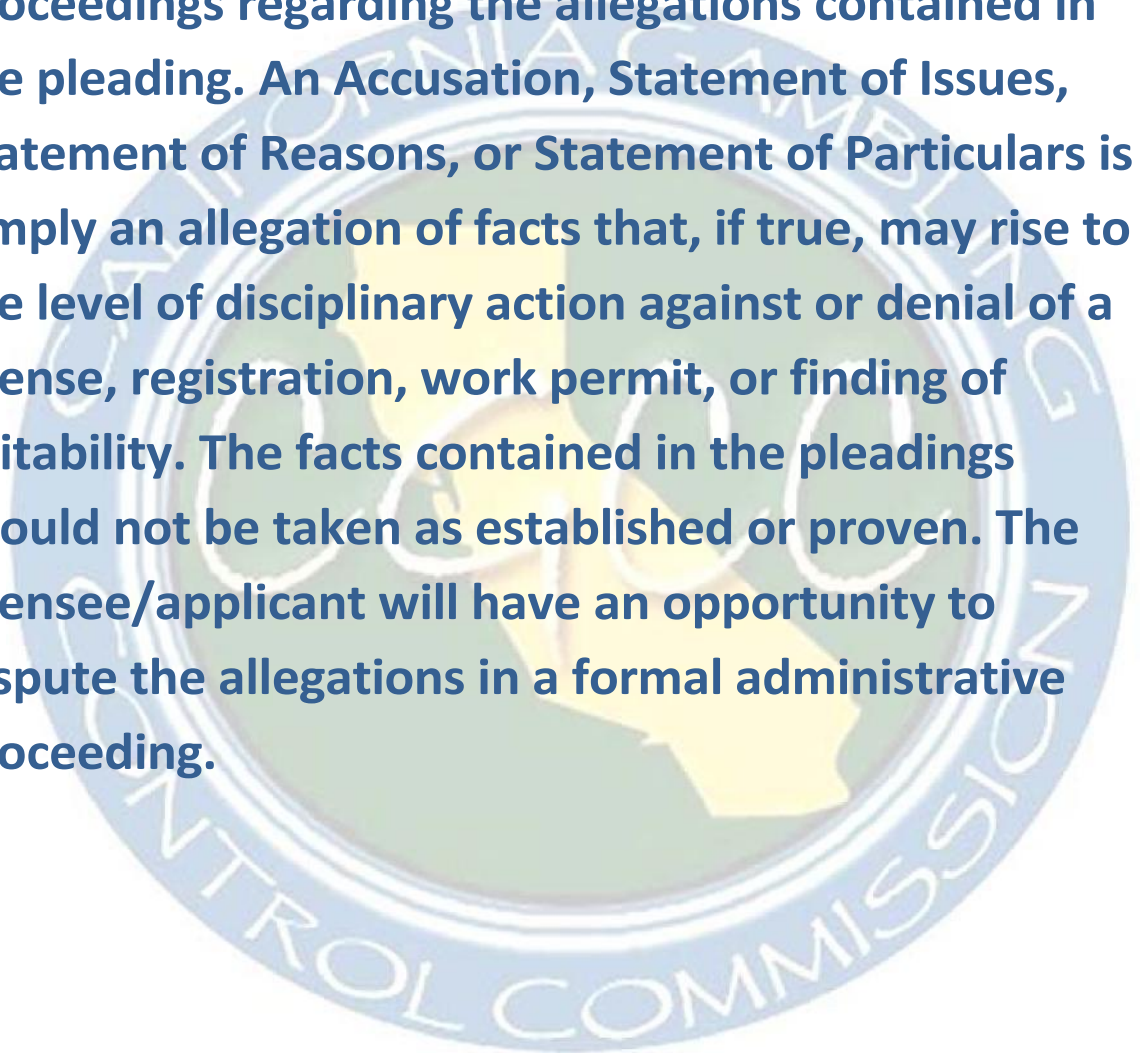


The Commission is providing a copy of this pleading (Accusation, or Statement of Reasons, Statement of Particulars, or Statement of Issues) so the public is as informed as possible of pending administrative proceedings regarding the allegations contained in the pleading. An Accusation, Statement of Issues, Statement of Reasons, or Statement of Particulars is simply an allegation of facts that, if true, may rise to the level of disciplinary action against or denial of a license, registration, work permit, or finding of suitability. The facts contained in the pleadings should not be taken as established or proven. The licensee/applicant will have an opportunity to dispute the allegations in a formal administrative proceeding.



