

NOBRA MEETING - FEBRUARY 7, 2024

February 7, 2024

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BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NEW ORLEANS - BATON ROUGE

STEAMSHIP PILOTS FOR THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

MEETING HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

COMMENCING AT 2:00 P.M.

At the offices of the Board of  
Examiners for New Orleans - Baton Rouge  
Steamship Pilots for the Mississippi River, 3421  
North Causeway Boulevard, Suite 103, Metairie,  
Louisiana 70002.

REPORTED BY:

LESLIE L. NICOSIA  
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

JOHNS, PENDLETON, FAIRBANKS AND FREESE

504 219-1993

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2       Leslie L. Nicosia, a Certified Court Reporter in  
3                   and for the State of Louisiana,  
4                   did report the following:

5                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

6                   We call this meeting to order.

7                   We will start with the roll call.

8                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

9                   Lee Jackson.

10                  BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

11                  Kevin Alario, present.

12                  BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

13                  Chris Rittiner, present.

14                  BY MR. RICK WARD:

15                  Item No. 3 on the agenda would  
16                  be the adoption of minutes.

17                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

18                  I reviewed the minutes. They  
19                  all seem to be in order. I think in  
20                  this case, Kevin and I are going to  
21                  make a motion to adopt.

22                  BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

23                  Second.

24                  BY MR. RICK WARD:

25                  The motion to adopt minutes is

1 adopted.

2 Item 4 would be public  
3 comments. Do we have anyone present  
4 from the public? I did see that. I  
5 also saw that was listed under  
6 executive session. So, I'm not sure  
7 if you wanted to make your comments  
8 now.

9 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

10 It's your right, whether you  
11 want to do it in executive session or  
12 you want to do it now pertaining to  
13 the reorientation.

14 BY MS. CASEY CLAYTON:

15 I just wanted to make a few  
16 comments about that. I addressed some  
17 of it in an e-mail to y'all. I  
18 thought it should be said in a public  
19 meeting.

20 First, I want to congratulate  
21 all of you and Chris and Kevin and  
22 also put out there, of course, if I  
23 could help with anything, please call  
24 me. I'm sure you've got it completely  
25 under control. You've been here for

1                   so long. I'm here if y'all need  
2                   anything.

3                   Just also kind of in line with  
4                   the reorientation, just in general, I  
5                   just want it to be known that, in  
6                   general, everything I did when I was  
7                   president of the board was in good  
8                   intentions. Everything was to try to  
9                   represent the board in the best way  
10                   that I could and protect the board and  
11                   the pilots, consider safety, and just  
12                   get a good balance. That was my  
13                   intention.

14                   Now that I'm going back to the  
15                   route, which I'm excited about, I did  
16                   have -- It will only take a minute,  
17                   just a couple of things I wanted to  
18                   make sure y'all were aware of. I  
19                   wrote it down because -- I typically  
20                   don't read. I forget everything  
21                   unless I write it down, so I figured  
22                   this would be the best way to make  
23                   sure everything is said.

24                   As y'all know, as the board,  
25                   Captain Jackson removed me from the

route on January 27, 2024. Prior to this meeting, he informed me I would have to take sick leave or pay someone to work for me until I completed the reorientation program, which would be decided upon by the board at a future date.

21 Two, I've been a NOBRA state-  
22 commissioned pilot for over 20 years  
23 and have successfully and safely  
24 piloted over 2,000 ship movements  
25 throughout my career. Three, all of

1                   my credentials are up to date and  
2                   current, including my merchant mariner  
3                   credential, my U.S. Coast Guard  
4                   approved physical, U.S. Coast Guard  
5                   approved medical certificate, all BOE  
6                   required drug screens, my TWIC card,  
7                   all of my BOE required continuing  
8                   education classes.

9                   Also, I would like to request  
10                  you please take into consideration my  
11                  being off the route for the entirety  
12                  of January, part of February in the  
13                  time it takes to complete the  
14                  reorientation program when determining  
15                  my recency for 2024. Additionally,  
16                  please consider allowing any required  
17                  observer turns to count toward my 2024  
18                  recency requirement.

19                  I consider myself a safe,  
20                  responsible pilot. I believe my  
21                  piloting record supports this claim.  
22                  Therefore, after being out of rotation  
23                  for a period of time, I would not  
24                  place myself back in rotation without  
25                  riding ships as an observer pilot and

1                   making sure I am comfortable with  
2                   returning to the route.

