

Pennsylvania H.B.P.A. Inc.

Board members I am John Wames President of the Pa. Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. Our organization represents over 2500 owners and trainers who race at Penn National race course. I am here on behalf of our organization to convey our support of Penn National race track receiving a category 1 license. Given their track record in the gaming industry how could anyone not support them as an applicant. It is clear to horsemen by the title of the act, "The Pa. Race Horse Development and Gaming Act" that the legislators were intent on preserving and enhancing the live horse racing industry. Revenue derived from this act will not only enhance live horse racing, it will enhance the breeding industry and it will improve the living and working conditions of the many people who are employed at the racetrack. Racing is driven by purses and Penn National has advanced our horsemen more than four million dollars to supplement our purses. However we still have not been able to keep pace with the race tracks in surrounding states that have slots. Purses at those tracks have lured away many of the better horses and owners. When our race tracks receive their gaming licenses this situation will be reversed and Pa. will become one of the premier racing states in the country. In closing I would like to point out one more benefit of this act. Over ninety percent of the people who work on the backside of the race track currently do not have health insurance or a pension plan. When revenue from the slots is directed to the purse account four percent of that total will go towards health and pension. It is our hope the Board will issue this license as soon as possible to achieve the desired intent of the act that revitalizes the Race Horse industry

Thank you

Ono Volunteer Fire Company



Office of the Clerk
Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board
PO Box 69060
Harrisburg, PA 17106

**Re: Class 1 Gaming License for Mountainview Thoroughbreds, Inc.
(Penn National Gaming)**

WRITTEN COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EVIDENTIARY RECORD OF THE PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

I request that the following comments be made part of the public input hearing record and considered by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board prior to awarding licenses for slot operators:

Name: Gail Smith, President, Ono Volunteer Fire Company
Address:

The Ono Volunteer Fire Company serves East Hanover Township in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. We also provide first due emergency services to the Penn National Race Track in Grantville, along with our neighboring fire company, the Grantville Volunteer Fire Company. Part of the Penn National Race Track facility is located in our township in Lebanon County.

Our volunteer fire company runs a pumper/tanker and a 100 foot aerial ladder truck as our primary emergency apparatus. We fight fires, respond to motor vehicle accidents, and provide the ladder truck emergency services for the northwest area of Lebanon County. We also provide emergency medical services with a Quick Response Service vehicle. We continue to be prepared to respond to any fire or public emergencies that may occur at the Penn National Race Track when the facility is expanded for gaming.

Our response area also includes the first stretch of Interstate 81 heading east from Grantville, until it reaches Interstate 78. With increased traffic to the Penn National Race Track, we expect that there will be times of additional congestion and a higher likelihood of vehicle accidents. We are prepared to continue to respond to any motor vehicle accidents that may occur as a result of the licensing of the Penn National Gaming facility.

We believe the local emergency response services are sufficient to address the expansion of the Penn National Gaming Facility.

I, Gail P. Smith verify that the information contained in this written comment is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.