

SAY NO TO THE CASINO CIVIC ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 24, 2024

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Say NO Calls on IG to Investigate County's Efforts to Win Casino Bid Court Orders Should be Followed Conflicts of Interest and Financial Relationships Should be Disclosed

Mineola, NY: Following County Executive Bruce Blakeman's disregard for court rulings and baseless attacks on Hofstra University due to its opposition to the proposed massive predatory casino, the Say NO to the Casino Civic Association has issued the following statement:

"We call on the Nassau County Inspector General, Jodi Franzese, to do a thorough investigation into the aggressive tactics County Executive Blakeman is using to push a colossal, predatory casino into our community. Blakeman has made repeated, groundless attacks against Hofstra University. Hofstra demonstrated successfully in court that the County violated laws put in place to ensure the process to transfer land control of the Nassau HUB was done in an open, transparent manner. The Court has ruled the lease transfer is null and void and the process needs to start over. We ask the Inspector General to investigate how the County Legislature violated two important laws when they improperly approved the lease transfer so as to prevent such violations from happening in the future.

If the County believed that the email printed in Newsday on Jan 11, 2024, represented any wrongdoing, they would have subpoenaed those whose names were on the email. We wonder why the County hasn't. We also wonder who's name was blacked out on the email in question. Who is being protected?

Blakeman's attacks have failed to deflect focus from the fact that Hofstra's legal win has put Las Vegas Sands' casino bid in jeopardy. Nor have they distracted the public from noticing that most who spoke in favor of the casino at the Town of Hempstead hearing on January 18 represent organizations that receive or stand to receive funding from the County and/or incentives from Las Vegas Sands (LVS). If this process is to be fair, Nassau County, the Town of Hempstead, LVS, and their supporting organizations can start by disclosing the names of all organizations and individuals supporting the project who have or will receive money and incentives from the County, LVS, or both. These organizations and individuals have an obvious conflict of interest and should fully disclose such when they advocate in public hearings. The public has a right to know when support for the casino is genuine and when it is manufactured."

We encourage all who are against the proposed casino to submit written comments to the Town of Hempstead through this link: <https://hempsteadny.gov/1044/Public-Comments> by February 20. Residents can also sign up for updates and send an opposition letter to the New York State Gaming Commission at <https://form.jotform.com/233377955558170>. Visit our website www.nocasinonassau.org to learn more and get involved.

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* *Say No to the Casino Civic Association* is a non-partisan group, composed of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents from across Nassau County, who have come together with one goal: to stop the Las Vegas Sands Casino proposal. The group believes that a casino will have an unequivocally negative impact on our community and irrevocably change the character of our county. The group believes that a casino will lead to an increase in crime, gambling addiction, bankruptcy and home foreclosure rates; exacerbate traffic problems; impact our natural environment including air and water quality; depress home values; and strain law enforcement. We invite everyone in Nassau County to join us and get involved by signing our petition on our new website, www.nocasinonassau.org, joining our Facebook group, and following us on Twitter and Instagram, @NoCasinoLI.