

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA GAMBLING CONTROL COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application for Approval
of Third-Party Proposition Player Services
Employee Type License Regarding:

DERIA ROBERSON

Applicant.

BGC Case No. BGC-HQ2024-00023AL

CGCC Case No. CGCC-2024-1010-9

DECISION AND ORDER

Hearing Date: January 23, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

This matter was heard by the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission) pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 19870 and 19871, and title 4, California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 12060, via Zoom video conference, on January 23, 2026.

Applicant Deria Roberson (Roberson) was not represented and did not attend the evidentiary hearing.

Vivian Cho, Deputy Attorney General, State of California (DAG Cho), represented complainant Yolanda Morrow, Director of the Department of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Control (Bureau).

During the evidentiary hearing, Presiding Officer Kate Patterson (PO Patterson), Attorney IV of the Commission, took official notice and admitted into the administrative record the following documents: the Commission’s Notice and Agenda of Commission Hearing; the Commission’s Conclusion of Prehearing Conference letter; the Commission’s Notice of Hearing with attachments (A) Roberson’s Initial Application for Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License, and (B) the Bureau’s Level III Third-Party Worker Initial Background Investigation Report; the Bureau’s Statement of Reasons; and Roberson’s signed Notice of Defense form.

During the evidentiary hearing, PO Patterson accepted into evidence the following exhibits offered by the Bureau without objection from Roberson:

- (1) Exhibits 1-11, Bates Nos. BGC 0001-0100, offered by the Bureau and identified on the Bureau’s Exhibit List.

1 PO Patterson closed the administrative record and the matter was submitted for decision
2 on January 23, 2026.

3 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

4 **Procedural History**

5 1. On or about October 19, 2023, the Bureau received an Initial Application for Third-
6 Party Proposition Player Services (TPPPS) Employee Type License and TPPPS Worker:
7 Supplemental Information form (collectively, Application) from Roberson to work as a third-
8 party worker for L.E. Gaming, Inc. (LE Gaming), a licensed TPPPS.

9 2. On or about November 8, 2023, the Commission issued temporary TPPPS worker
10 license TPWK-007339 to Roberson. Roberson's temporary TPPPS worker license was cancelled
11 by the Commission's Executive Director on October 10, 2024.

12 3. On or about August 7, 2024, the Commission received a Level III Third-Party Worker
13 Initial Background Investigation Report (Background Report) on Roberson from the Bureau. In
14 the Background Report, the Bureau states that Roberson has an outstanding Failure to Appear
15 (FTA) and Failure to Pay (FTP) in the State of Nevada stemming from Vehicle Code violations.
16 The Bureau states that Roberson also has an outstanding warrant due to the FTA and FTP. The
17 Bureau states that Roberson's active warrant and failure to provide proof of attempts to clear it
18 with the court demonstrate that Roberson has a blatant disregard for the law. The Bureau also
19 states that Roberson has failed to establish eligibility and qualification for licensure. Based on the
20 foregoing, the Bureau recommends that the Commission deny Roberson's Application.

21 4. On October 10, 2024, the Commission voted to refer the consideration of Roberson's
22 Application to a Gambling Control Act (GCA or Act) evidentiary hearing pursuant to CCR
23 sections 12054(a)(4) and 12060. The Commission also voted to direct the Commission's
24 Executive Director to cancel Roberson's temporary TPPPS worker license pursuant to CCR
25 section 12128(a)(2).

26 5. On or about October 14, 2024, the Commission sent a notice of its referral of
27 Roberson's Application to a GCA hearing with a Notice of Defense form to Roberson and her
28 Designated Agent (DA) via certified mail and U.S. regular mail. The Commission also sent a

1 notice of its cancellation of Roberson’s temporary TPPPS worker license to Roberson and her DA
2 via certified mail and U.S. regular mail.

3 6. On or about November 5, 2024, the Commission received a signed Notice of Defense
4 form from Roberson requesting an evidentiary hearing on the consideration of her Application.