RECEIVED

By CGCC Legal Division at 4:14 pm, Apr 17, 2023

1 ROB BONTA
Attorney General of California
2 SARA J. DRAKE
Senior Assistant Attorney General
3 T. MICHELLE LAIRD
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
4 NEIL D. HOUSTON
Deputy Attorney General, SBN 168058
5 1300 I Street, Suite 125
P.O. Box 944255
6 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
Telephone: (916) 210-7812
7 Fax: (916) 327-2319
E-mail: Neil.Houston@doj.ca.gov
8 *Attorneys for Complainant*

9
10 **BEFORE THE**
11 **CALIFORNIA GAMBLING CONTROL COMMISSION**
12 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

13
14 In the Matter of the Statement of Reasons for
Denial of Application for Approval of Third-
15 Party Proposition Player Services Supervisor
License for:

16
17 **MATTHEW PATRICK STEARNS**

18
19 TP Supervisor License No. TPSU-001971

20
21 **Respondent.**

BGC Case No. BGC-HQ2022-00017SL

CGCC Case No: CGCC-2022-0721-7C

22 **STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Hearing Date: June 1, 2023
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.
Hearing Place: 2399 Gateway Oaks, Ste. 100,
Sacramento, CA 95833

**This hearing will be conducted by means of
video conferencing on Zoom. The Zoom
meeting code is 285 757 8614**

23
24 Complainant alleges as follows:

25 **PARTIES**

26 1. Yolanda Morrow (Complainant) brings this Statement of Reasons solely in her
27 official capacity as Director of the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Gambling Control
28 (Bureau).

1 2. Matthew Patrick Stearns (Respondent) is an applicant for approval of a Third-Party
2 Proposition Player Services (TPPPS) Supervisor License.

3 **THE APPLICATION AND THIS PROCEEDING**

4 3. On October 28, 2021, the Bureau received an initial application for a TPPPS
5 Supervisor License for Respondent (Application) for Global Player Services, Inc. The
6 Application included a Commission Key Employee or TPPPS Supervisor Supplemental
7 Information form (CGCC-CH2-08 (New 05/20) (Supplemental Information Form). On October
8 22, 2021, the Bureau received an Appointment of Designated Agent form from Respondent
9 identifying Lisa Rodrigues as Respondent’s designated agent. Lisa Rodrigues had acknowledged
10 this appointment on October 7, 2021. On October 28, 2021, Respondent was issued Temporary
11 Third-Party Proposition Player Services Supervisor License Number TPSU-001971, which is
12 valid through October 31, 2023.

13 4. The Bureau conducted an initial background investigation with respect to the
14 Application. Respondent’s Supplemental Information Form disclosed that Respondent had been
15 convicted of violating Vehicle Code section 23153(a), driving under the influence of
16 alcohol/drugs causing bodily injury, a misdemeanor, in Ventura County Superior Court Case
17 Number 2013030003. On May 15, 2014, Respondent was placed on probation for a period of
18 three years and was ordered to serve 10 days in jail and pay specified restitution to the victim.
19 The court records appear to indicate that Respondent failed to comply with the terms of probation
20 and that a Notice of Charged Violations of Probation and Declaration of Probably Cause was filed
21 on January 20, 2015, but there is no indication that action was taken upon this notice, and, on
22 December 22, 2016, the Probation Officer recommended that probation be terminated pursuant to
23 Penal Code section 1203.3 and the conviction expunged pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.4.
24 The Court granted Respondent’s petition for relief under Penal Code section 1203.4 on March 2,
25 2017.¹

26 ¹ Because this conviction has been dismissed pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.4, and
27 this particular offense is not, per se, a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, the Bureau is not
28 asserting this conviction as a ground for denial under Business and Professions Code section
19859, subdivision (d).

