time, Chuck Chinnock, and now I know,
4	now I'm sure about who the district manager was in Reno. It was
5	Cathy Chambers.
6	She probably worked with staff. They probably went
7	out, because there was a limited number of venues up here in
8	Reno, and they gathered this information and provided it to
9	Mr. Chinnock, the director at the time.
10	Q And do you recall receiving this?
11	A I don't recall seeing this, no.
12	Q Having
13	A I realize I'm carbon-copied on this thing, but
14	Q And this is marked for purposes of the record as DV
15	000198 through DV 000200.
16	Would you agree that this is a specific analysis of
17	the impact that would occur in lowering the seating capacity
18	from 300 to 200 with respect to gentlemen's clubs?
19	A Yes.
20	Q And as you sit here today, do you recall a similar
21	type of memorandum being generated for any other type of
22	industry?
23	A Not that I recall.
24	Q Are the names of business, businesses that
25	are subject to live entertainment tax according to your

BY MR. ROOS: Q Just out of your understanding? A Not the name. Q All right. And is the actual seating capacity of a taxpayer a piece of privileged information to your understanding? MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form. Asks for a legal conclusion. THE WITNESS: Not that I'm aware of. BY MR. ROOS: Q Only the amount of tax that an individual taxpayer h paid would be the privileged information, correct? MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form. Calls for a legal conclusion. THE WITNESS: It's more than just that. BY MR. ROOS: Q Okay. What else?	1	understanding privileged, just the name itself?
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<pre>business provides to us. Q Under A That could potentially put them at risk with their</pre>	20	Q Okay. What else?
Q Under A That could potentially put them at risk with their	21	A It could, it could be privileged information that the
24 A That could potentially put them at risk with their	22	business provides to us.
	23	Q Under
25 competition.	24	A That could potentially put them at risk with their
	25	competition.

```
1
             Q
                  And would that include seating capacity?
             Α
                  No.
 2
                  Would that include the name of the venue?
 3
             Α
                  I doubt it.
 4
                  Let's go off the record.
 5
             0
 6
                           (Discussion off the record)
 7
        BY MR. ROOS:
                  All right. Let me just give you the next exhibit.
 8
             Q
 9
                     (Exhibit 2 marked for identification)
       BY MR. ROOS:
10
11
             Q
                  Are you done?
             Α
                  Yeah.
12
13
             0
                  Okay.
                         Sorry.
                  No, that's fine.
14
             Α
                  All right. I'll have marked as Exhibit Number 2 this
15
             Q
16
        document, which is Bates-labeled DV 000002 through 000003.
17
                  Do you recognize this document?
             Α
                  I don't recall ever seeing it.
18
                  All right. You've read through this document?
19
             Q
                  Uh-huh (affirmative).
20
             Α
21
             0
                  That's a yes?
             Α
22
                  Yes. Sorry.
23
                  That's okay.
             Q
                  This document is generated by the Department of
24
        Taxation?
25
```

1	A Yes.
2	Q Chuck Chinnock was your supervisor?
3	A He was the director at that time.
4	Q Who is Marian Henderson?
5	A She is staff on the fiscal side that does
6	distributions, revenue distributions, and Lynne Knack, at that
7	time, she's retired, was the administrative services officer.
8	Q And this appears to be a request for an analysis of
9	revenue impact from making changes in the LET?
10	A Yes.
11	Q All right. I want to focus your attention on the
12	eliminate the 300-seat threshold component of this.
13	And if you read the first sentence, it says, this
14	change would cause the inclusion of many of the smaller venues
15	which are now exempt from the tax.
16	Do you see that?
17	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
18	Q It goes on to say, business that would now be subject
19	to the tax would specifically include bars, nightclubs,
20	gentlemen's club with a seating capacity of fewer than 300
21	patrons.
22	Do you see that?
23	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
24	Q Then this is the part that I'm interested in.
25	It says, the fiscal impact is difficult to estimate as

not all bars and nightclubs provide live entertainment, nor do 1 they charge a cover charge for admission. 2. Uh-huh (affirmative). 3 It says, we also are not able to determine whether the 4 live entertainment is provided on a regular, periodic or 5 6 one-time basis. 7 Does this indicate to you that the department was not even able to figure out, with respect to bars and nightclubs, 8 9 how the 300-seat threshold capacity would impact from a fiscal 10 standpoint the collection of live entertainment tax? 11 MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. The document speaks for itself. 12 THE WITNESS: The best way I can respond to that is, 13 is that the department probably did not have the necessary 14 information from the specific bars, nightclubs, and other 15 16 gentlemen's clubs to be able to make a determination as to the 17 revenue impact. BY MR. ROOS: 18 19 Q Right. And --Based upon existing reporting at that time. 20 Α 21 Okay. And are you aware of any additional reporting or information that was generated subsequent to March 14th of 22 23 2005, where the department actually went out and tried to figure 24 out whether live entertainment was provided on a regular, 25 periodic or one-time basis with respect to bars and nightclubs?

1	A Based on this memo, I don't believe so.
2	Q But the department was able to determine the fiscal
3	impact with respect to lowering the seating capacity from 300 to
4	200 with respect to gentlemen's clubs, correct?
5	A That's my understanding, yes.
6	Q And that is because the department actually went out
7	and determined on an individual club-by-club basis whether or
8	not a club had 300 seats or 200 seats?
9	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form of the question.
10	Misstates prior testimony.
11	BY MR. ROOS:
12	Q Okay.
13	A The only way I can respond to that is that under the
14	original determination as to who owed the live entertainment tax
15	based on the way the law was written and the regulation was
16	adopted in 2003, there would have been information provided to
17	the department by different clubs that did not meet that
18	capacity requirement because they provided that information to
19	us so they would not be subject to the tax.
20	In other words, we would not be subjecting them to,
21	you know, penalties and interest if they didn't report or pay.
22	Q Okay. So the department was given information from
23	strip clubs who wanted to be exempted from the tax?
24	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
25	Q Because they believed that their seating capacity was

1	below 300?
2	A Yes.
3	Q And then your testimony is that the Department of
4	Taxation had that information, which was provided by the strip
5	clubs, and then used that information to determine which of
6	those clubs would be captured if
7	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
8	Q the seating capacity was lowered to 200?
9	A To the best of my recollection, yes. That's what I
10	think was done.
11	Q Okay. And it's true that by lowering the seating
12	capacity from 300 to 200, your understanding was that you
13	captured virtually all, if not all, of the additional strip
14	clubs that were not previously taxed, correct?
15	A Based on this memo, okay, but my own personal
16	recollection, no.
17	Q Okay.
18	A If this
19	Q What's your personal recollection with respect to that
20	particular issue?
21	A I never got into that discussion.
22	Q Well, now I'm confused because you said with respect
23	to my personal recollection, no, not all of them were captured?
24	A No, they were not.
25	Q Okay.

There were, there were instances that I was aware of, 1 there were several nightclubs here in Reno that were not subject 2. to the 300-seating capacity because they did one of two things. 3 They either had the fire marshal come back out and 4 make a redetermination as to their seating capacity. In some 5 6 cases, it dropped below the 300, and we were informed of that. 7 Right. And I may have improperly asked the question. Q Α Well, okay. 8 9 Q Or you didn't understand it. 10 But my question was, after you were given that 11 information, and after you knew people were not paying the tax because it was below 300 seats, isn't it your understanding that 12 once it was dropped to 200, that all of the strip clubs were 13 14 then captured by the live entertainment tax? Α That --15 16 MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to form. THE WITNESS: That's a possibility. I can't say with 17 18 certainty that that occurred. 19 BY MR. ROOS: Well, do you ever remember having any discussions 20 Q 2.1 internally within the department where somebody said, you know, lowering it to 200, we still have three clubs, gentlemen's 22 23 clubs, that still don't pay tax because they only have ten 24 seats? I don't recall that. 25

1	Q Not one way or the other?
2	A Nope.
3	Q Do you see where you said, using the same per capita
4	analysis of the existing gentlemen's clubs which are currently,
5	which currently have a seating capacity of fewer than 300
6	patrons, we estimate that an additional \$4 million may be
7	generated?
8	MS. RAKOWSKY: Object to the form because this is not
9	his memo. He was not even copied on this.
10	MR. ROOS: No, I'm just referencing it.
11	MS. RAKOWSKY: You said
12	BY MR. ROOS:
13	Q Oh, did I say that you wrote it? I'm sorry. Let me
14	rephrase it, then.
15	Do you see the portion that states
16	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
17	Q using the same per capita analysis of the existing
18	gentlemen's clubs, do you know how the department went about
19	estimating a specific dollar figure of \$4,197,900?
20	A I don't recall. No.
21	Q Do you agree with the statement above that sentence
22	that says, the gentlemen's club, gentlemen's clubs remit a much
23	higher per capita dollar amount of tax?
24	MS. RAKOWSKY: Where is that?
25	THE WITNESS: It's right here. It says, since the

1	gentlemen's clubs remit a much higher per capita dollar amount
2	of tax, two separate financial analyses were conducted.
3	I don't know what they're referring to there.
4	BY MR. ROOS:
5	Q What is per capita dollar amount of tax?
6	A Well, per capita could mean a lot of different things.
7	It could be customers. It could be population. I don't know.
8	Q All right. And as my understanding from reading this
9	that section 1 relates to the revenue, increased revenue that
10	would be generated from door charges, and then section 2 of the
11	memo deals with the increased revenue that would be generated
12	from the additional 10 percent tax on food and beverage?
13	A And sales tax, yes.
14	Q And so an analysis was done with respect to both the
15	door charges, and the increased tax on food and beverage
16	specifically related to gentlemen's clubs and lowering the
17	seating capacity from 300 seats to 200 seats.
18	That's your understanding of this memo?
19	A As I read it, yes.
20	Q And you don't recall any other memos of this type
21	being generated that broke down revenue for admission charges
22	and tax with respect to any other type of business industry,
23	correct?
24	A Not to my recollection. Could there have been others?
25	Possibly. I don't know.

1	Q	Okay. Now do you want to take a break?
2		MS. RAKOWSKY: Yes.
3		(A lunch recess was taken)
4	BY MR. ROO	os:
5	Q	All right. Mr. DiCianno, do you remember a point in
6	time when	legislation was crafted in 2005 by Senator Titus
7	regarding	live entertainment tax?
8	A	Yes.
9	Q	Do you recall that the legislation that Senator Titus
10	crafted wa	as specifically targeted towards strip clubs?
11	А	That's my understanding.
12	Q	And what do you recall, did you have any conversations
13	with Senat	tor Titus about her legislation?
14	A	No.
15	Q	Did you have any discussions that you can recall with
16	her staff	about her proposed legislation?
17	A	As far as LCB fiscal, yes.
18	Q	What do you recall about discussions you had with LCB
19	fiscal?	
20	A	They wanted to know what kind of fiscal impact there
21	could be a	associated with, I think it was SB 275, if I remember
22	correctly	
23	Q	AB 247?
24	A	AB 247. I'm sorry. I get them confused.
25	Q	That's okay.

1	What do you remember about AB 247 specifically?
2	A That she was specifically wanting to include more so
3	on the strip clubs. I mean, that was her intent was my
4	understanding.
5	Q Do you remember how she intended to target the strip
6	clubs with her legislation?
7	A No.
8	Q Do you remember her, basically, creating two separate
9	categories of strip club category and everybody else?
10	A No, I don't recall that.
11	Q Okay. What fiscal discussions do you remember having
12	about AB 247?
13	A Other than providing LCB with an estimate as to the
14	level of the revenue that would be generated by it, by the
15	language change.
16	Q Do you remember what language change would have driven
17	the revenue effect?
18	A I would have to reread the bill. Again, and, I mean,
19	it's been so long, I don't even recall what all I even provided
20	to LCB fiscal.
21	Q Were you present or involved in any of the discussions
22	where Senator Titus described her bill?
23	A In committee?
24	Q Yes.
25	A It's possible, but I don't recall.

```
Do you ever remember hearing her say anything in form
 1
 2.
       or substance that the current legislation did not adequately
 3
       bring in a group that was intended to be included in the LET
        statute, meaning strip clubs?
 4
             Α
                  She may have. I don't know.
 5
 6
             O
                  She may have.
 7
                  You don't have any recollection of her saying that?
                  No.
 8
             Α
 9
                  Do you remember her saying at any point that her
             Q
10
       proposed legislation would eliminate the seating requirement
11
       altogether, which was problematic with respect to strip clubs?
            Α
                  I don't recall that.
12
                  All right. Do you remember her drawing a distinction
13
       between certain categories of live entertainment that she deemed
14
        to be family-oriented as opposed to strip clubs that she did not
15
16
       deem to be family-oriented?
17
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
                  THE WITNESS: I don't know.
18
       BY MR. ROOS:
19
                  Do you ever remember anybody discussing a distinction
20
             Q
21
       between certain types of taxpayers that were construed to be
        family-oriented?
22
23
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
                  THE WITNESS: Not that I recall.
24
        ///
25
```

1	BY MR. ROOS:
2	Q Do you remember anybody indicating that the NASCAR
3	race was a family-oriented type of business?
4	A Not that I recall.
5	Q What about the 51s, Area 51s baseball?
6	A No.
7	Q All right. Ultimately AB 247 was not passed; is that
8	your recollection?
9	A That's my understanding, yes.
10	Q And something different was crafted, correct, from the
11	legislative standpoint. I mean, a bill did pass in 2005 related
12	to live entertainment. You have that recollection, correct?
13	A That, I have my yes. Yes.
14	Q And so it was not AB 247. What do you remember being
15	passed?
16	A My understanding was some clarification, and I think
17	the, to the best of my recollection, that's when they addressed
18	NASCAR.
19	Q Right.
20	And that's also when they addressed the seating
21	capacity, correct?
22	A Correct. Okay. Thank you.
23	Q So in 2005, it's your recollection that the seating
24	capacity was dropped from 300 to 200?
25	A That's my understanding.

