

1 You wouldn't have a new Sheraton. You wouldn't have  
2 a baseball team. You wouldn't have a hockey team  
3 going into the old convention hall being refurbished  
4 if it weren't for gambling.

5           If it weren't for gambling, nobody in this  
6 house would be here. With that I conclude.

7           Thank you.

8           CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you.

9           Mr. --

10          (Applause.)

11          CHAIRMAN JAMES: That's not the rules.

12          (Laughter.)

13          CHAIRMAN JAMES: Michael Lentini.

14          MR. LENTINI: Hello, and welcome to  
15 Atlantic City.

16          CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you.

17          MR. LENTINI: My name is Michael Lentini,  
18 and I moved here about four years ago, and coming from  
19 Boston, Massachusetts, I really didn't know what to  
20 expect from a world famous gambling resort town.

21                 In Massachusetts, good jobs are scarce for  
22 those of us who didn't have the opportunity to go to

1 college. So I figured it would pretty much be the  
2 same thing here, but I was wrong.

3           On my first Sunday here, I bought the  
4 local newspaper and began my search for a job, and I  
5 was amazed to see all of the opportunities available  
6 to me here in Atlantic City.

7           At that time there were 12 casinos, and  
8 all of them had numerous job openings in the paper  
9 that week, and I thought to myself if I really put my  
10 working hard here, I could really succeed.

11           And seeing that I had previous food and  
12 beverage experience, I decided to try for a job at the  
13 Trump Marina Casino Hotel as a waiter, and I got the  
14 job, and after working organized labor for a while, I  
15 really knew I enjoyed it.

16           I'd never worked in a union job before.  
17 I was very surprised at the pay rates, the benefits  
18 that I was entitled to. My pay rate alone was two to  
19 three times higher for the same job that I was working  
20 in Massachusetts non-union.

21           And so as time moved on and my union  
22 involvement grew stronger, now as it stands I'm number

1 one in seniority in the Upstairs Grow, the restaurant  
2 at the Trump Marina that I work in, and I was recently  
3 appointed shop chairman of the marina by my union  
4 president, Bob McDevitt.

5           And I live a nice, middle class life, nice  
6 neighborhood. I drive a nice car, and I'm working on  
7 buying my first home, and all of this I owe to  
8 Atlantic City, and I don't think it would be possible  
9 with the casinos not here.

10           Thank you.

11           CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you.

12           Dominick. This is our first presenter  
13 who's asked to testify with a degree of anonymity, and  
14 I would like to remind the press and ask their  
15 indulgence with no pictures at this time.

16           DOMINICK: My name is Dominick M.

17           I'm a very grateful compulsive gambler.

18 I just want to get one thing straight here. I'm  
19 strictly a union man and always was a union man. I'm  
20 not against gambling. I just can't gamble.

21           I'm one of 16 children, and my parents  
22 couldn't even read or write, and they raised a family