5 7. On September 25, 2025, the Commission sent a Notice of Hearing via certified mail
6 and email to Roberson, and via email to DAG Cho. The hearing was set for January 23, 2026, at
7 10:00 a.m. The Prehearing Conference was set for December 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

8 8. On December 9, 2025, a Prehearing Conference was held before PO Patterson.
9 Roberson was not represented and did not attend the Prehearing Conference. DAG Cho attended
10 on behalf of the Bureau.

11 9. On December 9, 2025, PO Patterson sent a Conclusion of Prehearing Conference letter
12 to Roberson via U.S. mail and email, and to DAG Cho via email.

13 10. On or about December 12, 2025, the Bureau sent a Statement of Reasons to Roberson
14 and the Commission via email. In the Statement of Reasons, the Bureau states that Roberson has
15 an outstanding FTA and FTP in the Henderson Municipal Court in Nevada stemming from
16 Vehicle Code violations on November 18, 2021. The Bureau states that Roberson also has an
17 outstanding warrant due to the FTA and FTP. The Bureau states that Roberson owes fines in the
18 amount of \$4,110. The Bureau also states that as of October 7, 2024, Roberson’s warrant was still
19 active and that she failed to provide proof of her attempts to clear it with the court. The Bureau
20 states that Roberson demonstrated a blatant disregard for the law, failed to establish that she is a
21 person of good character, honesty, and integrity, and failed to establish that her prior activities,
22 criminal record, and habits do not pose a threat to the public interest of this state or to the
23 effective regulation and control of controlled gambling. As a result, the Bureau alleges one cause
24 for the denial of Roberson’s Application: Roberson’s Application is subject to mandatory and/or
25 discretionary denial because Roberson is unsuitable for licensure. Based on the foregoing, the
26 Bureau requests that the Commission deny Roberson’s Application.

27 11. The Commission heard this matter via Zoom video conference on January 23, 2026.

28 ///

1 **Roberson Failed to Attend the Evidentiary Hearing**

2 12. Roberson failed to attend the evidentiary hearing and Prehearing Conference despite
3 submitting a Notice of Defense form requesting an evidentiary hearing on the consideration of her
4 Application. Additionally, Roberson did not submit any information or evidence in support of her
5 Application during the evidentiary hearing.

6 **Roberson’s Employment History in Controlled Gambling**

7 13. Roberson worked as third-party worker for LE Gaming from October 24, 2023, to
8 October 10, 2024, when the Commission’s Executive Director canceled her temporary TPPPS
9 worker license.

10 14. There was no evidence presented that Roberson has any derogatory employment
11 history while working in controlled gambling.

12 **Roberson’s FTA, FTP, and Warrant**

13 15. During its background investigation, the Bureau determined that Roberson has an
14 outstanding FTA and FTP stemming from Vehicle Code violations in Nevada on November 18,
15 2021. Roberson also has an outstanding warrant due to the FTA and FTP. As a result of the FTA
16 and FTP, Roberson owes fines in the amount of \$4,110.

17 16. On December 6, 2023, in response to an inquiry by the Bureau, Roberson’s DA
18 Melissa Ezaki (DA Ezaki) sent an email to the Bureau providing: “Deria [Roberson] said she
19 contacted the court and is going on a payment plan so the warrant should be revoked.”

20 17. On December 7, 2023, the Bureau confirmed with the Henderson Municipal Court in
21 Nevada that Roberson’s warrant was still active and would not be cleared until Roberson filed a
22 motion to see the judge.

23 18. On January 9, 2024, in response to a follow-up inquiry by the Bureau, DA Ezaki
24 wrote to the Bureau: “[Roberson] contacted the court and she received approval from the judge
25 for an appearance waiver.”

26 19. Also on January 9, 2024, the Bureau confirmed with the Henderson Municipal Court
27 in Nevada that there was no indication that the court had heard from Roberson since February
28 2023 and that Roberson’s warrant will not be cleared or waived until she appears in front of the

1 judge.

2 20. On February 6, 2024, in response to another follow-up inquiry by the Bureau, DA
3 Ezaki wrote to the Bureau that Roberson’s response regarding her warrant was: “I had a meeting
4 with a traffic attorney so that they can represent me for a court date due to me living out of state.
5 The attorney will be able to have me placed on a payment plan so that the warrant can be
6 cleared.”