1	Q And that was after you did, after the Department of
2	Taxation, did its analysis of how dropping that seating capacity
3	would capture additional strip clubs, correct?
4	A Based on this memo, that's my understanding.
5	Q All right.
6	MS. RAKOWSKY: Just to clarify the record, that's
7	Exhibit 2, and that was the memo that was not even authored or
8	addressed to Mr. DiCianno.
9	BY MR. ROOS:
10	Q Actually I believe it would encompass both Exhibits 1
11	and 2, which predate the legislation.
12	Now did you do, did your department, or anybody in
13	your department, do an analysis after the seating capacity was
14	dropped to determine whether or not the state gained or lost
15	revenue as a result of that?
16	A I don't recall, but it's possible.
17	Q Let me, this is on a different topic, but let me draw
18	your attention to what I will have marked as Exhibit Number 3.
19	(Exhibit 3 marked for identification)
20	BY MR. ROOS:
21	Q Let me know when you're done reading that.
22	Are you done?
23	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
24	Q Okay. Do you recognize this email?
25	A Yes.

```
This is marked as DV 001087. This is an email
 1
             Q
                  Okay.
 2.
        that you sent?
                             There's the spelling for Gary Ghiggeri.
 3
             Α
                  Familiar.
                  This is an email that you sent?
 4
             Q
                  Uh-huh (affirmative).
             Α
 5
 6
             0
                  That's a yes?
 7
             Α
                  Yes.
 8
             Q
                  Okay.
 9
             Α
                  I'm sorry.
                  It's okay.
10
             Q
11
                  On April 24th of 2005 it looks like?
             Α
                  Yes.
12
                  And that was prior to the 2005, or maybe during the
13
        2005 legislative session?
14
                  It would have been during.
15
16
                  All right. And I want you to look at, this is with
17
        respect to Senator Titus' SB 247. You indicate there's no
        question that the focus of the bill is to tax for LET all adult
18
        entertainment except for brothels.
19
20
                  Do you see that?
                  Uh-huh (affirmative). Yes.
21
             Α
                  And then it says, currently the vast majority of
22
             Q
23
        revenue that we collect comes from the gentlemen's clubs that
24
       have a seating capacity greater than 300.
                  Do you see that?
25
```

1	A Yes.
2	Q So you knew as of 2005 that the vast majority of the
3	revenue that the Department of Taxation was collecting under the
4	live entertainment tax was coming from gentlemen's clubs?
5	A That is correct based upon the reporting at that time.
6	Q All right. Now I want to focus your attention on the
7	next sentence, which says, for example, 1.2 million comes from
8	nightclubs, 1.4 million from raceways, 1.0 million from
9	performing arts, 5.2 million from gentlemen's clubs for a total
10	collected of about 9 million.
11	Do you see that?
12	A Yes.
13	Q All right. According to my math, that's 5.2 million
14	out of about \$8.8 million of total revenue comes directly the
15	strip clubs. I think you estimated you just rounded it up to 9
16	million, correct?
17	A That's correct.
18	Q All right. Where you see \$1.4 million from raceways,
19	that is because in 2005 NASCAR was not exempt from the live
20	entertainment tax, correct?
21	A That's my understanding.
22	Q And so after the 2005 legislative session,
23	\$1.4 million of revenue would completely drop off, correct?
24	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation. And
25	misstates prior testimony.

1	THE WITNESS: That's possible. I don't know.
2	BY MR. ROOS:
3	Q All right. Did you ever do an analysis post the
4	legislative session to determine how the percentage of income
5	generated from strip clubs actually increased as an overall
б	percentage due to the fact that NASCAR was no longer included
7	within the definition of live entertainment?
8	A Not that I'm aware of.
9	Q But as you sit here today, it would stand to reason
10	that if NASCAR was no longer included within the live
11	entertainment tax, then that overall percentage of revenue would
12	increase for gentlemen's clubs, correct?
13	A Based on these figures, yes.
14	Q When you picked out, when you say, for example,
15	nightclubs, raceways, performing arts and gentlemen's clubs,
16	that is the revenue that was generated from the new sort of
17	industries that were taxed separate and apart from the people
18	that had always been taxed under the casino entertainment tax,
19	correct?
20	A That's well, yes, but conditionally, because there
21	could have been areas where gaming may have picked up nightclubs
22	under certain circumstances that they would no longer be picking
23	up that we would pick up because they no longer would have
24	gaming at those venues.
25	Q Okay.

1	A I mean, that was all part of the discovery at that
2	time.
3	Q All right. So I understand that.
4	But from your analysis, when you're looking at the
5	1.2 million from nightclubs, 1.4 million from raceways,
6	1 million from performing arts, and 5.2 million from gentlemen's
7	clubs, those are the sort of industries that sit under, under
8	the purview of the Department of Taxation because they were
9	noncasino-related, correct?
10	A That's correct.
11	Q And so the analysis that you were doing was,
12	basically, focused on what is the revenue that the state is
13	generating under my purview, as opposed to kind of putting off
14	to the side what the casino entertainment tax was generating,
15	correct?
16	A That's correct.
17	Q And you've already testified that it was your
18	understanding that this new live entertainment tax was not meant
19	to take away from the casino entertainment tax, correct?
20	A That's my understanding.
21	Q So this analysis really takes into account that the
22	casino entertainment tax is not likely changing, and this is the
23	additional revenue that we're getting from the live
24	entertainment tax, correct?
25	A One could conclude that, yes.

1	Q All right. You say, by removing the seating capacity
2	and eliminating the other types of venues, you would then
3	capture all of the remaining gentlemen's clubs that are
4	currently not paying.
5	Do you see that?
6	A Yes.
7	Q What are the other types of venues that would be
8	eliminated?
9	A Wow. I'm drawing a blank. I apologize. It must have
10	related to the language in the bill, and for the life of me, I
11	don't recall the language in the bill.
12	Q Do you see where you say
13	A I don't know what those other types of venues are off
14	the top of my head right away.
15	Q Do you see the next sentence where you say, there is
16	no question that they are a cash cow for LET?
17	A Based upon the statistics above, that's what I meant
18	by that.
19	Q And who is "they," the gentlemen's clubs?
20	A Yes.
21	Q All right. What did you mean by "a cash cow"?
22	A Based upon the statistics that I indicated earlier,
23	that they were the vast majority of the revenue generated by the
24	LET that the department collected that was nongaming.
25	Q So was it your view that the gentlemen's clubs were a

1	significant source of revenue for the state?
2	A No. They were a significant source of revenue based
3	upon the definition of live entertainment, specifically. And
4	who else was having to pay it on, under the purview of the
5	department.
6	Q Okay. You then go on to say, my best guess is that
7	the fiscal impact of SB 247 would be either a wash with the
8	distinct possibility of a potential LET revenue gain.
9	How would it be a wash if additional strip clubs were
10	being asked
11	A It goes back to the prior sentence where I made the
12	statement that by removing the seating capacity and eliminating
13	the other types of venues, then in my estimation based on that,
L4	it would have been a wash.
15	The problem for me right here right now is that I
16	don't recall what those other venues were. I would have to look
17	at the bill.
18	Q Okay. So it would have been a wash because revenue
19	that was generated from these unidentified other venues
20	A Correct.
21	Q would fall away, but additional revenue would jump
22	up because more strip clubs would be paying?
23	A Based upon the seating capacity and the language
24	contained in the bill.
25	Q Do you remember ever doing any analyses after 2005

```
that compared the percentage of revenue generated by strip clubs
 1
        as opposed to other types of live entertainment venues?
 2.
                  It's possible, but I don't recall.
 3
                  As you sit here today, having run the Department of
 4
        Taxation, or maybe not run it, but having been high up in the
 5
 6
       Department of Taxation, is it your recollection, as you sit here
 7
        today, that post-2005 the, a vast majority of the revenue
        collected for live entertainment comes from strip clubs?
 8
 9
             Α
                  Yes.
             Q
                  In excess of 80 percent?
10
11
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
                  THE WITNESS: I don't know what the exact percentage
12
        is.
13
       BY MR. ROOS:
14
                  Do you have an estimate, as you sit here today?
15
             Q
16
             Α
                  No, but it is the majority of the revenue.
17
                  Okay. Do you believe that it's above 50 percent of
             0
        the total revenue?
18
             Α
                  It's more than that.
19
20
             Q
                  Above 60 percent?
                  More than that.
21
             Α
                  More than 70 percent?
22
             Q
                  Possible.
23
             Α
                  So it's 70, somewhere in 70 to 80 percent range?
24
                  It's possible.
25
             Α
```

1	Q You then say, those types of venues, and I assume that
2	you mean strip clubs, will not disappear because of the
3	additional tax burden. They will probably expand since the
4	customer is the one paying the tax.
5	Had the Department of Taxation done any sort of study
6	or analysis to determine that the customer was actually paying
7	live entertainment tax to the strip clubs?
8	A The customer wasn't paying the live entertainment tax.
9	The customer was paying the admission charge.
10	Q So why do you say
11	A Which was the calculation for the tax. That's where
12	the revenue comes from.
13	Q All right. So then I'm confused.
14	Why do you say the customer is the one paying the tax?
15	A Well, it's a transaction tax. There's a transaction
16	tax. The customer pays the admission charge in which the tax is
17	calculated on.
18	Now what the strip club does as far as adjusting the
19	admission tax, I don't know that.
20	Q Okay. That really went to the heart of my question.
21	Is whether or not the Department of Taxation did an
22	analysis to determine whether or not the strip clubs were
23	accounting for an increase in admissions or an increase in drink
24	prices in order to capture the live entertainment tax?
25	A No.

1	Q Okay.
2	A We did not.
3	Q So when you said this, that the customer is the one
4	paying the tax, that may very well have been wrong if the
5	A It's possible.
6	Q Did the Department of Taxation do a study to find out
7	whether or not certain strip clubs were artificially trying to
8	lower their seating capacity to avoid the 300 seats?
9	A No.
10	Q You had indicated that there was a discussion about
11	the fire marshal.
12	Was there some anecdotal evidence that that was
13	occurring, that strip clubs were in fact lowering their seating
14	capacity to avoid the 300 seat?
15	A To the best of my recollection, I had heard that there
16	were several of the businesses were asking the fire marshal to
17	revisit their seating capacity because it probably had been a
18	long time that they had reviewed it, to ensure that in case, in
19	fact that was a true seating capacity.
20	And in some cases, I was told, or heard, that they had
21	changed their physical capacity to adjust for that 300-seating
22	capacity.
23	Q These were the strip clubs that
24	A Yes. Yes, and other venues. As a business decision
25	that they were doing these things.

