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STATION CASINOS: MAKE CASINO JOBS SAFE!

Dear Station Casinos:

We, the undersigned public health professionals attending the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA) in Denver, Colorado, are writing to express our concerns about working conditions at Station Casinos – the third largest private employer in Las Vegas and owner of 10 casino resorts.

Every year, the APHA's annual meeting brings together over 12,000 public health professionals – including researchers, scientists, policymakers, city and state health department officials, government agency staff, healthcare providers, worker advocates, safety professionals and many others – to share and learn the latest scientific findings.

At this year's meeting, a presentation by Dr. Diana Romero and Kathleen Flandrick (MPH) of the City University of New York (CUNY), titled *On-the-Ground Health and Safety Experiences of Non-Union Casino Workers*, raises serious concerns about working conditions at Station Casinos and their implications on the health and safety of workers.

The research, which is based on focus group and survey data collected from 61 workers at Station Casinos' properties in 2015, described "a grim picture of work conditions related to employee health and safety risks" at the company's casino hotels. We are concerned that these findings describe ongoing and potential future health and safety concerns for the workers.

The study reveals findings that are of particular concern to public health professionals. For example, 84.6% of respondents said that first aid supplies were not easily available at work.

Due to these and additional findings pertaining to the lack of proper supplies, faulty equipment, issues surrounding breaks and meal periods, understaffing, lack of training, a perception of discrimination, and exposures that negatively affect the health of employees, we believe an immediate intervention is necessary.

Guided by the study findings, and our own professional expertise in occupational health, we call on Stations Casino to fulfill its responsibilities as an employer regarding workplace health and safety by taking the steps below:

- Review and assure compliance with existing organizational and governmental regulations pertaining to the health and safety of employees, including state-mandated breaks, and OSHA standards.



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- Provide employees with adequate supplies, maintain equipment in proper operating form, and establish all the conditions necessary for employees to safely perform their jobs.
- Implement organizational change starting at the highest levels of management that encourages an atmosphere in which supervisors understand the benefits that improved worker health and safety can have on business, such as lower administrative and training expenses.

Station Casinos, protect the health and safety of your employees IMMEDIATELY!

Sincerely,

Name	Title/Position	Affiliation
Karla Armenti, MS, SCD	Program Director / Research Professor	UNH Occupational Health Surveillance Program
Abigail Steiner	Epidemiologist	Denver Public Health
Diane Bush	Program Coordinator	Labor Occupational Health Program – UC Berkeley
Isabel Cuervo	Sr. Research Associate	Barry Commoner Center for Health and Environment – Queens College CUNY
Robin Dewey	Program Coordinator	Labor Occupational Health Program – UC Berkeley
Katherine Kirkland	Executive Director	Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics
Grace Barlet		Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics
Sharon D. Beard	Industrial Hygienist	
Ann Backus	Outreach Director	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Education and Research Centers
Jane Thomason	Industrial Hygienist	
Kevin Riley	Director of Research	UCLA - Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program
Linda Delp	Program Director	UCLA - Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program
Brianna Singleton	Nurse	UC San Francisco
Sarah Jacobs	Public Health Coordinator	UCLA - Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program
Sara Brooks	Industrial Hygienist	CPWR
Art Wickman	Industrial Hygienist	Georgia Tech
Gail Bateson	Toxics Policy Coordinator	Worksafe
Emily Spare	Post-doctoral	Havard Chan School of Public Health