7 21. On May 22, 2024, the Bureau confirmed with the Henderson Municipal Court in
8 Nevada that Roberson’s FTA and FTP were still outstanding.

9 22. On October 7, 2024, the Bureau confirmed that Roberson’s warrant was still active.

10 **Joseph Rosa’s Testimony During the Evidentiary Hearing**

11 23. Joseph Rosa (Rosa) started working for the Bureau in 2018 as a Staff Services
12 Analyst. Rosa has been a supervisor for the third-party provider unit of the Bureau since May
13 2024. As a supervisor, Rosa manages four analysts who perform background investigations for
14 TPPPS owners and workers. Rosa reviews background investigation reports and manages case
15 investigations. Rosa testified that he is familiar with Roberson’s Application and the Bureau’s
16 Background Report and investigation documents.

17 24. Rosa testified that Roberson has an outstanding FTA, FTP, and warrant due to the
18 FTA and FTP. Roberson’s FTA and FTP arose out of charges for driving without a license, not
19 having insurance, and having an expired vehicle registration. Rosa testified that the Bureau
20 reached out to Roberson and provided her with time to clear the warrant, but Roberson failed to
21 do so. Rosa testified that while Roberson said that she worked on clearing the warrant, the Bureau
22 could not verify whether Roberson actually talked to the court. Rosa testified that the Bureau’s
23 recommendation to deny Roberson’s Application is based on her blatant disregard for the law and
24 failure to establish eligibility and qualifications for licensure.

25 25. In response to an inquiry by the Commissioners, Rosa testified that he determined that
26 there were no active warrants for Roberson as of January 23, 2026, but he does not know when
27 the warrant was cleared.

28 ///

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Assessment of Roberson’s Suitability for Licensure

26. For the reasons provided below, the Commission finds that Roberson has failed to meet her burden of proving her qualifications for licensure. The Commission also finds that Roberson is disqualified from licensure. Therefore, causes exist to deny Roberson’s Application.

Roberson failed to meet her burden of proving her qualifications for licensure

27. The burden is on the applicant to demonstrate their qualifications and suitability for licensure. Roberson did not attend the evidentiary hearing despite submitting a Notice of Defense form requesting an evidentiary hearing on the consideration of her Application. As a result, DAG Cho and the Commissioners were not able to ask Roberson any questions during the hearing. Additionally, Roberson’s failure to attend and testify during the hearing deprived the Commissioners from receiving and considering any testimony from Roberson and evaluating her demeanor while testifying under oath. Further, Roberson did not submit any information or evidence in support of her Application during the hearing. As a result of Roberson’s failure to attend and participate in the evidentiary hearing, and her failure to submit any information or evidence in support of her Application during the hearing, Roberson has failed to meet her burden of proving her qualifications for licensure. Therefore, Roberson’s Application is subject to denial pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 19856 and 19857, and CCR section 12040(a)(1).

Roberson supplied information that is untrue and misleading as to a material fact pertaining to the qualification criteria

28. An applicant’s outstanding FTA, FTP, and warrant for their arrest are facts material to their qualifications of licensure. For instance, they may affect the assessment of the applicant’s general character, honesty, integrity, and/or ability to participate in controlled gambling. They may lead to a finding that the issuance of a license to such an applicant would be inimical to public health, safety, or welfare, or undermine public trust that the gambling operations with respect to which the license would be issued are free from criminal and dishonest elements, and would be conducted honestly. They may be sufficient to support a factual finding and legal conclusion that the applicant poses a threat to the public interest of this state, to the effective

1 regulation and control of controlled gambling, or creates or enhances the dangers of unsuitable,
2 unfair, or illegal practices, methods, and activities in the conduct of controlled gambling or in the
3 carrying on of the business and financial arrangements thereto.