1	Q And did you come to learn that the fire marshal was
2	more than happy to do that because it made their job easier?
3	A No.
4	Q You never heard that the fire marshal was okay with
5	people lowering their occupancy loads?
6	A No.
7	Q All right.
8	MS. RAKOWSKY: Can we go off the record for a few
9	minutes while you go through your papers?
10	MR. ROOS: Of course.
11	(Discussion off the record)
12	(Exhibit 4 marked for identification)
13	BY MR. ROOS:
14	Q Okay. All right. Mr. DiCianno, in 2005, do you ever
15	remember anybody discussing, either internally or amongst the
16	legislative body, issues with respect to whether or not the 2005
17	legislative changes to the live entertainment tax created First
18	Amendment issues?
19	A No.
20	Q In the entire span of the time that you dealt with
21	live entertainment tax, from 2003 until you were no longer with
22	the department, do you ever remember having discussions
23	internally or amongst the legislature about First Amendment
24	issues with respect to live entertainment?
25	MS. RAKOWSKY: You're not including any kind of

1	discussions with counsel or anything?
2	BY MR. ROOS:
3	Q Yeah. I'm not including discussions that you've had
4	with counsel, whether it be related to this particular matter or
5	any other matter.
6	I'm just saying amongst the regulatory body, that is,
7	the Department of Taxation, as well as overall within your
8	dealings with the legislature, can you remember having any
9	discussions about First Amendment issues with respect to the
10	live entertainment tax?
11	A No.
12	Q Let me ask you a question about this document that is
13	marked as Exhibit Number 4 for identification.
14	If you turn to the page that's labeled DV 000205,
15	actually there's two copies of that page. I think the state
16	changed its mind on redactions, so if you turn to the last page,
17	it's actually
18	A Sure.
19	Q less redacted.
20	I want to see if this refreshes your recollection
21	about the seating capacity issue.
22	Do you see at the bottom where it says, in all
23	jurisdictions there is absolutely no difficulty for a business
24	to reduce the occupancy permit?
25	A That is the opinion of the individual who wrote the

1	memo.
2	Q Okay. And the person that wrote the memo was
3	Catherine Chambers of the tax division manager for Reno?
4	A That's correct.
5	Q And this went to Chuck Chinnock?
6	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
7	Q And you were copied on it, as well, right?
8	A Yes.
9	Q And according to Miss Chambers, she had indicated that
10	a business owner just requests that the occupancy number be
11	lowered?
12	A I'm sorry. What
13	Q If you read the next sentence, she says, a business
14	owner merely requests the occupancy number I guess what she's
15	saying is that she believes that a business owner could just go
16	to the fire marshal and request an occupancy number; is that
17	your understanding?
18	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection, calls for speculation.
19	THE WITNESS: Again, that's an opinion of whoever
20	crafted this memo.
21	BY MR. ROOS:
22	Q All right. And I'm not really interested in her
23	opinion, but do you remember having discussions amongst
24	yourselves about whether or not a business owner could drop its
25	occupancy number to, as the example that Miss Chambers gave,

1	something like 295 to avoid the 300-seat capacity issue?
2	A I don't recall having that discussion.
3	Q And this doesn't refresh your recollection as to
4	having that discussion?
5	A Huh-uh (negative).
6	Q That's a no?
7	A No. I never had that discussion.
8	Q Okay.
9	A And if I may, if possible without any objection, to
10	clarify a piece of testimony that I provided earlier as to who
11	the deputy director was over administrative services.
12	It was Tom Summers at that time, and not Woody Thorne.
13	Q Oh. Thank you for that correction.
14	A Too many people.
15	Q Do you remember in the 2005 time frame when Senator
16	Titus' SB 247 bill, basically, died, and then there was an
17	effort to get another bill passed related to live entertainment?
18	A There may well have been. I don't recall that.
19	Q So I take it, then, that you weren't involved with any
20	senators or assembly people to try to put together an
21	alternative bill quickly?
22	A Not that I'm aware of.
23	(Exhibit 5 marked for identification)
24	BY MR. ROOS:
25	Q Is this just a duplicate?

1	A It appears to be, yes.
2	Q Which one is it a duplicate of?
3	A DV 000190. I don't know which exhibit number it is.
4	Q I couldn't discern that, so I was not sure.
5	A It appears to be. It doesn't contain the memorandum
6	part of it. It appears, this appears to be only the
7	Q Oh, I see.
8	A The content
9	Q Right.
10	A of the memo.
11	Q Okay.
12	A It appears to be the same thing. I mean, you can
13	correct me if I'm wrong.
14	Q I think I agree with you, so you just cut time out of
15	your deposition.
16	Do you ever remember asking anybody to do an analysis
17	of the specific revenue that would be generated by strip clubs
18	as a subcategory of the overall businesses that have 300 seats
19	or less?
20	A Not that I recall, no.
21	Q Do you have any reason to know why anybody at the
22	Department of Taxation would have done something like that?
23	A Not to my, not to my knowledge, no. Unless if they
24	were requested by well, what time period was this?
25	Q I don't have a time period. It's just a blank piece

1	of paper.
2	A Well, I can tell you this much. When I was a
3	director, no, I never requested that. Prior to that, the prior
4	executive director, maybe. I don't know. But I was not aware
5	of it.
6	Q The prior executive director, meaning?
7	A Chuck Chinnock.
8	Q Okay. So you as the person that was charged with
9	applying the tax, live entertainment tax, you did not have any
10	interest in knowing what the income generated from gentlemen's
11	clubs was as a subset of all those paying taxes with 300 seats
12	or less?
13	A No.
14	Q Is there any reason why you did not want to know that?
15	A No. To the best of my knowledge, no, I don't.
16	Q Okay. Is there, as you sit here today, do you know of
17	any reason why anybody else in the Department of Taxation would
18	have wanted to have known that information?
19	A Not that I'm aware of, no.
20	Q Is there anything special about gentlemen's clubs from
21	the perspective of live entertainment that would have sparked
22	the interest in anybody over who had oversight into figuring out
23	how much revenue was generated by that subset of live
24	entertainment taxpayers?

A Not that I'm aware of. No.

25

1	Q And it's your testimony, as you sit here today, that
2	the live entertainment tax from your perspective in all of your
3	dealings from 2003 until you left, were not, that live
4	entertainment tax statute was not intended to target gentlemen's
5	clubs?
6	A Not to my recollection, no.
7	Q Okay. Was there ever any discussions, whether during
8	the LET workshops or internally amongst your employees, about
9	whether or not the continual addition of exemptions to the live
10	entertainment tax was significantly reducing the LET taxpayer
11	base?
12	A No. No.
13	Q Did you ever have any concerns that individual
14	business entities were being granted an exception when they were
15	clearly providing live entertainment?
16	A It's not our purview. We are simply the
17	administrator.
18	Q I understand, but from the perspective of you wanting
19	to apply this tax evenhandedly across
20	A No.
21	Q those subject to the tax, did it ever occur in your
22	mind or ever become a concern of the Department of Taxation that
23	there was a significant number of businesses that were being
24	exempted out of the live entertainment tax?
25	A No.

1	Q And knowing that the there are in fact significant
2	groups of businesses that are exempted from the live
3	entertainment tax, even though they provide live entertainment,
4	you don't have a concern that the tax was being applied in an
5	uneven manner?
6	A That was not in my purview. No.
7	Q Well, that was in your purview, making sure that tax
8	was applied evenhandedly?
9	A But the way you stated the question is the legislature
10	had specifically provided for exclusions and exemptions, no.
11	That's their concern.
12	As an administrator, I would administer what they had
13	passed. No more, no less.
14	Q Okay. All right. I don't think I have any other
15	questions. I appreciate your time.
16	A No. No. Not a problem.
17	MS. RAKOWSKY: I just have a few follow-ups.
18	THE WITNESS: Can I take a quick break, please?
19	MS. RAKOWSKY: You bet. You can take a slow break.
20	(A recess was taken)
21	EXAMINATION
22	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
23	Q Go back on the record.
24	Good afternoon, Mr. DiCianno.
25	A Hi.

1	Q I'm Vivienne Rakowsky. I represent the Department of
2	Taxation, State of Nevada.
3	When you discussed how taxes are applied evenhandedly
4	across the board, were you, basically, saying that it's handled
5	evenhandedly between each group or type of taxpayer?
6	A That's correct.
7	MR. ROOS: Objection. Leading.
8	Go ahead. You can answer.
9	THE WITNESS: I mean, that's correct. Because that is
10	one of the main tenets to the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights.
11	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
12	Q So you wouldn't single out one gentlemen's club and
13	say, because they pay a lot of revenue, they're not subject to
14	the LET?
15	A No, we would never do that.
16	Q Was a lot of the language that was incorporated into
17	the live entertainment tax, as it was written in 2003 and
18	adopted in, changed in 2005, was a lot of that language and
19	exemptions originally included in the casino entertainment tax?
20	MR. ROOS: Objection. Calls for speculation and lacks
21	foundation.
22	THE WITNESS: Well, yes, because of some of the
23	discussions that occurred in the workshop, yes.
24	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
25	Q Is the LET a transactional tax?

1	A Yes.
2	Q Is it based on admissions?
3	A Yes.
4	Q Is it based on the message provided in the
5	entertainment itself?
6	A No.
7	Q Are nonprofit organizations excluded from paying sales
8	and use tax?
9	A Yes.
10	Q Are you aware that independent Indy races and other
11	races out at the speedway are not exempt from the live
12	entertainment tax?
13	MR. ROOS: Objection. Lack of foundation, and calls
14	for speculation.
15	THE WITNESS: To the best of my knowledge, there are
16	some things that are not.
17	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
18	Q Are you aware that certain exemptions were given to
19	certain types of events and sporting events because other taxes
20	are paid by those particular types of venues so the state does
21	collect tax from them?
22	A That was part of the discussion. To the best of my
23	knowledge, that's my understanding, yes.
24	Q Did anyone ever ask you about your thoughts as to who
25	should be exempt from the live entertainment tax?

1	A No.
2	Q And when you were talking about the patrons dancing,
3	was it your understanding that live entertainment tax would
4	apply to somebody who had actually come there to watch those
5	particular patrons dance because they were the entertainment?
6	A As I indicated earlier, I mean, it depends upon the
7	venue.
8	Was it advertised as such? Was there admission
9	charged to view this? If that were the case, then, yes. There
10	would be, there would be a live entertainment tax associated
11	with it.
12	Q The fiscal note that you refer to, were those
13	generated because of requests by the legislature or by LCB?
14	A Yes, but I also needed to make you aware that there
15	are such things as unsolicited fiscal notes that our department
16	or any agency, executive branch agency can make.
17	To the best of my recollection, any fiscal notes
18	related to the live entertainment tax and the new taxes at that
19	time were specific requests from Legislative Council Bureau.
20	Q But the Department of Taxation will regularly prepare
21	fiscal notes with regards to a number of issues not, they didn't
22	only prepare fiscal notes because of live entertainment tax,
23	they do it on other taxes, too?
24	A That's correct. That's correct.
25	Q And it's part of the regular work of the agency?

1	A That's correct.
2	Q Okay. Is it difficult to administer most new taxes?
3	A Initially, yes.
4	Q So the tax on financial institutions was also a little
5	difficult to
6	A That's correct, because we had to work within the
7	guidelines that the legislature had put together with respect to
8	how they defined what a financial institution was.
9	Q When the Department of Taxation gathers information
10	for fiscal notes, do they sometimes send out letters?
11	A Yes.
12	Q They don't necessarily go to the venue and inspect
13	them themselves?
14	A No. Not necessarily. No.
15	Q Exhibit 1, I believe it's Exhibit 2. I'm sorry.
16	MR. ROOS: Which one is that?
17	MS. RAKOWSKY: I'll give you that, the Bates number is
18	DV 000002 and 3.
19	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
20	Q On page, on the second page of that particular memo,
21	it gives a breakdown from 2004 of different venues that were
22	paying live entertainment tax.
23	So in your reading of this, were there a number of
24	other venues besides gentlemen's clubs that were paying live
25	entertainment tax?

