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SUGARHOUSE CASINO WINS RIGHT TO BUILD FACILITY ON DELAWARE AVENUE SITE

Supreme Court Rules Legislative Requirements for Construction Have Been Met

PHILADELPHIA: HSP Gaming, LP, the parent company of the SugarHouse Casino, today welcomed the decision of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court granting their request that the City of Philadelphia accept applications and issue building permits for the Casino buildings. With the Court's decision, the Casino plans to break ground in the coming weeks.

"We are extremely pleased by today's decision because it will allow us to begin construction almost immediately," said Bob Sheldon, the President of SugarHouse Casino. "We thank the Supreme Court for acting on our petition quickly and all of the thousands of people from across the City of Philadelphia who have expressed support for our project."

On October 25th, SugarHouse Casino filed a petition asking the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to declare that the requirements for building SugarHouse Casino have been met and to order the City of Philadelphia to process its permit applications and issue the permits necessary to build SugarHouse's facility on Delaware Avenue.

In their petition, SugarHouse argued that in the original gaming act, the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board was given sole regulatory authority over the location of casinos in the City of Philadelphia. However, delays in City Council were effectively being used to nullify the decision of the Gaming Board despite the fact that SugarHouse had met all the requirements enumerated in the original act and in the City of Philadelphia's zoning legislation.

In the order, the Supreme Court wrote, "We conclude that the undisputed documentation establishes the deliberate inaction by Council for the purposes of delay" and "that the site approved by the Gaming Board for the SugarHouse Casino is declared zoned as a Commercial Entertainment District." The Court also directed the City to "take all actions necessary to implement the relief granted, including making all

necessary changes to City records, maps and plans, and receiving, reviewing and acting upon all applications from HSP in the ordinary course and in compliance with this Court's order."

"We are gratified by this decision and excited about the opportunities ahead," said Sheldon. "We remain committed to working with our neighbors to reach agreement on a community benefits agreement and look forward to creating thousands of new jobs and generating millions of dollars in new tax revenues for the city and commonwealth."

The Supreme Court's decision comes nearly one year after the SugarHouse Casino was selected to receive a gaming license by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, six months after its' Plan of Development was unanimously approved by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and legislation to allow construction was introduced in City Council and three months after SugarHouse agreed to a Development Agreement with the City of Philadelphia.

About HSP Gaming

HSP Gaming is a limited partnership created to bring gaming to Philadelphia. Collectively, the partners bring more than 100 years of development and community experience to the project, having developed, constructed, and operated casinos, luxury hotels, and other hospitality businesses around the world, including Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort, the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Water Tower Place in Chicago, Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, and many Four Seasons Hotels, including Philadelphia, Chicago, and Sydney, Australia. For more information, please visit www.sugarhousecasino.com.

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