1 5. Respondent's Supplemental Information Form also disclosed that Respondent had
2 been removed or prohibited from entering the premises of a gambling establishment. Respondent
3 stated that during the Pandemic, Respondent, with others, attempted to act as a "player/bank" at
4 Commerce Casino, and was asked to leave and "to come back in 3 months." During the course of
5 its investigation, the Bureau requested and received information from Commerce Casino
6 concerning an incident that occurred at the Casino on May 18, 2021, involving an individual
7 identified as Kawamoto who withdrew \$60,000 in chips from his player bank account and
8 allegedly provided Respondent and one other individual with \$20,000 chips (each), after which
9 Respondent and the other individual wagered at various tables in the Casino and were
10 subsequently observed returning chips to Kawamoto. Respondent was identified from
11 surveillance video and the Shift Manager advised that Respondent, Kawamoto, and the third
12 individual were to be permanently barred when they returned to the Casino. Respondent returned
13 to the Commerce Casino the next day, and was informed that he was barred from the Casino.

14 6. On December 12, 2021, Respondent responded to the Bureau's request for further
15 information concerning matters disclosed in his Supplemental Information Form, and provided a
16 statement concerning his misdemeanor conviction.

17 7. On January 14, 2022, Respondent responded to the Bureau's request for further
18 information concerning the circumstances that led to Respondent being barred from the
19 Commerce Casino. Respondent stated that he and a couple of friends decided to get some money
20 together and attempt to bank Blackjack and Baccarat games at Commerce Casino. Respondent's
21 statement is generally consistent with the information provided by Commerce Casino.

22 8. On May 31, 2022, representatives of Bureau met with Respondent and his Designated
23 Agent, Lisa Rodrigues by telephone and informed them generally of the basis for the Bureau's
24 recommendation to deny Respondent's application for licensure.

25 9. On May 31, 2022, the Bureau issued its Third Party Supervisor Initial Background
26 Investigation Report recommending that Respondent's application be denied on the ground that
27 Respondent had been convicted of a misdemeanor, had participated as an unlicensed TPPPS
28 provider, and had been prohibited from entering a gambling establishment.

1 **FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL**

2 **(Failure to Establish Qualification for Licensure)**

3 15. As described in paragraphs 5, 7, and 10, above, on May 18, 2021, Respondent
4 together with two other individuals engaged in providing third party proposition player services at
5 Commerce Casino in violation of applicable provisions of the Gambling Control Act and
6 regulations propounded thereunder. By acting in the manner described herein, Respondent has
7 failed to establish that Respondent is a person of good character, honesty, and integrity, and has
8 further failed to establish that Respondent’s prior activities, criminal record, and habits do not
9 pose a threat to the public interest of this state, or to the effective regulation and control of
10 controlled gambling. The Application is therefore subject to discretionary denial under Business
11 and Professions Code section 19857.

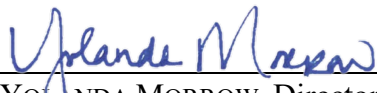
12 (Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 19856, 19857, subs. (a) & (b), 19984; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 4, §12005.)

13 **PRAYER**

14 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
15 and that following the hearing, the Commission issue a decision:

- 16 1. Denying Respondent’s Application for Approval of a Third-Party Proposition Player
17 Services Supervisor License; and
18 2. Taking such other and further action as the Commission may deem appropriate.