1	A Yes.
2	Q And this was only the live entertainment which was
3	administered by the Department of Taxation; is that correct?
4	A That's my understanding, yes.
5	Q Are you aware, if there is a venue inside of a hotel,
6	such as a restaurant that does concerts, or restaurants that
7	provides live entertainment, doesn't necessarily have gaming
8	inside that restaurant, but it's within the curb-to-curb
9	definition of a casino, is that particular live entertainment
10	tax administered by Gaming Control?
11	A Yes.
12	MR. ROOS: Objection. Lack of foundation.
13	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
14	Q So there are a number, so there are a number of
15	gentlemen's clubs or adult entertainment that takes part, takes
16	place in a casino that pays live entertainment, but that's
17	governed by Gaming Control?
18	MR. ROOS: I'm going to object again. Lack of
19	foundation.
20	He's already testified that he was not involved in
21	administering the casino side of it, and now he's answering
22	questions, so I'm going to object.
23	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
24	Q Was there ever an instance, to your knowledge, where,
25	when this tax first came into being, where certain venues that

1	were inside of a, the curb-to-curb definition of a casino,
2	accidentally paid Department of Taxation?
3	A That we would have picked up?
4	Q That they acted, they paid you, and it was,
5	eventually, refunded back to that particular venue or the Gaming
6	Control?
7	A That's possible, but I don't recall.
8	Q Okay. Okay. Mr. Roos showed you a transcription of
9	comments made by a Senator Randolph Townsend on September 19th,
10	2003.
11	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
12	Q He read, he read a portion of it into the record which
13	had to do with capturing certain clubs.
14	If you'd turn to page 4.
15	A Okay.
16	Q It discusses the legislative intent, on line 14, and
17	it says, well, our intention was to find additional revenue, not
18	reduce revenue.
19	Was that the intent of the live entertainment tax?
20	A That's my understanding. That's the intent of every
21	new tax.
22	Q Okay. And was the intent, and was that the intent
23	when they took the casino entertainment tax and expanded it to
24	cover other nongaming venues?
25	A That's

1	MR. ROOS: Objection. Calls for speculation. He
2	already testified that he wasn't involved in that.
3	THE WITNESS: I mean, I wasn't, again, I was not
4	involved in the gaming side, but, yes, that was the intent.
5	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
6	Q Okay. And he goes on to say, as a result, I
7	encouraged him to help us find language. At the same time, I
8	assured him that we were looking for, first of all and foremost,
9	a minimum of revenue neutral, but certainly we would ask for a
10	way to make this a revenue enhancement.
11	So does that go to say that the object was to find
12	additional revenue?
13	A Based on his testimony, yes.
14	Q And going on to page 5.
15	He states, so in our efforts to find a better
16	across-the-board public policy for entertainment at large, it
17	was a conscious decision.
18	Does this show that the intent of the legislature was
19	to have an evenhanded, across-the-board tax that was fair to all
20	taxpayers?
21	MR. ROOS: Objection. Calls for speculation. Object
22	to the form of the question. Speculative.
23	THE WITNESS: If you're referring to nongaming versus
24	gaming-type venues, then the answer is yes.
25	///

BY MS. RAKOWSKY:

2.

Q And I just want to go to line 11 where he states, but the goal originally was to capture more revenue for the state because we were reasonable -- because we're responsible for Medicaid, and we were responsible for a great deal of bad debt in the health arena, and a lot of the subsequent social problems that face the state could be generated with burgeoning, with a burgeoning industry. That was the original goal and intent.

Do you have any reason to believe that that was not the intent of the legislature in expanding the casino entertainment tax into the live entertainment tax, which covered nongaming, as well as gaming venues?

A If the intent was to capture not only gaming-type venues along with nongaming-type venues, then, yes, but this statement is specifically to Senator Townsend, and I can't really speak to that.

- Q But that was Senator Townsend's intent?
- A Yes.
 - Q And you have no reason to believe that it was not Senator Townsend's intent?
 - A No.
 - Q When you discussed that you recall the fiscal note requests with regards to gentlemen's clubs, there could have been additional requests of fiscal notes on other businesses that were also included in the nongaming side of the live

1	entertainment tax; is that correct?
2	A Yes.
3	MR. ROOS: Objection. Asked and answered.
4	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
5	Q And as you testified before, was the purpose of this
6	tax to raise revenue?
7	A Yes.
8	Q Is that the purpose of most taxes?
9	A Yes.
10	Q Was the purpose of this tax to put any kind of
11	gentlemen's clubs out of business because of their message?
12	A No, not that I recall.
13	MR. ROOS: All right. Just a number follow-ups to
14	those questions.
15	FURTHER EXAMINATION
16	BY MR. ROOS:
17	Q All right. With respect to the fiscal notes,
18	Ms. Rakowsky asked you whether or not it was possible that other
19	fiscal notes were generated with respect to
20	nonstrip-club-related businesses, and you said, yes. It's
21	possible.
22	If those fiscal notes were generated, and the
23	Department of Taxation was in receipt of those, those would have
24	been produced by the state, correct, in this litigation?
25	A I don't know.

1	Q Were you in charge of putting together documentation,
2	or did you oversee putting together documentation related to
3	litigation between the strip clubs and the state specifically
4	A No.
5	Q related to live entertainment?
6	Did you task somebody with that job?
7	A No.
8	Q Do you believe that the Department of Taxation would
9	withhold fiscal notes from this litigation if those fiscal notes
10	existed and related to businesses other than gentleman's clubs?
11	A No.
12	MR. ROOS: Objection. Calls for speculation.
13	BY MR. ROOS:
14	Q Right.
15	That wouldn't make any sense, because the state would
16	be more than willing to show that other fiscal notes were
17	generated with respect to revenue that did not relate to
18	gentlemen's clubs. Wouldn't that stand to reason?
19	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Calls for speculation.
20	THE WITNESS: As I indicated, it would, it possibly
21	could be in the fiscal notes. It may not be.
22	BY MR. ROOS:
23	Q You don't think that there actually are other fiscal
24	notes?
25	A I don't know. I don't know if there are or not.

1	Q And you had testified that there are other taxes that
2	are difficult to administer, but if you're being honest, this
3	particular tax was very difficult to administer from the day
4	it's been in, put into effect until the day you left; wouldn't
5	that be a fair statement?
6	A No. Because based on my experience, at that time,
7	they instituted a business license, they also instituted the
8	live entertainment tax, a modified business tax.
9	And the business license tax was probably just as
10	cumbersome and as difficult to administer as the live
11	entertainment tax.
12	Q I didn't ask you to compared to another tax. I'm
13	asking, this live entertainment tax has been difficult to
14	administer from day one until the day that you left?
15	A All taxes are difficult to administer.
16	Q Okay. Ms. Rakowsky had asked you questions about, and
17	I didn't really understand the question, it was part of the
18	discussion about exempting sports was that they were already
19	paying taxes.
20	Do you recall that line of questioning?
21	A Yes.
22	Q What is it that you're referring to that
23	A I believe that came out in testimony at the
24	legislature.
25	Q Okay. When I had asked you about why the baseball was

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exempted, you indicated that you couldn't, you didn't know.
 1
                  Are you now, do you now have a better recollection
 2.
 3
        that there was a reason related to other taxes --
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Misstates the testimony.
 4
 5
        I'm sorry.
 6
       BY MR. ROOS:
 7
             Q
                   -- every -- I'm sorry.
                  That related to baseball being exempted?
 8
 9
             Α
                  As I indicated --
                  MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Misstates testimony.
10
                  THE WITNESS: As I indicated, to the best of my
11
       knowledge, when you first asked me, no. That refreshed my
12
       memory. There was discussion, yes, at the legislature with
13
       respect to what level of other types of revenue were being paid
14
       by these other venues to the state.
15
       BY MR. ROOS:
16
17
             Q
                  Well, what type of other revenue was being paid to the
        state by, for instance, the Las Vegas 51s?
18
            Α
                  I don't know.
19
20
             Q
                  Okay.
21
             Α
                  I do not know.
                  So when you were referring to these other taxes that
22
23
       were already being paid by sports facilities, were you referring
24
       to somebody other than the 51s?
                  No. What I'm -- what I'm trying to respond and say
25
             Α
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1	is, I don't recall the specific types of either fees, license
2	fees, or other taxes that the department doesn't collect, that
3	they were paying that was discussed at the legislature that
4	would have led them to change their policy as far as not to
5	include them within the live entertainment tax.
6	Q Okay. So as you sit here today, you don't know what
7	those other taxes or fees could have been?
8	A No.
9	Q You just have a recollection that that's something
10	that may have been discussed?
11	A That may have been discussed, and I'd have to go back
12	and review the legislative minutes.
13	Q Is it possible that that was not discussed?
14	A Oh, I'm sure it was discussed.
15	Q Are you positive that it was discussed?
16	A Yes.
17	Q And the 51s, they pay sales and use tax, correct, the
18	baseball team, for merchandise and food and drink that they
19	sell?
20	A They, yes.
21	Q Okay. So that tax existed before the live
22	entertainment tax, correct?
23	A Yes.
24	Q And strip clubs paid sales and use taxes on drinks
25	before the live entertainment tax, correct?

1	A Yes.
2	Q So that's not an additional tax that a sports club
3	would be paying that would make up for not paying the live
4	entertainment tax.
5	Then what is the other tax
6	A There could be well, okay.
7	Some people refer to fees as taxes. To me, it's not
8	as crystal clear and black and white as to the distinction
9	between a fee and a tax.
10	It depends on how it's defined in the statute.
11	But there are certain items, I'll call them items that
12	they pay, sporting events pay to other jurisdictions, whether
13	they be local or state, through either like the athletic
14	commission or whatever.
15	I don't, I'm not familiar specifically with what they
16	pay. But I do recall that there was discussion about what those
17	other types were in the legislative hearings.
18	What they are specifically, off the top of my head, I
19	don't know right now.
20	Q Okay. Do you remember that discussion occurring with
21	respect to boxing?
22	A It's possible.
23	Q Do you remember that discussion occurring with respect
24	to NASCAR?
25	A That's possible. I don't know.

1	Q When Senator Townsend said that it, this is on page 5.
2	He says Ms. Rakowsky pointed this out, so in our efforts to
3	find a better across-the-board public policy for entertainment
4	at large, it was a conscious decision.
5	It was a conscious decision, do you see that?
6	A Uh-huh (affirmative).
7	Q Then the immediate next sentence is about how this
8	across-the-board public policy decision was made to exempt
9	boxing, correct?
10	A That, what he's referring to there, and again, I can't
11	speak for Senator Townsend, but from what I gather as to what
12	he's saying here, is that it would create a noncompetitive edge
13	to tax boxing for live entertainment.
14	Q Right.
15	A That's how I read this.
16	Q Right.
17	A Okay?
18	Q So when you're creating an across-the-board public
19	policy for taxing entertainment, and you start excluding forms
20	of entertainment, it's no longer an across-the-board tax, is it?
21	A Again, that's a matter of interpretation.
22	Q Well, I mean, you were in charge of administering this
23	tax.
24	If you have an across-the-board public policy of
25	charging live entertainment tax for live entertainment, and you

1 charged live entertainment regardless of whatever entertainment 2. it is, that's one thing. 3 But would you agree that it's not an across-the-board public policy if you start exempting out boxing, and NASCAR, and 4 amusement rides, and various other forms of live entertainment 5 6 that we've discussed today? As my, in my official capacity as either the deputy 7 executive director or executive director at that time, of which 8 9 now I'm retired, that was not under my purview. That was under 10 the legislative purview. 11 Whatever they pass, that is what we administer. 12 So you cannot speak one way or another --Q Α No. 13 14 -- with respect to this statement, across-the-board public policy, what that meant? 15 16 The person who administers the tax should not have any 17 say whatsoever in determining whether a policy is fair or not fair. 18 And I agree with that. 19 Q That's not our purview. 20 Α 21 Q I agree with that. And so, therefore, you cannot testify one way or the 22 other with respect to Mr. Townsend's comment that this is an 23 24 across-the-board public policy given that all of these are exempted? 25

1	A At the time he was a legislator that was his opinion.
2	Q Okay. And you can't testify as to whether or not that
3	is accurate because that's not part of your purview, correct?
4	A Well, if that's what he said in the workshop, that's a
5	public comment. It's on the public record. That's his opinion.
6	Q All right. You didn't administer the tax across the
7	board to any single person that was providing live entertainment
8	because you had to follow the statute, correct?
9	MS. RAKOWSKY: Objection. Object to the form of the
10	question.
11	MR. ROOS: Well, no, I'm asking okay. Go ahead.
12	MS. RAKOWSKY: I just object to the form of the
13	question, and you're asking him to speculate.
14	BY MR. ROOS:
15	Q No, I'm, I'm actually not asking him to speculate.
16	I'm asking him a really simple question.
17	In your capacity of administering this tax, did you
18	not apply it across the board to any single person that was
19	providing live entertainment because certain people were
20	exempted, correct?
21	A Again, as I've indicated already, it doesn't matter
22	what I believe or don't believe.
23	It's a matter of the way the statutes are written and
24	the application of the law.
25	O And the way the statute is written, is not applied

1	across the board to any person providing live entertainment?
2	A I can't respond to that.
3	Q Okay. You can't respond to how the statute is
4	crafted? You administered it.
5	A The way it's crafted is based upon legislative intent.
6	Q I'm not ascribing any intent to you. I'm asking you,
7	based upon your efforts to administer the tax, you would have to
8	agree that it's not applied across the board to all live
9	entertainment provided by any source because when you were
10	administering it, you knew that certain sources of live
11	entertainment were exempted, correct?
12	A No. One, no. Two, I can't respond to that. That's
13	not my purview.
14	That's not up to me.
15	Q To enforce the tax?
16	A To enforce the tax, correct, based upon the way the
17	statute is written. Regardless of what one may believe or not
18	believe. It doesn't matter.
19	MS. RAKOWSKY: I just have one follow-up question.
20	I'm sorry.
21	FURTHER EXAMINATION
22	BY MS. RAKOWSKY:
23	Q But you did apply the tax across the board to all
24	persons providing live entertainment who were not otherwise
25	exempt pursuant to the statute?

