

## Comment on A.C. Casinos Opening

*For immediate release:*

June 22, 2020

**Comment from Jane Bokunewicz, interim coordinator of the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute for Gaming, Hospitality and Tourism at Stockton University:**

Allowing casinos to re-open in time for 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, traditionally one of the busiest of the year, is fantastic news for the casino industry, the employees, the casino customers and the businesses that depend on the casinos.

In the past two years Atlantic City's Casinos made 30% of their total net revenue for the year in the third quarter (July-September), so the next three months are crucial for them to regain some financial stability.

It is reassuring to see the precautionary measures of capacity restrictions and the solid plans casino operators have announced. Customers must feel safe if they are to return and it is important for casino operators to remain diligent in ensuring guest compliance with all safety standards.

Las Vegas recently amended the voluntary policy on mask wearing for table game players to make it a requirement because of social distancing concerns. New Jersey has been a model for the country in opening businesses cautiously and safely, which has resulted in continued decline in the number of positive COVID-19 cases.

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