19
20 Dated: April 17, 2023



YOLANDA MORROW, Director
Bureau of Gambling Control
California Department of Justice
Complainant

1 APPENDIX A

2 **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE**

3 1. Business and Professions Code section 19811, subdivision (b), provides:

4 Jurisdiction, including jurisdiction over operation and
5 concentration, and supervision over gambling establishments in this
6 state and over all persons or things having to do with the operation of
gambling establishments is vested in the commission.

7 2. Business and Professions Code section 19823 provides:

8 (a) The responsibilities of the commission include, without
9 limitation, all of the following:

10 (1) Assuring that licenses, approvals, and permits are not
11 issued to, or held by, unqualified or disqualified persons, or by
persons are conducted in a manner that is inimical to the public
health, safety, or welfare.

12 (2) Assuring that there is no material involvement,
13 directly or indirectly, with a licensed gambling operation, or
14 the ownership or management thereof, by unqualified or
disqualified persons, or by persons whose operations are
conducted in a manner that is inimical to the public health,
safety, or welfare.

15 (b) For the purposes of this section, “unqualified person” means
16 a person who is found to be unqualified pursuant to the criteria set
17 forth in Section 19857, and “disqualified person” means a person who
is found to be disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth in Section
19859.

18
19 3. Business and Professions Code section 19824 provides, in part:

20 The commission shall have all powers necessary and proper to
21 enable it fully and effectually to carry out the policies and purposes of
this chapter,^{3]} including, without limitation, the power to do all of the
22 following:

23 * * *

24 (b) For any cause deemed reasonable by the commission, deny
25 any application for a license, permit, or approval provided for in this
chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, limit,
26 condition, or restrict any license, permit, or approval, or impose any
fine upon any person licensed or approved. The commission may
condition, restrict, discipline, or take action against the license of an

27 ³ “Chapter” refers to Business and Professions Code, division 8, chapter 5, (commencing
28 with section 19800), also known as the Gambling Control Act.

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

individual owner endorsed on the license certificate of the gambling enterprise whether or not the commission takes action against the license of the gambling enterprise.

* * *

(d) Take actions deemed to be reasonable to ensure that no ineligible, unqualified, disqualified, or unsuitable persons are associated with controlled gambling activities.

4. Business and Professions Code section 19853, subdivision (a), provides in part:

The commission, by regulation or order, may require that the following persons register with the commission, apply for a finding of suitability as defined in subdivision (i) of 19805, or apply for a gambling license:

* * *

(3) Any person who does business on the premises of a licensed gambling establishment.

5. Business and Professions Code section 19856 provides:

(a) Any person who the commission determines is qualified to receive a state license, having due consideration for the proper protection of the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the State of California and the declared policy of this state, may be issued a license. The burden of proving his or her qualifications to receive any license is on the applicant.

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

(c) In reviewing an application for any license, the commission shall consider whether issuance of the license is inimical to public health, safety, or welfare, and whether issuance of the license will 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.

1 6. Business and Professions Code section 19857 provides:

2 No gambling license shall be issued unless, based on all of the
3 information and documents submitted, the commission is satisfied that
4 the applicant is all of the following:

5 (a) A person of good character, honesty, and integrity.

6 (b) A person whose prior activities, criminal record, if any,
7 reputation, habits, and associations do not pose a threat to the public
8 interest of this state, or to the effective regulation and control of
9 controlled gambling, or create or enhance the dangers of unsuitable,
10 unfair, or illegal practices, methods, and activities in the conduct of
11 controlled gambling, or in the carrying on of the business and financial
12 arrangements incidental thereto.

13 (c) A person that is in all other respects qualified to be licensed
14 as provided in this chapter.

15 7. Business and Professions Code section 19870 provides:

16 (a) The commission, after considering the recommendation of the
17 chief^{4]} and any other testimony and written comments as may be
18 presented at the meeting, or as may have been submitted in writing to
19 the commission prior to the meeting, may either deny the application
20 or grant a license to an applicant who it determines to be qualified to
21 hold the license.

22 (b) When the commission grants an application for a license or
23 approval, the commission may limit or place restrictions thereon as it
24 may deem necessary in the public interest, consistent with the policies
25 described in this chapter.