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1
             Α
                   That's correct.
 2
                   MR. ROOS: All right. Go off the record.
 3
                        (Proceedings concluded at 1:33 p.m.)
 4
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PAGE LINE	CHANGE		REASON
*	* *	* *	*
I, DINO DI CIA declare the within deposition in said	and foregoing	g transcript	
That I have re signature to said of		l and do her	ceby affix my
Signature to said o	leposition.		
DINO DI CIANNO, Dep			Date
DINO DI CIANNO, DEL	onenc		Date
NOTE: Original depwitness.	position, per	request of	counsel, delivere

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STATE OF NEVADA
 1
                            ) ss.
       COUNTY OF WASHOE
 2
                  I, DEBORAH MIDDLETON GRECO, a Certified Court Reporter
 3
        in and for the State of Nevada, do hereby certify:
 4
 5
                  That on Thursday, December 15, 2011, at the hour of
        9:48 a.m. of said day, at 151 Country Estates Circle, Reno,
 6
 7
       Nevada, personally appeared DINO DI CIANNO, who was duly sworn
 8
       by me to testify the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
 9
        truth, and thereupon was deposed in the matter entitled herein;
                  That I am not a relative, employee or independent
10
        contractor of counsel to any of the parties, or a relative,
11
        employee or independent contractor of the parties involved in
12
        the proceedings, or a person financially interested in the
13
       proceeding;
14
15
                  That said deposition was taken in verbatim stenotype
       notes by me, a Certified Court Reporter, and thereafter
16
        transcribed into typewriting as herein appears;
17
                  That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1
18
        through 135, is a full, true and correct transcription of my
19
        stenotype notes of said deposition.
20
21
                  DATED: At Reno, Nevada, this 27th day of December,
        2011.
2.2
23
                                           DEBORAH MIDDLETON GRECO
24
                                               CCR #113, RDR, CRR
25
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STATE OF NEVADA

TAX COMMISSION

TELECONFERENCED OPEN MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012

CARSON CITY, NEVADA

THE BOARD:

ROBERT BARENGO, Chairman

JOHN MARVEL, Member

JOAN LAMBERT, Acting Chairman

DAVID TURNER, Member ANN BERSI, Member ROBERT JOHNSON, Member

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1 AGENDA/INDEX 2 AGENDA ITEM **PAGE** 3 Petition for reconsideration of Department's denial of exemption status 4 for organization created for religious, charitable or educational purposes 5 (sales/use tax): 1) National Association of School Resource 6 Officers, Inc. 2) Airborne Law Enforcement Association, Inc. 52 7 Taxpayers' opportunity to district court 8 order dated January 24, 2012 to present additional evidence to the NTC so that the 9 NTC can amend the findings of fact, conclusions of law dated October 12, 2007, 10 reverse the decision, or affirm the decision and consideration of taxpayers' 11 request for subpoenas: 1) K-Kel, Inc., dba Spearmint Rhino Gentlemen's Club; Olympus Garden, Inc., 12 dba Olympic Garden; SHAC LLC, dba Sapphire; The Power Company, Inc., dba 13 Crazy Horse Too Gentlemen's Club; D Westwood 14 Inc., dba Treasures; DI Food & Beverage of Las Vegas, LLC, dba Scores; Déjà vu 15 Showgirls of Las Vegas, LLC, dba Déjà vu; and Little Darlings of Las Vegas, LLC, 16 dba Little Darlings 66 17 Η. Taxpayer's appeal of Hearing Officer's decision upholding Department's denial of 18 use tax refund request/sales tax deficiencies on complimentary meals and 19 Department's partial appeal of Hearing Officer's decision: 20 1) Exber, Inc./El Cortez 99 21 Limited supplemental briefing and consideration of statute of limitations issue on taxpayer's appeal of Hearing Officer's 22 decision upholding Department's denial of use tax refund request/sales tax deficiencies 23 on complimentary meals and employee meals: 24 Harrah's Entertainment Inc. 123 25

1	MEMBER WITT: Second.
2	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: We have a motion and a
3	second to uphold the Department's denial of the exemption
4	status for the National Association of School Resource
5	Officers, Incorporated and the Airborne Law Enforcement
6	Association, Incorporated. Any discussion? Hearing none all
7	who approve signify by saying aye. Anyone who doesn't nay.
8	The motion passes. Thank you very much for your time,
9	Mr. Moreno.
10	MR. MORENO: Thank you, Commissioners, and thank
11	you, Jed, it was a pleasure meeting you by telephone.
12	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Thank you.
13	(Motion carries.)
14	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Is anybody ready for a
15	break? How about we take a 15-minute break.
16	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: How long?
17	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: 15 minutes. So we'll
18	come
19	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: 15 minutes. Okay.
20	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: We'll come back at
21	quarter to 11:00 by the clock in our room.
22	(Recess taken.)
23	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Okay. So we are back
24	on the record.
25	MR. NIELSEN: Madam Chair, again for the record

this is Chris Nielsen. The next agenda item up for the
Commission's consideration today is again under item IV,
Compliance Division. G, which is taxpayers' opportunity
pursuant to District Court order dated January 24th, 2012 to
present additional evidence to the Nevada Tax Commission so
that the NTC can amend the findings of fact, conclusions of
law dated October 12th, 2007. Reverse decision or affirm the
decision in consideration of taxpayers' request for subpoenas.

The specific Case Number 1 is K-Tell, Inc. doing business as Spearmint Rhino's Gentlemen's Club, Olympus Garden, Inc. doing business as Olympic Garden, SHAC LLC doing business as Sapphire, the Power Company, Inc. doing business as Crazy Horse Too Gentlemen's Club, D Westwood, Inc. doing business as Treasures, DI Food and Beverage of Las Vegas, LLC doing business as Scores, Déjà Vu Girls of Las Vegas, LLC doing business as Déjà Vu and Little Darlings of Las Vegas, LLC doing business as Little Darlings.

And for the Department I believe we have Blake Doerr and I believe also David Pope will be giving a brief overview of this agenda item.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. Having not seen anything like this before, Jennifer, could you give us some of the options we have, I mean, do we have to admit the evidence because there's a court order or do we have options on what we admit?

This matter is back before you because the appellants have requested that if we remand it to you to look at additional evidence pursuant to NRS 233B.131, that statute provides that additional evidence can be presented to this Commission provided that it is shown to the court that that evidence is both material and that there was good reasons for it not having been presented to the Commission during — or during the first appeal.

Considering the statute the judge, and this is in the transcript of the hearing, the judge indicated that he had to find materiality and good reasons.

And then the judge's order, it simply says that petitioner's application for leave to present additional evidence is granted so the administrative agency can look at, and I quote, additional evidence. So, the District Court order remanded this matter specifically for you to consider, and I quote again, additional evidence. And to then determine whether to affirm, reverse or modify your original decision that was issued in '07.

The parties here disagree with regard to what the scope of that additional evidence is. The Department's position is that the District Court's findings with regard to materiality and good cause had to do with the additional

evidence that existed at the time of that hearing and that would be essentially the discovery obtained through the District Court proceedings.

The appellants on the other hand, they're requesting that -- subpoenas so that they can do some additional discovery.

We see your options -- we see that you have two options, one, you can read the court's order as limiting you to reviewing only that additional evidence that existed at the time of the hearing on the motion for remand and that would be Bates Numbers 1 through 1192 and then starting again at 1200 through 1510, which are provided by appellants on a CD.

The other option would be to read the court's order to allow the appellants actually reopen discovery and get subpoenas and possibly conduct depositions.

The Department's position is that no additional evidence is going to change your original decision that you issued in 2007 and we're asking that you deny those subpoenas and affirm your original decision. If you do not believe that the additional evidence is going to change your original decision then you can affirm that decision. And that is the end of the brief overview.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. If the taxpayers' attorneys would like to present for 15 minutes or less if you can read everything that you've supplied us. We

1	can't hear you if anyone is talking. Hello?
2	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: I don't hear anybody either.
3	MR. FERRARIO: That's something that rarely
4	happens when I speak, so is that better?
5	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Yes, if you could state
6	your name for the record and spell your last name for the
7	court reporter, please?
8	MR. FERRARIO: We'll start over. Members of the
9	Commission, Mark Ferrario appearing on behalf of SHAC, LLC.
10	To my left is Will Brown, he's appearing on behalf of the
11	remaining parties in this matter.
12	And I'm going to address the procedural posture
13	of this case because suffice to say we disagree with the
14	presentation made by the attorney general.
15	We're here for one reason and that is to finalize
16	a record in this matter so that you can make a final
17	determination based upon a complete record dealing with the
18	application of the LAT tax to my client and Mr. Brown's
19	clients.
20	The case has a rather tortured procedural history
21	and that is set out in the material that's in front of you.
22	I'm not going to go over all the the issues and the twists
23	and turns this case took. We were ready to go to trial in the
24	District Court when our Supreme Court came down with the
25	decision Southern California Edison versus First Judicial

District, I'm sure everyone affiliated with the Commission is aware of that decision.

That decision clarified the process that taxpayers were to employ in challenging matters coming out of the Commission. And what it basically said is that you have to — you don't get a de novo hearing in District Court, which is how everyone was proceeding at that time.

The judge when the case was brought to her attention recognized that it would have been patently unfair to limit my client's ability to perfect a record. And contrary to what the State said determined that there was a need to come back and finalize the process. And that is why we're here. We're here to complete a process that began in '07 that was interrupted because of then understanding of the law. The law has now been clarified and the judge has found that there is a need to come back and perfect the record. And I think the judge has already determined that there is good cause and a necessity to do so.

So that's why we're here.

In furtherance of that we made a request to issue subpoenas to three individuals that we believe can provide valuable testimony and information relating to the enforcement of the live entertainment tax scheme. And that is the first issue that this Commission should address. And I find it interesting that — and I don't know that the attorney general

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Oh, I'm sorry, please.	
If you'd state your name for the record, please, Mr. Brown?	
MR. BROWN: Thank you. William Brown on behalf	
of the taxpayers, all the taxpayers except SHAC, LLC, who is	
represented by Mr. Ferrario. Additionally, just a procedural	
note, taxpayers Déjà Vu Show Girls of Las Vegas, LLC dba Déjà	
Vu and Little Darlings of Las Vegas, LLC dba Little Darlings I	
believe are not properly part of this. They didn't begin	
requesting refunds until 2004. They were not parties to the	
PJR action which brought us here today.	

So with that procedural note, in the interest of brevity I won't reiterate everything Mr. Ferrario said, rather I would just join in those comments. And if I might I would just like to read for the Commission what Judge Weiss said at the hearing when we asked to have this matter remanded.

What he said is this. The thing is as a judge I want to try to do the right thing, and if the right thing requires me to only look at the record on a petition for judicial review I'm limited to review of the record. There's a question whether or not something is in the record that should be or something missing from the record that maybe should be in the record I'm inclined to allow the administrative agency an opportunity to review that so that when it comes back up to me, and I'm sure this will come back up to me, I've got all of the evidence.

1 So I'm not going to dismiss the case, what I'm 2 going to do is I'm going to remand it right now so the 3 administrative agency can look at the evidence that's 4 requested by the petitioners. 5 In preparing for this hearing I had the 6 opportunity to review the prior hearing and it was pretty 7 clear that at least at that time Commissioner Kelesis expressed this specifically and I think it was the 8 Commission's -- the consensus of the Commission that they 9 10 wanted as full and complete a record as possible. Obviously, 11 that's exactly what we're asking for, we feel the more 12 information, the more facts that we're able to put in front of the Commission the more informed the resulting decision would 13 14 be. 15 With that I would pass. Thank you. 16 ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. Mr. Pope or 17 Ms. --18 MR. POPE: Thank you, Madam Chair. 19 just -- I do have a few follow-up comments. First of all, 20 with regard to the procedure that followed final decisions of 21 the Tax Commission, the Malotine (Ph.) case was in existence 22 the last time this case was here and that case did say that as 23 applied challenges had to be decided by the administrative 24 So that is something to consider. body. 25 Second, with regard to, you know, the appellant's

comments that that you can't make a decision on evidence
before you see it, that's exactly our point, they have it
backwards. The District Court is supposed to decide
materiality and good cause and cannot do so unless they have
the evidence, which is what we argued in our briefs, the
evidence that the District Court had was the discovery, which
is the Bates numbers that I mentioned earlier. To correct why
we're here, it is specifically to take additional evidence,
it's a limited remand pursuant to 233B.131. It is not a
remand pursuant to 233B.135.