4 29. Roberson provided untrue and misleading information to the Bureau regarding her
5 efforts to address her outstanding FTA, FTP, and warrant and the clearing of her warrant as
6 follows:

7 (A) On December 6, 2023, Roberson stated to the Bureau through DA Ezaki that she
8 “contacted the court and is going on a payment plan so the warrant should be
9 revoked.” However, on December 7, 2023, the Bureau confirmed with the
10 Henderson Municipal Court in Nevada that Roberson’s warrant was still active and
11 would not be cleared until Roberson filed a motion to see the judge. Additionally,
12 on January 9, 2024, the Bureau confirmed with the court that there was no
13 indication that the court had heard from Roberson since February 2023.

14 (B) On January 9, 2024, Roberson stated to the Bureau through DA Ezaki that she
15 “contacted the court and she received approval from the judge for an appearance
16 waiver.” However, also on January 9, 2024, the Bureau confirmed with the
17 Henderson Municipal Court in Nevada that there was no indication that the court
18 had heard from Roberson since February 2023 and that Roberson’s warrant will
19 not be cleared or waived until she appears in front of the judge.

20 (C) On February 6, 2024, Roberson stated to the Bureau through DA Ezaki that she
21 “had a meeting with a traffic attorney so that they can represent me for a court date
22 due to me living out of state. The attorney will be able to have me placed on a
23 payment plan so that the warrant can be cleared.” However, the Bureau confirmed
24 that Roberson’s warrant was still active on October 7, 2024, eight months after she
25 stated that she will be placed on a payment plan so that the warrant can be cleared.

26 30. By supplying untrue and misleading information to the Bureau during its background
27 investigation regarding her efforts to address her outstanding FTA, FTP, and warrant, and the
28 supposed clearing of her warrant, Roberson supplied information that is untrue and misleading

1 regarding material facts pertaining to the qualification criteria for licensure. As a result,
2 Roberson's Application is subject to denial pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
3 19859(b) and CCR section 12040(a)(2).

4 **Roberson failed to meet her burden of demonstrating that she is a person of good character,**
5 **honesty, and integrity**

6 31. An applicant demonstrates good character, honesty, and integrity by providing
7 truthful, accurate, and complete responses on their application, in response to Bureau inquiries
8 during the Bureau's background investigation, and while testifying during the evidentiary
9 hearing. An applicant demonstrates good character and integrity by complying with the law. An
10 applicant also demonstrates good character and integrity by accepting responsibility for their
11 actions and taking affirmative steps to remedy legal obligations stemming from past criminal
12 behavior.

13 32. Conversely, an applicant demonstrates a lack of good character, honesty, and integrity
14 by omitting pertinent information, and providing untrue, misleading, and/or contradictory
15 information on their application, in response to Bureau inquiries, and while testifying during the
16 evidentiary hearing. An applicant demonstrates a lack of good character and integrity by failing to
17 comply with the law. An applicant also demonstrates a lack of good character and integrity by
18 failing to take responsibility for their actions and take affirmative steps to remedy legal
19 obligations stemming from past criminal behavior.

20 33. Roberson demonstrated a lack of good character, honesty, and integrity by providing
21 untrue and misleading information to the Bureau during its background investigation as provided
22 above in paragraph 29(A) through (C). By failing to attend and participate in the evidentiary
23 hearing, Roberson did not address the untrue and misleading statements that she made to the
24 Bureau during its background investigation or provide any information or evidence demonstrating
25 that she is a person of good character, honesty, and integrity.

26 34. Therefore, based on the foregoing, Roberson failed to meet her burden of
27 demonstrating that she is a person of good character, honesty, and integrity. By failing to meet her
28 burden of demonstrating that she is a person of good character, honesty, and integrity, Roberson's

1 Application is subject to denial pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19857(a) and
2 CCR section 12040(a)(1).

3 35. All documentary and testimonial evidence submitted by the parties that is not
4 specifically addressed in this Decision and Order was considered but not used by the Commission
5 in making its determination on Roberson’s Application.

6 **LEGAL CONCLUSIONS**

7 **Applicable Statutes and Regulations**

8 1. The GCA is an exercise of the police power of the state for the protection of the
9 health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of California, and shall be liberally construed
10 to effectuate those purposes. Business and Professions Code section 19971.

11 2. Public trust and confidence can only be maintained by strict and comprehensive
12 regulation of all persons, locations, practices, associations, and activities related to the operation
13 of lawful gambling establishments. Business and Professions Code section 19801(h).