26 (c) When an application is denied, the commission shall prepare
27 and file a detailed statement of its reasons for the denial.

28 (d) All proceedings at a meeting of the commission relating to a
 license application shall be recorded stenographically or by audio or
 video recording.

 (e) A decision of the commission 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 described in the
 foregoing sentence, 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.

4 "Chief" refers to the Director of the Bureau. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 19805, subd. (d).)

1 8. Business and Professions Code section 19871 provides:

2 (a) The commission meeting described in Section 19870 shall be
3 conducted in accordance with regulations of the commission and as
4 follows:

5 (1) Oral evidence shall be taken only upon oath or
6 affirmation.

7 (2) Each party shall have all of the following rights:

8 (A) To call and examine witnesses.

9 (B) To introduce exhibits relevant to the issues
10 of the case.

11 (C) To cross-examine opposing witnesses on
12 any matters relevant to the issues, even though the
13 matter was not covered on direct examination.

14 (D) To impeach any witness, regardless of
15 which party first called the witness to testify.

16 (E) To offer rebuttal evidence.

17 (3) If the applicant does not testify in his or her own behalf,
18 he or she may be called and examined as if under cross-
19 examination.

20 (4) The meeting need not be conducted according to
21 technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Any relevant
22 evidence may be considered, and is sufficient in itself to support a
23 finding, if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons
24 are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless
25 of the existence of any common law or statutory rule that might
26 make improper the admission of that evidence over objection in a
27 civil action.

28 (b) Nothing in this section confers upon an applicant a right to
discovery of the department's⁵ investigative reports or to require
disclosure of any document or information the disclosure of which is
otherwise prohibited by any other provision of this chapter.

9. Business and Professions Code section 19871 provides:

Notwithstanding any other law, a licensed gambling enterprise
may contract with a third party for the purpose of providing
proposition player services at a gambling establishment, subject to the
following conditions:

⁵ "Department" refers to the Department of Justice. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 19805, subd.
(h).)

1 (a) Any agreement, contract, or arrangement between a gambling
2 enterprise and a third-party provider of proposition player services
3 shall be approved in advance by the department, and in no event shall
a gambling enterprise or the house have any interest, whether direct or
indirect, in funds wagered, lost, or won.

4 (b) (1) The commission shall establish reasonable criteria for,
5 and require the licensure and registration of, any person
6 or entity that provides proposition player services at
7 gambling establishments pursuant to this section,
8 including owners, supervisors, and players. The
9 commission may impose licensing requirements,
10 disclosures, approvals, conditions, or limitations as it
deems necessary to protect the integrity of controlled
gambling in this state, and may assess, and the
department may collect, reasonable fees and deposits as
necessary to defray the costs of providing this regulation
and oversight.

11 (2) A person who owns or is employed by a third-party
12 provider of proposition player services, including, but
13 not limited to, an owner, supervisor, observer, or player,
14 shall wear a badge that clearly identifies them as
providing proposition player services, in a location that
allows for public view, at all times while in a gambling
establishment for which their third-party proposition
player services company has a current contract.

15 (c) The department, pursuant to regulations of the commission,
16 is empowered to perform background checks, financial audits, and
17 other investigatory services as needed to assist the commission in
18 regulating third-party providers of proposition player services, and
19 may assess and collect reasonable fees and deposits as necessary to
defray the costs of providing this regulation and oversight. The
department may adopt emergency regulations in order to implement
this subdivision.

20 (d) No agreement or contract between a licensed gambling
21 enterprise and a third party concerning the provision of proposition
22 player services shall be invalidated or prohibited by the department
23 pursuant to this section until the commission establishes criteria for,
and makes determinations regarding the licensure or registration of,
the provision of these services pursuant to subdivision (b).

24 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

25 10. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12005 provides:

26 (a) A person cannot hire or finance, including but not limited to
27 providing loans, advances, or any other thing of value, the hiring of
28 employees or independent contractors, or both, whose job duties
include the play as a participant in any California game without an
approved TPPPS contract.