So, this record was final, it's not a question of whether we have a final record. Generally, there's no discovery allowed in administrative cases and there's no constitutional right to discovery in administrative cases, that's the Duchess case, 124 Nevada 713; however, that case also says that discovery in administrative cases is allowed to the extent that regulations allow it.

In this case we have NAC 360.135 which allows subpoenas and we have NAC 361.145 which allows depositions. Depositions that can be done pursuant to instruction by the hearing officer or by any party. So this party had the ability to request depositions prior to coming here the first time, failed to do so, waived their right and you have no obligation to reinstate that right. It would not be a violation of due process to deny additional discovery because

1 they had the right to do it the first time. 2 With that, we'd request that you deny the request 3 for subpoenas and affirm your original decision issued in 2007 because this additional evidence just doesn't change it. 4 5 Thank you. 6 ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you, Mr. Pope. 7 Do the taxpayer's representative want a minute for rebuttal? 8 MR. FERRARIO: Certainly. I think it's a gross 9 misreading of the decision from -- can you hear me? 10 ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: 11 MR. FERRARIO: From two District Court judges. 12 These arguments were made by the attorney general in the lower court to try to cut off our ability to present our case based 13 14 upon a complete record. 15 Judge Gonzales first realized that was unfair and 16 then Judge Weiss as Mr. Brown articulated when he quoted from Judge Weiss's comments recognized the unfairness of the 17 18 approach being adopted by the State. 19 The State didn't talk about the -- the change in 20 the law that was occasioned as a result of the Southern 21 California Edison case. That's why we're here. Prior to that 22 time, and there's -- and we -- and we've got this in material 23 in front of you. Everybody believed that you would get a de 24 novo review on these issues at the District Court level. 25 case changed that idea forever. The court clarified the

process and two District Court judges presented with the same arguments being made by the State disagreed. And so we're here asking for nothing more than an opportunity to have a fair hearing based upon a complete record. And in furtherance of that we would like to subpoen the three witnesses that we have requested in the letter that was sent to you by Mr. Brown so that we can get testimony from them on issues that are very important to my clients and to the state as a whole.

And going back to the comments made at the very beginning of this process when this -- this Commission said we want to make a decision based upon a complete record and all the evidence.

So, with that, we think that the subpoena should issue and we should continue this matter so that we can have a hearing with the testimony from those three witnesses in addition to the material that we previously submitted.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. Mr. Brown, do you have any comments?

MR. BROWN: Thank you. I just kind of want to underscore the import of Southern California Edison. Prior to Southern California Edison the law at the time as we construed it allowed the taxpayers after the administrative hearing to file an original action. What that meant was the full panoply of discovery under NRCP, that meant request for production of documents, admissions, interrogatories and depositions.

guess the overall view of the record is these appellants first filed in Federal Court. And through those proceedings it's clear that they knew of Chapter 233B, therefore, would have known of the judicial review process. And after that case got dismissed then they filed in State Court.

So this is really, you know, has to do with their strategy and the way that they decided to go forward. They had a chance to do this in 2007. They shouldn't get an another bite at the apple.

MS. RIKOWSKI: Vivienne Rikowski from the —
deputy attorney general for the Tax Commission — I'm sorry,
Department of Taxation. In 2007 when they appeared before
this Commission they appeared in July of 2007 and they said
that they did not take a discovery. And the Commission asked
them if they have anything else they'd like to present and
gave them a month to get together everything they had and they
said you want everything and the Commission — I believe it
was Commissioner Kelesis said I want everything. If you don't
present in 2007 you're done. And that's exactly what the
transcript said. They appeared a month later and presented
their case and there was a full blown hearing.

We've got 90-something pages of transcript before the Commission — before the Commission made a decision in 2007. And what we're asking for is for the Commission to uphold what it looked at in 2007 and — and not allow them to

reopen discovery and start a new case under a new idea.

MR. POPE: Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. Now, what's -- what's the Commission's pleasure.

Jennifer our legal counsel to kind of help us clarify this matter? It is my recollection that when we had the hearings on the -- on the comp food matters that the -- the -- the petitioners wanted to present additional evidence to the Tax Commission. And we were told at that time that they could -- that it was not in the best practice, I guess, maybe even not correct to have additional evidence presented to us at a hearing that we only could review the records ourselves. And that procedure was to send the matter back to the ALJ to hear any additional evidence.

Could Jennifer comment on -- on that, please?

MS. CRANDALL: Absolutely. Absolutely. Thank

you, Chairman. What Chairman Barengo is getting at is if this

body chooses to rule in favor of the taxpayers' position and

decide to reopen discovery, then what we -- I would recommend

to this Commission is that you would remand this back to the

ALJ to take that additional evidence and to reissue an

opinion. And then it would come up to this body for judicial

review standard.

So that's correct, Chairman Barengo, but that's

1	if this Commission chooses to side with the taxpayer on this
2	issue.
3	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Got you. Thank you.
4	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Any other comments?
5	MEMBER JOHNSON: Madam Chairman?
6	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Johnson?
7.	MEMBER JOHNSON: I have some questions for the
8	parties. What I'm looking at is we've got a request for a
9	deposition. And we've also got information in the record
10	regarding the court order additional evidence that was in
11	existence at the time the court order was issued.
12	Now, has that additional evidence that was in
13	existence at the time the court order was issued
14	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Could you speak up a little,
15	please?
16	MEMBER JOHNSON: I'm trying. Has that additional
17	evidence that was presented to the court been made available
18	to the Commission?
19	MS. RIKOWSKI: Yes, Commissioner, it has. Part
20	of the brief.
21	MEMBER JOHNSON: Part of the brief. But was
22	it but was it made available at the hearing, I mean, has it
23	been
24	MR. POPE: In 2007?
25	MEMBER JOHNSON: In 2007.
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1 MR. POPE: It was -- it was discovered --2 MR. FERRARIO: That was the whole --3 ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Excuse me, if you could 4 identify yourself for the court reporter? 5 MR. FERRARIO: Mark Ferrario. I'm sorry, 6 Mark Ferrario. The information was generated through the 7 discovery process in state court that both parties were 8 engaging in. And it -- the fact that we were doing that runs 9 counter to the very statements made by the attorney general 10 We were engaging in discovery at the state court today. 11 level. That information has been put in this record now. 12 What we didn't get to do was complete the 13 discovery process because Southern California Edison case came 14 down. 15 And so we now need to address the unique circumstance we find ourselves in and we need to complete that 16 17 And the only avenue we have is to do it here. process. 18 we would have no objection whatsoever to going back to an ALJ 19 to complete the record. We never had an ALJ in the first 20 instance I'd point out. 21 MR. POPE: Well, there again is a comment, 22 David Pope for the Department, is a comment about an 23 incomplete record. I have a case in front of me here that 24 talks about when -- when you can use discovery to complete a 25 record that is incomplete because of bad behavior on behalf of

the government. This is not that case. This is Tasty Duty case which is 530 F sub 786. You know, yes, we were engaged in discovery and in the District Court after the administrative revenues were exhausted.

The -- these -- the NACs that were available that were law at the time allowed these appellants to request depositions, issue subpoenas, obtain the same information, most of this information is public information. I would say the majority of it, I'm going to guess at three-quarters or at least two-thirds is legislative history which is available to everybody from LCB and regulation workshops. I mean, this stuff could have been -- it should have been discovered before they started their case.

MEMBER JOHNSON: Identify yourself.

MR. FERRARIO: Mark Ferrario again. You know, with all due respect to Mr. Pope these are the same arguments he made in court. Okay? They tried to cut us off, they want to take advantage of the clarification enunciated by the Supreme Court and stop us from getting a hearing on a complete record. And two judges have considered that. And neither judge bought their position.

And so for them to go back and say we should have done something in '07 based upon the way the world was in '07 ignores the impact of Southern California Edison. That's what I'm hearing from the State, those are the same arguments they

time the court made its decision to remand this matter back to the Commission be presented to an administrative law judge for consideration in light of the 2007 decision regarding taxpayers' request.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Thank you. We have a motion from Commissioner Johnson. Is there a second?

CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Let me ask a question,

Commissioner Johnson, I'm not sure I understand it and maybe

it's because I didn't hear well fully. Are you saying that

the evidence as it existed at the conclusion of the matter

before the Tax Comission be sent to the ALJ -- no, first -
first that we deny the motion -- the motion asked for now,

that the record go back to the ALJ and she do what, she makes

the determination of whether there should be additional

evidence taken? What -- what are you intending for her to

do -- or him to do?

MEMBER JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, what I'm recommending is that the record that was presented as it existed in the court, District Court, be considered by our administrative law judge in light of our 2007 decision and that the -- then that would be the complete record that we would be asked to review and that no further depositions be taken in this matter. And that record as it existed in District Court be the only thing that -- together what with the record that existed at the Commission be the only evidence

whether -- and take into consideration Commissioner Johnson's recent motion, whether you want to remand it back to the ALJ for consideration of the additional material that came forward before the District Court. Or whether you want to just cut it off at this point and send it back up to the District Court as being considered -- considering the material before you and -- and calling it good today.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: It appears -- the motion is going to die for a lack of a second if I don't hear one. Is there another motion?

MEMBER TURNER: I think --

CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Well, back on Commissioner

Turner's comment, I -- I somewhat agree with his position

that, you know, they weren't going to give it to us, they're

going to go up to the court and then use it against us. And

so they've kind of precluded themselves, but I don't know if

there is something that says that they have -- the judge

seemed to me to think that they maybe have some ability to add

additional evidence. And maybe that's the issue that should

be just that narrow issue is there under the rules some

evidence that could be introduce -- introduced even after they

said they were finished.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Chairman Barengo, are you asking if there's another avenue for them to present additional evidence in the current District Court case?

CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Yeah, because it's -- well, now it's a de novo on the record, it's de novo. And, you know, the court seem to want to make sure that we -- I'm not clear what the court's rulings is and I don't really understand what they were saying.

So I don't know what we're -- how to address it.

I've read and read and read -- reread and I don't just -- it

seems to me the court was just kind of saying, well, I don't

want to dismiss this case so I'll let you have -- you know,

maybe there's some additional evidence. I don't know what

that meant.

ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Jennifer, could you outline the various options that the Commission has and the taxpayers' ability to provide more evidence if we don't allow them to?

MS. CRANDALL: Okay. I -- and I hope the parties will jump in here and help me, but the way I see it you really have maybe three options. You can just consider the material -- maybe four. You can consider the material that was submitted in the briefs today, the new evidence that was submitted, this was my -- my thinking was this was the evidence that was submitted to the District Court judge and it's the evidence that's before you today that -- that Mr. Pope has outlined. You could look at that evidence and see whether or not you think it materially changes the

decision of the Commission. And if you think it doesn't change the -- doesn't change the decision, then you could just state that and send it back up to the District Court.

You could determine that new discovery is warranted and reopen it for subpoenas and depositions. And I would suggest you remand that back down to the administrative law judge for that to happen and then she consider all the new material or he and determine -- make a determination as to whether or not the decision is materially changed or not.

So I don't know if there's another option you guys see.

MR. FERRARIO: Mark Ferrario on behalf of the taxpayers. I think one thing that's gotten lost here is Judge Weiss's order so I -- Mr. Brown just handed it to me. I think we should read this. We had an application for leave to present additional evidence. That's what was in front of the judge. The State objected to that. They didn't want additional evidence. Here's what the judge said. Petitioner's application, that's the application we had to present additional evidence to the Nevada Tax Comission is granted. Granted.

So look at our petition, look what we wanted to do. And why was it granted? So this agency in light of the change in the law, Southern California Edison, can look at the additional evidence and do one of the following. Amend the

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additional evidence is -- in order for the judge to have found that additional evidence to be both material and good cause for not submitting it in 2007, the judge had looked at that evidence. Additional evidence doesn't mean a new fishing expedition. Additional evidence is to time.

MR. POPE: This is David Pope and I just -- I agree with Jennifer's two options that she gave you. The first one's going to be is that you agree with our argument that you're limited to that additional evidence that existed at the time of the hearing on the motion for remand and that the -- that the judge's order because it's written pursuant to that statute that requires the judge to make that finding materiality and good cause, that your first option would be to say yep, we're limited to that additional evidence that the judge saw that's on the CD that was presented to you and then consider that evidence and see if that changes your original decision whether you want to affirm, reverse or modify.

