

Jeff Coy's Statement

On 7/14/08 I rec'd a call from Dwight Evans..the call..I took it at my home. I have known Dwight for many years as a result of my service in the House of Representatives. Over the years it has not been unusual for him to call me concerning any number of topics although those calls have not taken place recently. Therefore, when he called that morning, there was nothing unusual concerning, for me, about getting a call from him. That morning, after general pleasantries, Dwight stated that, as I know, he supports minority participation in the ownership of casinos as well as in all aspects of gaming; and in the PITG project in particular, because it was the only minority-owned casino. He stated that he wanted to make sure that Don Barden was treated fairly in the process. The entire call was brief and lasted no more than about 2 minutes. I did not initiate the call; I did not engage in any conversation about the merits of the matter before the Board or in any way express my opinions or views about the PITG matter. I want to be very clear that Dwight did not ask me to vote in favor of this deal, or Mr. Barden, or PITG, and I certainly do not feel that I was being pressured to do so. I took the call as simply a reiteration of what Dwight has stated many times before about his commitment to diversity and his support of diversity in all matters of gaming. Nothing new was stated. Now although I do not believe the call was ex parte in nature in the sense of discussing the merits of anything before the Board, I decided that I would have it logged in much in the same manner as the Chair did. I talked to the Chief Counsel. The call has now been logged in, and I did this not so much because I thought it was ex parte, as I did it out of an abundance of caution in the process. I fully believe that the call I received from Rep. Evans will not influence me to vote in any particular way once the matter is presented to the Board, and will not interfere with my ability to make a fair and impartial decision in considering the record and to act in accordance with the provisions of the act. I will state that after hearing your discussion with the Chair, that I think it's appropriate, as the Chair stated with you, that I consider this, during the process, as part of a...of the recusal process. And I will do that. I will commit to doing that, but I do not believe that because of his call in this time that it has influenced me in any way.

(transcribed by Lauren Williams, Office of Senator Jane M. Earll, 7/30/08)