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Attorneys for Respondents

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### STATE OF NEVADA

### BEFORE THE NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION

NEVADA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

Complainant,

NGC 21-04

VS.

STATION CASINOS LLC: NP RED ROCK LLC dba RED ROCK CASINO RESORT SPA;

Respondents.

RESPONSE TO COMPLAINT

HEARING REQUESTED— NRS 463.312(3)(e)

Respondents, Station Casinos LLC and NP Red Rock LLC dba Red Rock Casino Resort Spa (together, "Station Casinos" or "Station" or "Respondents"), by and through their counsel, the law firm of Reid Rubinstein & Bogatz, hereby submit this response to the Complaint ("Complaint") filed on September 13, 2021 by the Nevada Gaming Control Board ("Board") in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute 463.312(3), and hereby admit, deny, and allege as follows:

### RESPONDENTS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO NRS 436.312(3)(a), (d)

Station Casinos has been a staple of the Las Vegas local gaming ecosystem and the Las Vegas community for 45 years. In that time, Station Casinos has prided itself on having a compliance-first culture in order to safeguard its own integrity and that of the gaming industry. During the entire period to which the Complaint relates, Station Casinos has offered mobile sports wagering applications to Nevada patrons utilizing technology provided by Stadium Technology Group, LLC ("Stadium"). The computerized bookmaking software platform that Station Casinos licensed from Stadium included the "Stadium Live" system, for which Respondents and Stadium

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obtained all regulatory approvals prior to its deployment. Unfortunately, despite Respondents' sustained efforts to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, a technological problem occurred on March 18, 2021 (the "2021 Incident") that allowed opportunistic patrons to obtain invalid betting tickets representing ostensible wagers placed on events that had already concluded. When Respondents discovered this, they took immediate action to invalidate the betting tickets and promptly notified the Board. None of Station, the putative bettors or the State achieved any monetary gain or suffered any monetary loss as a result of the ostensible wagering transactions.

The Complaint references three other incidents the Board presents as violations similar to the 2021 Incident. Respectfully, Respondents disagree with that characterization, and will show at the hearing of this disciplinary action the differences between each of the prior incidents and the 2021 Incident, as well as all of the factors that contributed to each of the incidents, including not only Respondents' share of responsibility but also the defect(s) in the Stadium software, the failure of the Board's Technology Division to hold Stadium accountable for same, and the bad acts of the individuals who attempted to place wagers on events they knew had already concluded. Because the Board's determination that the 2021 Incident reflects a failure on the part of Station to remediate prior similar incidents is misplaced, and because the Board essentially ignores the other parties not named in the Complaint, each of which contributed in material ways to the 2021 Incident, there is a lack of foundation and no fair basis on which the Commission can justify taking disciplinary action against Station. Moreover, because the Board cannot cite to a violation of any specific gaming statute or regulation by Station, because Station took actions in defense of the integrity of the gaming industry in order to stymie patrons seeking to game the system, and because there were no economic consequences whatsoever as a result of the ostensible transactions, there is no legitimate legal basis for disciplinary action against Station in this case.

### ANSWER TO BOARD COMPLAINT JURISDICTION

1. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint, Respondents are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations

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contained therein, and therefore deny same.

- 2. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint, Respondents admit that Station Casinos LLC is located at 1505 S. Pavilion Center Drive, Las Vegas, NV and that Station Casinos LLC currently holds manufacturer and distributor licenses. Respondents are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 3. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 3 of the Complaint, Respondents admit that NP Red Rock LLC, dba Red Rock Casino Resort Spa is located at 11011 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV and that it currently holds a nonrestricted gaming license. Respondents are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remainder of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

### **RELEVANT LAW**

- 4. The allegations contained in Paragraph 4 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 5. The allegations contained in Paragraph 5 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 6. The allegations contained in Paragraph 6 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 7. The allegations contained in Paragraph 7 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

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8. The allegations contained in Paragraph 8 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

- 9. The allegations contained in Paragraph 9 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 10. The allegations contained in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required. Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 11. The allegations contained in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 12. The allegations contained in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required. Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 13. The allegations contained in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 14. The allegations contained in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

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15. The allegations contained in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

16. The allegations contained in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

17. The allegations contained in Paragraph 17 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

### **BACKGROUND**

18. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 18 of the Complaint, Respondents are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.

19. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 19 of the Complaint, Respondents admit only to the fact that the Board issued a regulation violation letter on August 3, 2018. As to the remainder of the allegations, the Respondents deny the same.

20. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 20 of the Complaint, Respondents admit only to the fact that the Board issued a regulation violation letter on March 7, 2019. As to the remainder of the allegations, the Respondents deny the same.

21. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 21 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.

22. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 22 of the Complaint, Respondents admit only to the fact that the Board issued an order to show cause ("OSC") on or about August 29, 2019. As to the remainder of the allegations, the Respondents deny the same.

23. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 23 of the Complaint, Respondents

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admit to the allegations contained therein.

24. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 24 of the Complaint, Respondents admit only to the fact that the Board issued a letter on December 2, 2019. As to the remainder of the allegations, the Respondents deny the same.

### **COUNT ONE**

### VIOLATION OF NRS 463.170 AND/OR NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION REGULATION 5.011 AND/OR NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION REGULATION 5.010 AND/OR NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION REGULATION 6.090 AND MINIMUM INTERNAL STANDARD RACE AND SPORTS #20

- 25. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 25 of the Complaint, Defendant repeats and re-alleges its answers to all previous paragraphs in the Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 26. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 26 of the Complaint, Respondents are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein, and therefore deny same.
- 27. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 27 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 28. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 28 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 29. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 29 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 30. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 30 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 31. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 31 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 32. The allegations contained in Paragraph 32 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.
  - 33. The allegations contained in Paragraph 33 of the Complaint constitute a legal

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conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.

34. The allegations contained in Paragraph 34 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.

### **COUNT TWO** VIOLATION OF NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION REGULATIONS

- 35. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 35 of the Complaint, Defendant repeats and re-alleges its answers to all previous paragraphs in the Complaint as though fully set forth herein.
- 36. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 36 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 37. In answering the allegations contained in Paragraph 37 of the Complaint, Respondents deny the allegations contained therein.
- 38. The allegations contained in Paragraph 38 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.
- 39. The allegations contained in Paragraph 39 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.
- 40. The allegations contained in Paragraph 40 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.
- 41. The allegations contained in Paragraph 41 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required, Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.
- 42. The allegations contained in Paragraph 42 of the Complaint constitute a legal conclusion to which no answer is required. To the extent an affirmative response is required,

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Respondents, in an abundance of caution, deny same.

### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 1. The Complaint should be dismissed for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 2. The Complaint should be dismissed because it does not allege which statute or regulation was allegedly violated.
- 3. The Complaint should be dismissed for failure to join Stadium, who is an indispensable party.
- 4. Respondents acted in conformity with the law and with reasonableness in discharging its duties, if any.
- 5. Respondents at all times herein acted reasonably and in good faith in discharging its obligations and duties, if any.
  - 6. Respondents' violations, if any, are excused by a force majeure event.
- 7. Respondents' violations, if any, were caused by the bad acts of third parties, over whom Respondents have no control.
  - 8. The Board's claims are barred by the doctrine of unclean hands.
  - 9. The Board's claims are barred by the doctrine of detrimental reliance.
- 10. The Complaint seeks damages and disciplinary actions that would be inequitable, arbitrary, and unjust.

WHEREFORE, Respondents pray for judgment on the Complaint as follows:

- 1. For a hearing in accordance with NRS 463.312(3)(e);
- 2. That the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice;
- 3. That no disciplinary actions be taken against them by reason of the Complaint on file herein; and
- 4. For such other and further relief as the Commission may deem just and proper under the circumstances.

### REQUEST FOR PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Respondents hereby request the Chair of the Commission to direct the parties to participate

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in a conference or conferences before the hearing on the merits of the Complaint, for the purposes scheduling the hearing date(s), establishing the scope of and schedule for discovery, clarifying the nature and extent of motion practice to be permitted, and facilitating the settlement of the case, as contemplated by Commission Regulation 7.070.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

By:

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, our office filed and served the foregoing RESPONSE as follows:

By depositing the original for filing with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, for delivery via First Class Mail to:

> Marie Bell **Executive Secretary Nevada Gaming Commission** P.O. Box 8003 Carson City, NV 89702-8003

By emailing a copy to:

John S. Michela Senior Deputy Attorney General Gaming Division Nevada Office of the Attorney General jmichela@ag.nv.gov Counsel for the Complainant, Nevada Gaming Control Board

> Marie Bell **Executive Secretary** Nevada Gaming Commission mbell@gcb.nv.gov

Tiffany E. Breinig Deputy Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Bureau of Gaming and Government Affairs Gaming Division tbreinig@ag.nv.gov Counsel for the Nevada Gaming Commission

employee of Reid Rubinstein & Bogatz