The second option would be to read the judge's order as opening the door to new discovery and as Ms. Rikowski said for a fishing expedition.

MR. FERRARIO: Again, I've been doing this too long and it's always funny when lawyers get in court and try to speculate as to what a judge may or may not have done when the judge saw competing orders. The judge rejected the State's competing order which they're now trying to in effect

in the application for additional evidence is all the ALJ will be considering? MEMBER JOHNSON: All of the all the new evidence, whatever evidence existed at the time of the initial decision's part of the record.	1	MEMBER TURNER: I'll second to get it off the
motion and a second and now we get to see what happens to it. Is there any other discussion on this motion, is everybody clear what it does? CHAIRMAN BARENGO: I want to make just sure Commissioner Johnson, what you're intending is is that that application to take leave of evidence, that material contained in the application for additional evidence is all the ALJ will be considering? MEMBER JOHNSON: All of the all the new evidence, whatever evidence existed at the time of the initial decision's part of the record. CHAIRMAN BARENGO: And what they'd asked, because they outlined in what they were at in their petition, so just those things? MEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct. With no new depositions. CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Thank you.	2	table.
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20 CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Thank you.	18	MEMBER JOHNSON: That's correct. With no new
	19	depositions.
21 ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Is everybody ready to	20	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: Thank you.
	21	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Is everybody ready to
vote? Let's start with Commissioner Marvel?	22	vote? Let's start with Commissioner Marvel?
MEMBER MARVEL: Aye.	23	MEMBER MARVEL: Aye.
ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Turner?	24	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Turner?
MEMBER TURNER: Aye.	25	MEMBER TURNER: Aye.
CAPITOL REPORTERS (775) 882-5322		

1	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Witt?
2	MEMBER WITT: Aye.
3	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Bersi?
4	MEMBER BERSI: No.
5	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Barengo?
6	CHAIRMAN BARENGO: No.
7	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Commissioner Johnson?
8	MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.
9	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: And acting chair votes
10	aye. Five to two, the motion passes. Thank you.
11	(Motion carries.)
12	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: And thanks to all the
13	parties.
14	MR. FERRARIO: Thank you.
15	MR. POPE: Thank you.
16	MR. NIELSEN: Madam Chair, the next agenda item
17	up for the Commission's consideration is again under the
18	Compliance Division IV-H, this is taxpayer's appeal of hearing
19	officer's decision upholding Department's denial of use tax
20	refund request/sales tax deficiencies on complimentary meals
21	and Department's partial appeal on hearing officer's decision.
22	The first item under that agenda topic is Exber,
23	Inc./El Cortez. And this there has been a request for a
24	partial closed hearing in this matter.
25	ACTING CHAIRMAN LAMBERT: Okay. Thank you.

1	STATE OF NEVADA,)) ss.
2	CARSON CITY.)
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5	I, MICHEL DOTY LOOMIS, Official Court Reporter for
6	the State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, do hereby
7	certify:
8	That on Monday, the 25th day of June, 2012, I was
9	present for the purpose of reporting in verbatim stenotype
10	notes the within-entitled closed session of the public
11	meeting;
12	That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1
13	through 201, inclusive, includes a full, true and correct
14	transcription of my stenotype notes of said closed session of
15	the public meeting.
16	
17	Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 12th day of July,
18	2012.
19	
20	Mil Younis
21	IN FOOME
22	MICHEL LOOMER NIL COD #220
23	MICHEL LOOMIS, NV CCR #228
24	
25	



BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor
ROBERT R BARENGO
Chair, Nevada Tax Commission
CHRISTOPHER G. NIELSEN
Executive Director

STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

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HENDERSON OFFICE 2550 Paseo Verde Parkway, Suite 180 Henderson, Nevada 89074 Phone: (702) 486-2300 Fax: (702) 486-3377

DECISION LETTER

September 6, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL 7012 1010 0001 5652 9354

William H. Brown, Esq. Law Offices of William H. Brown, Ltd. 6029 S. Ft. Apache Rd., Ste. 100 Las Vegas, NV 89148

CERTIFIED MAIL 7012 1010 0001 5652 9361

Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3773 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Ste. 400 N. Las Vegas, NV 89169

IN THE MATTER OF:

K-KEL, ET AL.'S OPPORTUNITY, PURSUANT TO DISTRICT COURT ORDER DATED JANUARY 24, 2012, TO PRESENT ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE TO THE NEVADA TAX COMMISSION SO THAT THE COMMISSION CAN AMEND THE FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW DATED OCTOBER 12, 2007, REVERSE THE DECISION OR AFFIRM THE DECISION, AND

CONSIDERATION OF TAXPAYER'S REQUEST FOR

SUBPOENAS FOR DEPOSITIONS

Dear Messrs. Brown and Ferrario:

The above matter came before the Nevada Tax Commission ("Commission") for hearing on June 25, 2012. Senior Deputy Attorney General David Pope and Deputy Attorney General Vivienne Rakowsky appeared on behalf of the Respondent, Department of Taxation ("Department"). For the Petitioners, Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. appeared on behalf of Shac, LLC and William H. Brown, Esq. appeared on behalf of K-Kel dba Spearmint Rhino, The Power Company dba Crazy Horse Too Gentlemen's Club, D. Westwood, Inc. dba Treasures, Olympus Garden, Inc. dba Olympic Garden, DI Food and Beverage of Las Vegas dba Scores, Déjà vu Showgirls of Las Vegas, LLC dba Déjà vu, and Little Darlings of Las Vegas LLC, dba Little Darlings. The entire record of the administrative proceedings was provided to and considered by the Commission in the proceeding, and forms the basis of these findings of fact and conclusions of law.

The Commission hereby makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- This matter was before this Commission in July and August of 2007 and, on October 12, 2007, the Commission issued Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and a Decision.
- 2. Déjà vu Showgirls of Las Vegas, LLC dba Déjà vu and Little Darlings of Las Vegas LLC, dba Little Darlings stated that they are not part of this proceeding and are not part of the Petition for Judicial Review that is before the District Court (Case #A-11-648894-J). In fact, Déjà vu and Little Darlings did not appear before this Commission in 2007, are not parties to the administrative record, were not aggrieved by the final decision and, therefore, are not parties to this proceeding and shall be stricken from the caption. NRS 233B.130.
- 3. On or about September 23, 2011, following the dismissal of their District Court case (Case #08A554970), Petitioners filed a Petition for Judicial Review in District Court (Case #A-11-648894-J) pursuant to the relevant court order dated December 19, 2011.
- 4. On or about September 28, 2011, Petitioners filed a motion pursuant to NRS 233B.131 requesting the Court grant them permission to present additional evidence to the Commission in order to supplement the administrative record with information obtained through discovery in the District Court case (Case #06A533273), i.e. documents identified as Bates Nos. DV00001 through DV001510, which were not part of the administrative record.
- 5. The Court granted the motion to present additional evidence, stating that the matter is remanded to allow the Commission to "look at additional evidence and do one of the following: Amend the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law dated October 12, 2007, Reverse the Decision, or Affirm the Decision." *District Court Order dated January 24, 2012.*
- 6. On or about June 14, 2012, in anticipation of the matter being presented to this Commission on remand, the Petitioners requested that the Department issue subpoenas in order to allow them to question three witnesses and thereafter supplement the record with what would be newly obtained testimony.
- 7. Petitioners argued that their rights to discovery, which they waited to conduct during the District Court proceedings that were dismissed, were curtailed by the decision in *Southern Cal. Edison v. First Judicial Dist. Court*, 127 Nev. Adv. Op 22, 255 P.3d 231 (May 26, 2011) which clarified that appeals of final decisions of this Commission must proceed as petitions for judicial review.
- 8. During the administrative proceeding that took place in 2007, this Commission continued the hearing for one month to allow the parties to provide all evidence that they wanted considered by the Commission. The parties were told that this was their final opportunity to supplement the record.

- Petitioners provided an additional 568 pages of evidence that was fully reviewed and considered by the Commission prior to rendering the administrative decision in October 2007.
- Petitioners were or should have been aware of the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act, NRS Chapter 233B.
- 11. In addition, NAC 360.135 and NAC 360.145 allowed Taxpayers to request subpoenas and depositions before this matter was presented to this Commission in 2007. Nonetheless, Petitioners failed to ask for subpoenas or depositions when this matter was before the Commission in 2007.
- 12. Pursuant to NRS 233B.131, when considering a motion to allow a party to present additional evidence to the Commission, a district court must determine whether the additional evidence is material and whether there are good reasons for the party to have failed to present the evidence to the Commission the first time.
- 13. In order to determine that the additional evidence is material and that there were good reasons for the failure to present the evidence to the Commission in 2007, it was necessary for the District Court Judge to have reviewed the proposed additional evidence existing at the time of the motion hearing.
- 14. At the hearing, the District Court Judge stated, "My inclination is that there is good cause and that the evidence is material, and I would prefer that the tax commission review everything before I review it." *Transcript from Motion Hearing Argued to District Court on December 9, 2011,* p, 5-6.
- 15. The Judge reasoned that, because he is limited to a review of the record of the administrative proceeding, if there is a question as to whether or not something should be in the record he is inclined to allow the administrative agency the opportunity to review it so that he has all the evidence when he performs judicial review. *Id.* at 11.
- 16. Both the Petitioners and Respondents provided competing proposed orders to the District Court Judge. Petitioners twice stated in their proposed order that discovery would be reopened and depositions allowed. The Judge did not sign the petitioner's proposed order which would have allowed the reopening of discovery and depositions.
- 17. The Judge signed an order which stated that the matter would be remanded to the Commission to allow the Commission to "look at additional evidence and do one of the following: Amend the Findings of Fact Conclusions of Law dated October 12, 2007, Reverse the Decision or Affirm the Decision." *District Court Order* dated January 24, 2012.
- 18. If any Finding of Fact is more properly classified as a Conclusion of Law, then it shall be deemed as such.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pursuant to NRS 233B.131, the District Court must find materiality in the additional evidence and good cause for the failure to present the evidence in order to allow a petitioner to supplement the administrative record with additional evidence.
- 2. The District Court found materiality with regard to Bates Nos. DV00001 through DV001510 and the administrative record shall be supplemented with these documents.
- 3. With regard to the request for additional discovery, in administrative matters discovery is allowed to the extent that the relevant regulations allow it. *Dutchess Business Servs., Inc. v. Nev. State Bd. of Pharmacy*,124 Nev. 701, 713-714, 191 P.3d 1159 (2008).
- 4. Although NAC 360.135 allows subpoenas and NAC 360.145 allows depositions, during the administrative proceedings in 2007 the Petitioners failed to ask for subpoenas or depositions and therefore waived the right to pursue these methods of discovery.
- 5. There is no due process violation because the Petitioners had the right to ask for subpoenas and depositions in 2007 and failed to do so and nothing prohibited them from requesting such discovery regardless of how they may have later chosen to proceed after receiving a final decision from the Commission.
- 6. The Commission has no obligation to reinstate the right to request subpoenas and depositions.
- 7. Pursuant to NRS Chapter 233B.130(1), the remedy for a party aggrieved by a final agency decision is judicial review.
- 8. Pursuant to the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in *Malecon Tobacco*, *LLC v. Dept. of Taxation*, 118 Nev. 837, 840-842 (2002), "as applied" constitutional challenges requiring factual determinations must be decided by the administrative agency.
- 9. Pursuant to NRS 360.245 and NRS 233B.135(3), this matter is being remanded to an Administrative Law Judge (hereinafter "ALJ") with the entire record including the additional documents obtained through discovery in the District Court case which are identified as Bates Nos. DV00001 through DV001510. The ALJ shall review the additional evidence, along with the original record, and determine whether the findings of fact, conclusions of law and final decision issued in 2007 should be amended, reversed or affirmed.
- 10. Upon appeal of the decision of the ALJ, this Commission will either affirm, reverse or modify the decision. NRS 360.245; NRS 233B.135.
- 11. If any Conclusion of Law is more properly classified as a Finding of Fact, then it shall be deemed as such.

DECISION

- 1. The requested subpoenas will not be issued and additional discovery and/or depositions will not be permitted.
- 2. The administrative record is supplemented with the additional evidence that was not considered by the Commission in 2007 but was thereafter obtained through discovery in the Disrict Court case and existing on January 12, 2012 at the time that the Court made the decision to remand the matter to the Commission, i.e. Bates Nos.DV00001 through DV001510.
- 3. This matter is remanded to an ALJ with instructions to review the additional evidence and the original record and do one of the following: amend the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision dated October 12, 2007, reverse the decision or affirm the decision.
- 4. If a party is aggrieved by the decision of the ALJ, that party may appeal the decision to this Commission pursuant to NRS 360.245.

