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## **STATION CASINOS: MAKE CASINO JOBS SAFE!**

Dear Station Casinos:

We, the undersigned public health professionals attending the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association (APHA) in Denver, Colorado, are writing to express our concerns about working conditions at Station Casinos – the third largest private employer in Las Vegas and owner of 10 casino resorts.

Every year, the APHA's annual meeting brings together over 12,000 public health professionals – including researchers, scientists, policymakers, city and state health department officials, government agency staff, healthcare providers, worker advocates, safety professionals and many others – to share and learn the latest scientific findings.

At this year's meeting, a presentation by Dr. Diana Romero and Kathleen Flandrick (MPH) of the City University of New York (CUNY), titled *On-the-Ground Health and Safety Experiences of NonUnion Casino Workers*, raises serious concerns about working conditions at Station Casinos and their implications on the health and safety of workers.

The research, which is based on focus group and survey data collected from 61 workers at Station Casinos' properties in 2015, described "a grim picture of work conditions related to employee health and safety risks" at the company's casino hotels. We are concerned that these findings describe ongoing and potential future health and safety concerns for the workers.

The study reveals findings that are of particular concern to public health professionals. For example, 84.6% of respondents said that first aid supplies were not easily available at work.

Due to these and additional findings pertaining to the lack of proper supplies, faulty equipment, issues surrounding breaks and meal periods, understaffing, lack of training, a perception of discrimination, and exposures that negatively affect the health of employees, we believe an immediate intervention is necessary.

**Guided by the study findings, and our own professional expertise in occupational health, we call on Stations Casino to fulfill its responsibilities as an employer regarding workplace health and safety by taking the steps below:**

- Review and assure compliance with existing organizational and governmental regulations pertaining to the health and safety of employees, including state-mandated breaks, and OSHA standards.



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- Provide employees with adequate supplies, maintain equipment in proper operating form, and establish all the conditions necessary for employees to safely perform their jobs.
- Implement organizational change starting at the highest levels of management that encourages an atmosphere in which supervisors understand the benefits that improved worker health and safety can have on business, such as lower administrative and training expenses.

**Station Casinos, protect the health and safety of your employees IMMEDIATELY!**

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