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

(b) A person cannot play as a participant in a California game as an employee or independent contractor except as authorized in an approved TPPPS contract.

(c) A person cannot play as a participant in a California game pursuant to any oral or implied agreement with a cardroom business licensee.

(d) Any Commission license or other approval may be subject to revocation or discipline for a violation of this section. Any application to the Commission for a license or other approval may be subject to denial for a violation of this section.

11. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12040, subdivision (a) provides, in part:

An application for an initial or renewal license:

(1) Will be denied if the Commission finds that the applicant has not satisfied the requirements of Business and Professions Code section 19857; or,

(2) Will be denied if the Commission finds that any of the provisions of Business and Professions Code section 19859 apply to the applicant.

12. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12054, subdivision (a)(2) provides:

(a) At a non-evidentiary hearing meeting, the Commission may take, but is not limited to taking, one renewal or other approval.

* * *

(2) Elect to hold or retract an evidentiary hearing in accordance with Section 12056 and, for a renewal application, issue an interim renewal license pursuant to Section 12035. The Commission will identify those issues for which it requires additional information or consideration related to the applicant's suitability.

1 13. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12056, subdivision (a) provides, in
2 part:

3 If the Commission elects to hold an evidentiary hearing, the
4 hearing will be conducted as a GCA hearing under Section 12060,
5 unless the Executive Director or the Commission determines the
6 hearing should be conducted as an APA hearing under Section
7 12058

8 14. California Code of Regulations, title 4, section 12060, provides:

9 (a) If the Executive Director determines it is appropriate, he or she
10 may set an application for consideration at a GCA hearing in advance of
11 a meeting pursuant to Section 12054. The Executive Director will give
12 notice to the applicant, pursuant to paragraph (2) subsection (c) of
13 Section 12052, to the Office of the Attorney General, and to the Bureau
14 no later than 90 calendar days in advance of the GCA hearing. The
15 Executive Director's determination will be based on information
16 contained in the Bureau's report or other appropriate sources including,
17 without limitation, a request from the Bureau or applicant as well as the
18 Commission's operational considerations.

19 (b) When a GCA hearing is elected pursuant to Section 12056,
20 subsection (a), the Executive Director will give notice to the applicant,
21 pursuant to paragraph (2) subsection (c) of Section 12052, to the Office
22 of the Attorney General, and to the Bureau no later than 60 calendar days
23 in advance of the GCA hearing.

24 (c) An applicant may request that his, her, or its GCA hearing be
25 held at a Southern California location instead of the Commission's
26 principal office in Sacramento, by completing the appropriate section on
27 the Notice of Defense, CGCC-CH1-03 (Rev. 08/21). The request must
28 be made on the initial Notice of Defense form submitted to the
Commission and Bureau within the timeframes specified on the form.

(1) The Executive Director will approve a Southern
California GCA hearing, if the request is timely made on the initial
Notice of Defense form and meets all of the following criteria:

(A) The GCA hearing is estimated by Commission
staff to last no longer than four hours.

(B) The primary residence of the applicant is located in
one of the following counties: Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles,
Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, San
Bernardino, Santa Barbara, or Ventura.

(C) A GCA hearing will be noticed for a Southern
California location only when it is in the best public interest,
promotes judicial economy, and comports with the
Commission's availability.

(2) If at any time before the hearing, the Executive Director
determines that the criteria in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of

1 paragraph (1) are no longer met, Commission staff may cancel the
2 Southern California GCA hearing and issue a new notice for a
hearing at the Commission's principal office in Sacramento.

3 (d) The presiding officer and her or his support staff will have no
4 communication with the Commission or Commission staff upon the
5 merits of an application prior to the evidentiary hearing. The Executive
Director will designate a presiding officer which will be:

- 6 (1) A member of the Commission's legal staff; or,
- 7 (2) An Administrative Law Judge.