Barbara Berney	Associate Professor of Public Health	CUNY School of Public Health
Marsha Love	Health Educator	University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health
Jason Craig	Public Health Researcher	University of South Carolina School of Public Health
Jonathan Rosen	Industrial Hygienist	National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training
Jean Grassman	Health and Safety Coordinator/Faculty	Professional Staff Congress/CUNY
Kathleen Rest	Executive Director	Union of Concerned Scientists
Jeanette Zoekler		Occupational Health Clinical Center, SUNY Upstate
Walter Jones	Assistant Director, Occupational Safety and Health Division	Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America
Lee Newman	Professor	Colorado School of Public Health
Natalie Schwatka	Instructor	Colorado School of Public Health
Rachel Rubin, MD	Senior Medical Officer	Cook County Department of Public Health
Michael R. Gray	Internal Medicine and Toxicology, MD, MPH, CIME	Benson Community Hospital
Amber Mitchell	President	International Safety Center
Lucy Galindo	Health and Safety Specialist	Northwestern University
Laura Stock	Director	Labor Occupational Health Program – UC Berkeley
Mike Wilson	Health Initiative Director	BlueGreen Alliance
Antonio Tovar	Pesticide Poison Investigator	Florida Department of Health
Ans Irfan	Science and Tech Occupational Fellow	CHEJ
Matt London		Occupational Health Internship Program
Michelle Hathaway	Graduate Student	Occupational Health Internship Program
Al Vega	Interim Executive Director	MassCOSH / USW 9358
Fernando Tapia	Health and Safety Trainer	UFCW IU
Gavin West	Research Analyst	CPWR

Bethany Boggess	Researcher/ Organizer	Workers Defense Project
Stephanie Myers	Masters of Public Health	SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Eleanor Rogan	Professor	University of Nebraska Medical Center
Julie Dunlap	Research Assistant	Meharry Medical College
Richard Campbell	Public Health Research	
Cora Roelofs		CR Consulting/Research
Craig Slatin	Professor	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Michael Lax	Professor	SUNY Upstate Medical University
Alberto Caban	Professor	University of Miami
Sherry Baron	Professor	CUNY NYC
Celeste Monforton	Professor/Lecturer	Texas State University
Mitchel Rosen, PhD		
Marianne Sullivan	Associate Professor	William Patterson University
Jamie Tessler	Research Project Manager	Northeastern University
Judith Daltuva	Research Specialist	University of Michigan
Jolanta Kruszelnicka	Adjunct Professor	LIU Brooklyn, CUNY
Alfreda Holloway-Beth	Assistant Professor	Chicago State University
Dyann Waugh	MD	
Denise Patel	MPH	
Peter Dooley	NCOSH Coordinator	
Deborah Gold		American Public Health Association
Pamela Vossen	Director of Health and Safety	American Public Health Association
John Morawetz		ICWUC
Michelle Grisat	Director of Research and Education	
Suzanne Marria	Attorney	Cal Labor Attorneys
Nancy Lessin	Senior Staff	United Steelworkers Tony Mazzocchi Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Education
Doug Myers	Assistant Professor	West Virginia University
Rossana Coto-Batres	Masters of Social Work	Occupational Health Internship Program
Roger Gonzalez	Public Health Student	UNMC - Occupational Health Internship Program
Jose Vega	Nurse	St. Joseph College
David Wegman	Professor, MD	UMass Lowell

Robyn Robbins	Safety and Health Director	UFCW
Deborah Weinstock	Consultant	
Diana Romero	Associate Professor	CUNY School of Public Health
Kathleen Flandrick	MPH	CUNY School of Public Health
Eugenia Curet	Assistant Dean	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine
Mary Miller	RN	
Caron Peper	Research Analyst	Indiana University
Aurora Le	Academic Specialist	Indiana University
Suzanne Mager	Attorney	
Steve Mooser	Director of Health and Safety	RWDSU
Mark Catlin	Industrial Hygienist	SEIU
Dean Baker	Professor	University of California Irvine
Laurel Kincl	Professor	Oregon State University
Liz Geltman	Associate Professor	CUNY School of Public Health
Ingela Dahlgren	Director	SEIU Nurse Alliance of California
Katherine Hughes	RN-Labor Liaison	SEIU
Gayle Batiste	Nurse/President	SEIU 121
Sarah Kemble	MD, MPH	VA Central Western Massachusetts
Jacob Bueno de Mesquita	PhD Student	University of Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health
Nancy Simcox		University of Washington
Jonathan Corbin	MPH	Queens College CUNY
Luz S. Marin	Assistant Professor	Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Luis Vazquez	Education Coordinator	ICWUC
Jane Park	Doctor	Seoul National University
Joseph Zanoni	Director of Continuing Education	University of Illinois Chicago
Beth Rosenberg	Assistant Professor	Tufts University
Lida Orta-Anés	Professor	University of Puerto Rico
Thomas Robins	Professor	University of Michigan