FOR THE COMMISSION

CHRISTOPHER G. NIELSEN

Deonne E. Contine for:

Executive Director

Nevada Department of Taxation

cc: Vivienne Rakowsky, Deputy Attorney General David Pope, Senior Deputy Attorney General Blake Doerr, Senior Deputy Attorney General

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the forgoing document upon all parties of record in this proceeding by mailing a copy thereof, properly addressed, with postage prepaid to:

CERTIFIED MAIL 7012 1010 0001 5652 9354

William H. Brown, Esq. Law Offices of William H. Brown, Ltd. 6029 S. Ft. Apache Rd., Ste. 100 Las Vegas, NV 89148

CERTIFIED MAIL 7012 1010 0001 5652 9361

Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3773 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Ste. 400 N. Las Vegas, NV 89169

Dated at Carson City, Nevada, the	day <u>September</u> 2012.	
	Enin Feeres	* .
	Erin Fierro	

K-Kel, Inc. et al.

STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

n the Matter of:	
K-Kel, Inc., Olympus Garden, Inc., Shac, LLC, The Power Company, Inc., D. Westwood, Inc., D.I. Food & Beverage)) Live Entertainment Tax) Refund Requests)
of Las Vegas, LLC, Petitioners.)) <u>HEARING OFFICER'S</u>) <u>ORDER ON REMAND</u>
)

K-Kel, Inc. dba Spearmint Rhino Gentlemen's Club, Olympus Garden, Inc. dba
Olympic Garden, Shac, LLC dba Sapphire, The Power Company dba Crazy Horse Too
Gentlemen's Club, D. Westwood, Inc. dba Treasures, and D.I. Food & Beverage of Las
Vegas, LLC dba Scores (collectively as "Petitioners") operated exotic dancing
establishments or adult entertainment venues in Las Vegas, Nevada. The businesses
offered entertainment in the form of live dance performances and sold alcoholic
beverages. Petitioners charged their patrons admission charges to enter the venues.
Petitioners did not offer gaming and had occupancy ratings between 200 and 7400
persons. The businesses operated from January 2004 through April 2004.

Petitioners requested refunds of live entertainment taxes ("LET") paid to the Nevada Department of Taxation ("Department") for the periods January 2004 through April 2004. Petitioners based their refund requests on claims that 1) the LET was a facially unconstitutional tax on First Amendment activities and 2) Petitioners were exempt from paying the tax pursuant to NRS 368A.200(5)(a) because they provided "live entertainment that the State is prohibited from taxing under the Constitution, laws or treatises of the United States or Nevada Constitutions."

¹ In lieu of reciting the tortured procedural history of this matter from its inception, only the relevant events leading to this review and order will be discussed.

K-Kel, Inc. et al.

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The Department denied the refund requests and the matter proceeded on appeal to the Nevada Tax Commission ("Commission"), where the denials were upheld.2 Petitioners then appealed to the District Court. In September 2011, Petitioners requested the District Court grant them the opportunity to submit 1510 pages of additional documents into the record. The District Court remanded the matter to the Commission to review the additional documents and determine whether those documents changed the Commission's October 12, 2007 decision.

During their June 25, 2012 presentation to the Commission regarding the District Court remand and the additional documents, Petitioners requested the Commission grant them the opportunity to depose three witnesses. Their request was denied. By its decision letter dated September 6, 2012, the Commission referred this matter to the undersigned "with the entire record including the additional documents obtained through discovery in the District Court case which are identified as Bates Nos. DV00001 through DV001510. The ALJ shall review the additional evidence, along with the original record, and determine whether the findings of fact, conclusions of law and final decision issued in 2007 should be amended, reversed or affirmed."

Upon learning that this matter had been referred to the undersigned, Petitioners submitted a letter to the undersigned dated August 13, 2013 in which Petitioners renewed their requests for depositions and requested further unspecified discovery.3 Petitioners also requested a hearing before the undersigned because Petitioners "would not presume to impose such a task," the task of reviewing the additional 1510 pages of documents, on the undersigned. Rather, Petitioners would use the hearing to "distill and

² Petitioners' Refund Requests have been consolidated on appeal.

³ Petitioners based this request on an argument that the Commission's September 12, 2012 written decision did not accurately reflect the Commission's oral decision. Petitioners have had 11 months to challenge the September 12, 2012 order or to request clarification from the Commission. They have chosen not to do so and this is not the proper forum for that issue.

clarify exactly what portions of these documents are relevant, and why."

Notwithstanding Petitioners' attempt to avoid a review by the undersigned of the very documents which Petitioners fought so hard to include in the record and despite Petitioners' surprising admission that the documents are to some degree repetitious, unclear, and irrelevant, the undersigned has reviewed the 1510 pages as ordered by the Commission.

Petitioners' additional documents included extensive legislative and regulatory histories surrounding the enactment and subsequent amendment of NRS 368A and the corresponding provisions of NAC 368A. Petitioners also included legislative history regarding SB 247 (2005), which was intended to amend 368A but was not enacted. Finally, the production included documents generated by the Department: requests for information from taxpayers concerning the LET, informational letters and educational materials regarding the LET, various statistical breakdowns concerning non-gaming LET revenue collected by the Department, and internal memoranda responding to requests for statistical information regarding LET.

Petitioners have not offered any persuasive legal support for their argument that this tax on admission charges and sales runs afoul of the First Amendment. Rather, their arguments appear to be based upon the idea that the Department's application of the tax discriminates against Petitioners' adult entertainment venues in some respect, or that the tax itself is so burdensome to Petitioners as to imperil their freedom of speech and expression. These new arguments indicate that sometime after filing their Refund Requests, Petitioners shifted their focus from a facial challenge of the LET to an asapplied challenge. A facial challenge is a "claim that a statute is always unconstitutional on its face- that is, that it always operates unconstitutionally." Black's Law Dictionary 244 (8th ed. 2004). An as-applied challenge is a "claim that a statute is unconstitutional on the facts of a particular case or in its application to a particular party." Id. When

Petitioners asked the court to examine factually how the LET impacts one business versus another, Petitioners proposed an as-applied challenge to the LET.

In this regard, Petitioners alleged that they bore a disproportionate tax burden, presumably because their adult entertainment venues paid more LET than did other non-gaming entertainment venues. While they may have paid more LET in absolute terms when compared to other non-gaming venues, Petitioners have failed to develop any facts to show that this was unconstitutional in some respect.

LET is an excise tax which functions like a sales tax on the gross receipts from admission charges and retail sales of prepared food, alcohol and merchandise. LET is imposed as a fixed percentage of the gross receipts from admission charges and sales. Therefore, a business with more revenue from admission charges and sales will necessarily pay more LET than a business with less revenue from admission charges and sales. If Petitioners paid more in LET, it was only because they generated more revenue from sales and admission charges than did other entertainment venues. In absolute terms, Petitioners' LET liability increased as their sales and admissions revenue increased. In relative terms, Petitioners' LET liability was identical to that of the next taxpayer.

Since LET is imposed upon gross receipts as opposed to net receipts, it may disproportionately impact a business with narrow operating margins unless the tax is passed on to or borne by patrons or consumers. Petitioners have not alleged that they had narrow operating margins or that there were any practical or legal impediments that prevented them from passing the tax burden on to their patrons as allowed by NRS 368A. To the contrary, their sales figures would suggest that their patrons happily shouldered the burden of the tax.

In their efforts to show that they paid more LET than other entertainment venues, Petitioners have actually undermined their own arguments that the LET is punitive or

discriminatory. If the LET were punitive or discriminatory toward Petitioners, one would reasonably expect Petitioners' receipts from admissions and sales to have declined as compared to the admissions and sales of competing entertainment venues. Petitioners have not shown that their admissions and sales declined relative to those of competing entertainment venues, nor have they attempted to show that such a decline will likely occur in the future. Petitioners cannot demonstrate that the LET unconstitutionally burdens adult entertainment because they cannot show that the application of the tax puts their venues at a competitive or commercial disadvantage when compared with other entertainment venues. Likewise, Petitioners cannot demonstrate that the tax is so burdensome that it imperils free speech and freedom of expression at their venues. To the contrary, the tax appears to have had no discernible impact upon Petitioners' ability to conduct live dance performances at their venues.

Petitioner's also argued there was an illicit intent on the part of the legislature to target the tax toward adult entertainment venues. The Commission's October 12, 2007 decision specifically addressed Petitioners' allegations of an illicit legislative motive and held that "[m]ention by legislators of taxability of live entertainment under a proposed bill that was subsequently enacted does not prove that the bill was enacted because of disagreement with the message provided by live adult entertainment." Petitioners' presentation of more pages of legislative history does not alter this conclusion. With regard to the legislative history pertaining to SB 247 (2005) which was not enacted, the Commission ruled that "[s]tatements by legislators with respect to a bill that would have taxed live adult entertainment as a separate class, where the bill did not pass, does not prove the intent of a separate bill that did not select live entertainment." Petitioners' second presentation of the same information and argument does not change the Commission's conclusion.

Neither Petitioners' documents nor their as-applied constitutional challenges

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compel amendments to the Commission's October 12, 2007 decision. Petitioners failed to allege or demonstrate incorrect application of the LET provisions to Petitioners or that the Department applied a peculiar interpretation of the LET to Petitioners. Other than the more expansive LET statistics presented, there are no additional facts to assist in determining if Petitioners have been subjected to an unconstitutional application of LET. And the few additional facts presented fail to establish Petitioners' claims. Frankly, it is difficult to imagine that there might be facts to support Petitioners' assertions. Petitioners' position that the Nevada legislature enacted the LET in an attempt to suppress entertainment in Nevada, the lifeblood of this tourism-dependent state, borders on the absurd.

<u>ORDER</u>

Based upon the foregoing, and GOOD CAUSE APPEARING THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that:

- 1. Petitioners' August 13, 2013 requests that the undersigned exceed the scope of the Commission's September 6, 2012 decision by: 1) convening a hearing in this matter, 2) allowing Petitioners to depose three witnesses, and 3) allowing Petitioners to engage in additional unspecified discovery are denied.
- Petitioner's additional documents Bates DV000001 through DV001510 are insufficient to change the October 12, 2007 decision of the Commission. The Commission's October 12, 2007 decision is hereby affirmed.

DATED this ______ day of August, 2013.

Dena C. Smith

Administrative Law Judge

APPEAL RIGHTS

You may appeal this decision to the Nevada Tax Commission provided that you file a notice of appeal within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this decision upon you. Although notice of the appeal need not be in any particular format, it must be in writing, must clearly state your desire to appeal this decision, and must be filed with the executive staff of the Department of Taxation within thirty (30) days after the date of service of this decision. In this regard, you are advised to mail or personally deliver any notice of appeal to the attention of

Lezlie Helget, Supervising Auditor II Nevada Department of Taxation 1550 College Parkway, Suite 115 Carson City, Nevada 89706

Pursuant to NRS 360.245, this decision will become final thirty (30) days after service upon you unless you file a notice of appeal within those thirty (30) days.

All the above general information is provided to you pursuant to NRS 360.2925 and as a matter of courtesy only. You, or your counsel, should ascertain with more particularity the regulatory or statutory requirements pertinent to your further appeal rights.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing Hearing Officer's Order on Remand in the matter of K-Kel, Inc. et. al. Live Entertainment Tax Refund Request, upon all parties of record in this proceeding as follows:

By mailing a copy thereof via certified mail, properly addressed, with postage prepaid to:

Certified Mail: 7011 2000 0001 5246 0539 William H. Brown, Esq. Law Offices of William H. Brown, Ltd. 6029 S. Ft. Apache Rd., Ste. 100 Las Vegas, NV 89148

Certified Mail: 7011 2000 0001 5246 0546 Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3773 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Ste. 400 N. Las Vegas, NV 89169

By electronic mail to:

William H. Brown, Esq. at wbrown@lambrosebrown.com

Mark E. Ferrario, Esq. at ferrariom@gtlaw.com

Vivienne Rakowsky, Deputy Attorney General, Counsel for Nevada Department of Taxation, at VRakowsky@ag.nv.gov

Christopher G. Nielsen, Executive Director, Nevada Department of Taxation

Nevada Tax Commission Members

Dated at Henderson, Nevada, this _____ day of August, 2013.

Shory Work Signature