

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13 CHAIRPERSON JAMES:

14 James Tower.

15 MR. TOWER: Good afternoon. My name is
16 James Tower, I'm the President of Up Discount Inc. in
17 Boston, Massachusetts. I'm the fifth largest agent in
18 the state. I see approximately, maybe 25,000 gamblers
19 a week. I haven't run into any problems, in terms of a
20 few gameaholics, I'd say out of that 25,000 maybe one
21 percent are gambleaholics.

22 Myself, my company will barr anybody from
23 gambling when they find there is a gambleaholic in our
24 store, it's easy to find out when they run over to the

1 ATM machine and keep pulling money out to play the
2 Lottery. I'm for the Lottery, I've been with the
3 Lottery since 1972, that's when Mass. State Lottery
4 started. We started in March of 1972 with the Lottery.
5 Our sales went from \$100 a week to approximately over
6 \$100,000 a week.

7 I see a lot of people come in my store
8 every day, they play a dollar, they play the dollar and
9 they sit around and talk to other people. But I guess
10 what I'm trying to say is as a lottery agent, it's our
11 responsibility to be aware of gambleaholics. Just as
12 much as we're in the liquor business now, it's our
13 responsibility to make sure we're not serving to an
14 alcoholic or somebody that's drunk.

15 I do say, I've got 45 people working in one
16 store and I would say 15 of those people just do
17 lottery bets. We have Keno, we actually have Keno in
18 the front of our store, we made a section for the Keno,
19 we didn't hide it, we just showed it where it is.

20 And I guess there is nothing much more to
21 say other than I'm for the Lottery and I think it's
22 helped me employ a lot of other people, kept my company
23 going. I don't know what convenience stores would do
24 without the Lottery, or liquor store do without the

1 Lottery. It's supposed to be a substitute to your
2 business, that income, to help you pay for help and pay
3 for rent and whatever.

4 So I guess I'll just leave it at that.

5 Thank you and --.

6 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.