



COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Unit 13 & 14, Springs Plaza, Chalan Pale Arnold, Gualo Rai
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: +1 (670) 233-1857/58
Facsimile: +1 (670) 233-1856
E-mail: info@cnmicasinocommission.com



Juan M. Sablan, Chairman
Joseph C. Reyes, Vice Chairman
Ramon M. Dela Cruz, Secretary
Alvaro A. Santos, Treasurer
Diego M. Songao, Public Affairs

COMMISSION ORDER NO: 2019-001

Order Stating Executive Director's Authority Over Hiring of Commission Staff and Authorizing Executive Director to Promulgate the Terms and Conditions of Commission Staff's Employment

For good cause determined at the January 30-31, 2019 public meeting of the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), which was duly publicly noticed, and based on the authority granted by the laws of the Commonwealth (including but not limited to Public Laws 18-56 and 19-24) and the Regulations of the Commission, NMIAC Chapter 175-10.1, the Commission hereby finds and **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Casino Commission was created, in its present form, by the Commonwealth Legislature pursuant to Public Law 18-56 as it has from time to time been amended; and,
2. WHEREAS, Public Law 18-56, as it has from time to time been amended, created the position of the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission; and,
3. WHEREAS, among his other duties, the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission is the head of the administration of the Commission, and subject to the general oversight and direction of the Commission, organizes the work of the Commission in a manner that will ensure its efficient and effective operation; and,
4. WHEREAS, subject to the budgetary authority of the Commission, the Executive Director is granted the statutory authority to hire and terminate such staff, including a legal counsel and other professionals, necessary to carry out the purpose of the Commonwealth's gaming laws; and,

5. WHEREAS, The Executive Director shall have such other duties as may be assigned or delegated by the Commission; and,
6. WHEREAS, it is a long-standing policy of the Commission, reflected in Commission Regulation 175-10.1-165, that "The Executive Director shall be responsible for the employment and termination of Commission employees. Members of the Commission are responsible only for the employment of the Executive Director and shall not interfere with the Executive Director's employment decisions. The Executive Director shall create, and from time to time, update, an employee handbook or manual which reflect the Commission's personnel policies."
7. WHEREAS, the Commission staff hired and overseen by the Executive Director are statutorily exempt from the Civil Service; and,
8. WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth has recently issued an opinion confirming the Commission staff's exempt status and confirming that the present regulations promulgated by the Civil Service Commission for the Excepted Service do not apply to the Commission staff; and
9. WHEREAS, the Commission deems it prudent to issue an Order stating the Executive Director's Authority over the hiring of Commission staff and, insofar as it may be necessary or advisable, authorizing the Executive Director to promulgate the terms and conditions of the employment of Commission staff; NOW, THEREFORE,
10. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission is responsible for the hiring, oversight of, and termination of employment of the Commission's staff;
11. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission is empowered to create, and from time to time modify, the terms and conditions of employment of all Casino Commission Staff; and
12. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Casino Commission shall create, and from time to time, update, an employee handbook or manual which reflect the Commission's personnel policies; and
13. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Chairman or the Executive Director shall take steps necessary to ensure that this Order is published in the Commonwealth Register; and

14. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that this Order is to take effect immediately or at the earliest time allowed by law, whichever first occurs, and shall remain in effect until it is repealed or replaced by subsequent Order of the Commission.

SO ORDERED this 31st day of January, 2019.

Signature:  _____
JUAN M. SABLAN
CHAIRMAN