14 3. The Commission has the responsibility of assuring that licenses, approvals, and
15 permits are not issued to, or held by, unqualified or disqualified persons, or by persons whose
16 operations are conducted in a manner that is inimical to the public health, safety, or welfare.
17 Business and Professions Code section 19823(a)(1).

18 4. An “unqualified person” means a person who is found to be unqualified pursuant to
19 the criteria set forth in Section 19857, and “disqualified person” means a person who is found to
20 be disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth in Section 19859. Business and Professions Code
21 section 19823(b).

22 5. The Commission shall have all powers necessary and proper to enable it fully and
23 effectually to carry out the policies and purposes of this chapter. Business and Professions Code
24 section 19824.

25 6. The Commission has the power to deny any application for a license, permit, or
26 approval for any cause deemed reasonable by the Commission. Business and Professions Code
27 section 19824(b).

28 ///

1 7. The Commission has the power to take actions deemed to be reasonable to ensure that
2 no ineligible, unqualified, disqualified, or unsuitable persons are associated with controlled
3 gambling activities. Business and Professions Code section 19824(d).

4 8. The burden of proving his or her qualifications to receive any license from the
5 Commission is on the applicant. Business and Professions Code section 19856(a); CCR section
6 12060(j).

7 9. An application to receive a license constitutes a request for a determination of the
8 applicant's general character, integrity, and ability to participate in, engage in, or be associated
9 with, controlled gambling. Business and Professions Code section 19856(b).

10 10. In reviewing an application for any license, the commission shall consider whether
11 issuance of the license is inimical to public health, safety, or welfare, and whether issuance of the
12 license will undermine public trust that the gambling operations with respect to which the license
13 would be issued are free from criminal and dishonest elements and would be conducted honestly.
14 Business and Professions Code section 19856(c).

15 11. No gambling license shall be issued unless, based on all of the information and
16 documents submitted, the Commission is satisfied that the applicant is a person of good character,
17 honesty, and integrity. Business and Professions Code section 19857(a).

18 12. No gambling license shall be issued unless, based on all of the information and
19 documents submitted, the Commission is satisfied that the applicant is a person whose prior
20 activities, criminal record, if any, reputation, habits, and associations do not pose a threat to the
21 public interest of this state, or to the effective regulation and control of controlled gambling, or
22 create or enhance the dangers of unsuitable, unfair, or illegal practices, methods, and activities in
23 the conduct of controlled gambling or in the carrying on of the business and financial
24 arrangements incidental thereto. Business and Professions Code section 19857(b).

25 13. The Commission shall deny a license to any applicant who is disqualified for failure of
26 the applicant to provide information, documentation, and assurances required by this chapter or
27 requested by the chief, or failure of the applicant to reveal any fact material to qualification, or the
28 supplying of information that is untrue or misleading as to a material fact pertaining to the

1 qualification criteria. Business and Professions Code section 19859(b).

2 14. An application will be denied if the Commission finds that the applicant has not
3 satisfied the requirements of Business and Professions Code section 19857. CCR section
4 12040(a)(1).

5 15. An application will be denied if the Commission finds that any of the provisions of
6 Business and Professions Code section 19859 apply to the applicant. CCR section 12040(a)(2).

7 16. The hearing need not be conducted according to technical rules relating to evidence
8 and witnesses. Any relevant evidence may be considered, and is sufficient in itself to support a
9 finding, if it is the sort of evidence upon which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely upon in
10 the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule that
11 might make improper the admission of the evidence over objection in a civil action. Business and
12 Professions Code section 19871(a)(4); CCR section 12060(g)(2).

13 17. An applicant for licensing or for any approval or consent required by this chapter,
14 shall make full and true disclosure of all information to the department and the commission as
15 necessary to carry out the policies of this state relating to licensing, registration, and control of
16 gambling. Business and Professions Code section 19866.

17 18. The Bureau relies, in large part, on the applicant's disclosures while conducting a
18 background investigation. The failure to honestly, accurately, and completely disclose
19 information on an application and during the Bureau's background investigation subverts the
20 Bureau's efforts to conduct a thorough and complete investigation. Business and Professions
21 Code sections 19826(a) and 19866.