8 (e) The applicant or the complainant, or the applicant and the
9 complainant, may request a continuance in writing to the Executive
10 Director stating the reason for the continuance and any proposed future
11 hearing dates. The Executive Director or Commission may approve the
request. For a Southern California GCA hearing, if a continuance is
granted, the hearing may be scheduled in Sacramento or Southern
California based on the criteria specified in subparagraphs (A) through
(C) of paragraph (1) of subsection (c).

12 (f) The complainant will provide to the applicant, subject to
13 subsection (b) of Section 12056, at least 45 calendar days prior to the
14 GCA hearing, and the applicant must provide to the complainant, at least
30 calendar days prior to the GCA hearing, the following items:

- 15 (1) A list of potential witnesses with the general subject of
the testimony of each witness;
- 16 (2) Copies of all documentary evidence intended to be
17 introduced at the hearing and not previously provided;
- 18 (3) Reports or statement of parties and witnesses, if
available; and
- 19 (4) All other written comments or writing containing relevant
20 evidence.

21 (g) A presiding officer will rule on the admissibility of evidence and
22 on any objections raised except for objections raised under subsection
(h). A ruling by the presiding officer is final.

23 (1) In advance of the GCA hearing, upon a motion of a party
24 or by order of the presiding officer, the presiding officer may
25 conduct a pre-hearing conference, either in person, via
26 teleconference, or by email exchange, subject to the presiding
officer's availability and will issue a pre-hearing order if
appropriate or requested by either party. The pre-hearing
conference and order may address the following.

- 27 (A) Evidentiary issues;
- 28 (B) Witness and exhibit lists;

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

(C) Alterations in the Bureau recommendation;

(D) Stipulations for undisputed facts and/or the admission of evidence including without limitation the Bureau’s report;

(E) Authorizing offsite livestreaming appearances for parties or witnesses if good cause has been presented and only if the process for offsite livestreaming has been approved by the Executive Director; and,

(F) Other issues that may be deemed appropriate to promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the hearing.

(2) The GCA hearing need not be conducted according to technical rules of evidence. Any relevant evidence may be considered, and is sufficient in itself to support findings if it is the sort of evidence on which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule that might make improper the admission of that evidence over objection in a civil action.

(h) The Commission may, at any time upon a showing of prejudice by the objecting party:

(1) Prohibit the testimony of any witness or the introduction of any documentary evidence that has not been disclosed pursuant to subsection (f); or

(2) Continue any meeting or hearing as necessary to mitigate any prejudice.

(i) The complainant will present all facts and information in the Bureau report, if any, and the results of the Bureau’s background investigation, and the basis for any recommendation, if the Bureau filed one with the Commission according to Business and Professions Code section 19868, to enable the Commission to make an informed decision on whether the applicant has met his, her, or its burden of proof. The complainant may but is not required to recommend or seek any particular outcome during the evidentiary hearing, unless it so chooses.

(j) The burden of proof is always on the applicant to prove his, her, or its qualifications to receive any license or other approval under the Act.

(k) The applicant may choose to represent himself, herself, or itself, or may retain an attorney or lay representative. Lay representatives may assist the applicant but are not authorized to serve as an attorney as otherwise defined and regulated by state law.

(l) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (h), the complainant and applicant will have the right to call and examine witnesses under oath; to introduce relevant exhibits and documentary evidence; to cross-examine opposing witnesses on any relevant matter, even if the matter was not covered in direct examination; to impeach any witness,

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

regardless of which party first called the witness to testify; and to offer rebuttal evidence. If the applicant does not testify on his, her or its behalf, the applicant may be called and examined, under oath, as if under cross-examination.

(m) Oral evidence will be taken upon oath or affirmation, which may be administered by the Executive Director, a member of the Commission, or the presiding officer if an Administrative Law Judge.

(n) At the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing, the members of the Commission will take the matter under submission, may discuss the matter in a closed session meeting, and may schedule future closed session meetings for deliberation.