22 19. Both the substance of an applicant's disclosures, and the truthfulness and
23 thoroughness of an applicant's disclosures, are considered by the Bureau in making a
24 recommendation as to the applicant's suitability for licensure, and by the Commission in making
25 a determination whether to approve or deny a license application. Business and Professions Code
26 sections 19824(a) and (d), 19826(a), and 19866.

27 ///

28 ///

1 **Denial of Roberson’s Application**

2 20. Roberson failed to meet her burden of proving her qualifications for licensure.
3 Therefore, Roberson’s Application is subject to denial pursuant to Business and Professions Code
4 sections 19856 and 19857 and her Application must be denied pursuant to CCR section
5 12040(a)(1).

6 21. Roberson supplied information that is untrue and misleading regarding material facts
7 pertaining to the qualification criteria for licensure. Therefore, Roberson is disqualified from
8 licensure pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 19859(b) and her Application must
9 be denied pursuant to CCR section 12040(a)(2).

10 22. Roberson failed to meet her burden of demonstrating that she is a person of good
11 character, honesty, and integrity. Therefore, Roberson is unqualified for licensure pursuant to
12 Business and Professions Code section 19857(a) and her Application must be denied pursuant to
13 CCR section 12040(a)(1).

14 **NOTICE OF APPLICANT’S APPEAL RIGHTS**

15 Roberson has the following appeal rights available under state law:

16 CCR section 12064, subsections (a) and (b) provide, in part:

17 (a) After the Commission issues a decision following a GCA hearing conducted
18 pursuant to Section 12060, an applicant denied a license, permit, registration, or
19 finding of suitability, or whose license, permit, registration, or finding of
20 suitability has had conditions, restrictions, or limitations imposed upon it, may
request reconsideration by the Commission. A request for reconsideration must
be:

21 (1) Made in writing to the Commission, copied to the Complainant. The
Bureau may provide a written response to the Commission within 10 calendar days
22 of receipt of the request; and

23 (2) Received by the Commission and Complainant within 30 calendar days of
service of the decision, or before the effective date specified in the decision,
24 whichever is earlier.

25 (b) A request for reconsideration must state the reasons for the request, which
must be based upon either:

26 (1) Newly discovered evidence or legal authorities that could not reasonably
27 have been presented before the Commission’s issuance of the decision or at the
hearing on the matter; or,
28

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

(2) Other good cause which the Commission may decide, in its sole discretion, merits reconsideration.

Business and Professions Code section 19870, subdivision (f) provides:

A decision of the commission after an evidentiary hearing, denying a license or approval, or imposing any condition or restriction on the grant of a license or approval may be reviewed by petition pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure. Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to any judicial proceeding held to consider that petition, and the court may grant the petition only if the court finds that the action of the commission was arbitrary and capricious, or that the action exceeded the commission's jurisdiction.

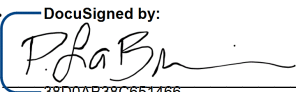
CCR section 12066, subsection (c) provides:

A decision of the Commission denying an application or imposing conditions or restrictions on a license after an evidentiary hearing will be subject to judicial review as provided in Business and Professions Code section 19870, subdivision (f). Neither the right to petition for judicial review nor the time for filing the petition will be affected by failure to seek reconsideration.


ORDER

1. Deria Roberson’s Application for Third-Party Proposition Player Services Employee Type License is DENIED.
2. No costs are awarded.
3. Each side to pay its own attorneys’ fees.

This Order is effective on April 20, 2026.

Dated: 3/19/2026 Signature: 
DocuSigned by: 38D0AB38C651466...
 Paula LaBrie, Chair

Dated: 3/19/2026 Signature: 
DocuSigned by: 2B4CE9520F8845C...
 Eric Heins, Commissioner

Dated: 3/19/2026 Signature: 
DocuSigned by: 7722F4571420449...
 William Liu, Commissioner

Dated: 3/19/2026 Signature: 
DocuSigned by: 14B4AD3B90F8462...
 Edward Yee, Commissioner