3                   I'm here today to ask that all  
4                   these things be taken into  
5                   consideration when the board  
6                   determines the terms of my  
7                   reorientation program and to also ask  
8                   that I be treated fairly and in line  
9                   with past members who were off the  
10                  route for a period of time.

11                  I thank you for considering  
12                  these things. I look forward to  
13                  getting back to work. I enjoy all the  
14                  aspects of working on the route.

15                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

16                  Thank you.

17                  BY MR. RICK WARD:

18                  Any more public comment?

19                  BY MS. CASEY CLAYTON:

20                  Unless I'm required to stay, I  
21                  have to go and --

22                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

23                  I will contact you after this  
24                  is over.

25                  BY MS. CASEY CLAYTON:

1 Thank you.

2 BY MR. RICK WARD:

8 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

9 I just -- First of all, I want  
10 to say -- I want to thank Governor  
11 Jeff Landry for having the trust in us  
12 to lead this board. My hope is that  
13 we will honor that -- his appointment  
14 by -- with dignity as well as poise.  
15 It's such an honor to be here to be a  
16 part of this -- the Board of  
17 Examiners.

18 There's always work to do. I  
19 think with the guys here on this  
20 table, I think we will definitely  
21 spearhead it together and move the BOE  
22 continually in the right direction.

23 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARO:

1 together. We may not always agree.

2 Let's find some common ground, not  
3 take it personally. Let's not  
4 embarrass the governor, the state, or  
5 the association.

6 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

7 It's an honor and privilege to  
8 sit here and be given the opportunity  
9 to serve. I look forward to working  
10 with Captain Lee, Captain Kevin,  
11 counsel as well.

12 BY MR. RICK WARD:

13 Item B, recognition of past  
14 Board of Examiners for president.

15 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

16 That was me. I wanted to  
17 personally thank Casey for everything  
18 she's done over the years. I think  
19 she serves the board as well as the  
20 board president and as a member. I  
21 wish her well and continued success in  
22 her career as a pilot. I wanted to  
23 acknowledge her and put that on the  
24 record.

25 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

3 BY MR. RICK WARD:

4 C, expiration and non-renewal  
5 of Board of Examiners general counsel  
6 contract ratification for that.

7 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

13 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTNER:

14 I second the motion -- make the  
15 motion.

16 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

17 I second it.

18 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACK

## 19 All in favor?

## 20 COLLECTIVELY:

21 Aye.

22 BY MR. RICK

23 That motion

## 24 Expiration and non-renewal of the

25 consultant contract ratification.

1 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

2 That would be consistent with  
3 -- That was a consulting contract  
4 consistent with what we did in the  
5 previous motion. I would ask for a  
6 motion to ratify.

7 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

8 I make the motion.

9 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

10 I second the motion.

11 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

12 All in favor?

13 COLLECTIVELY:

14 Aye.

15 BY MR. RICK WARD:

16 That motion stands adopted.

17 E, termination/modification of  
18 BOE office lease and BOE relocation,  
19 the discussion of that.

20 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

21 On that, I mean, the way I see  
22 it is we've gone through the contract  
23 of the current lease for this  
24 building, this space. We are pretty  
25 much here until March of next year.

1 So, the thought process, with  
2 so much happening, I think it's  
3 imperative that the BOE kind of come  
4 back together with the association and  
5 create that working bond together.

6                   What I would like to see is that we  
7                   return back to 2805 Harvard, use this  
8                   as a satellite office in the interim.

20 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARDO:

21 Your thoughts are it's okay to  
22 have the commission and the  
23 association under the same roof?

24 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

25 I think it's always been about

1 perception. There is no law that  
2 precludes us from doing it. I also  
3 believe that it is paramount that the  
4 two groups bring a level of trust back  
5 together. So, that's a driving force.

6 I would sacrifice that that  
7 little perception is to ensure that we  
8 can bring harmony back. Again, there  
9 is no law. So, it's all about --  
10 Look. This is not something we -- We  
11 could further look at this down the  
12 road. In the interim, I think it's  
13 necessary.

14 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

15 The Board of Review can also be  
16 ran out of that same office?

17 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

18 Maybe, maybe not. It all  
19 depends.

20 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

21 It's a small space. I'm  
22 concerned about co-mingling files.

23 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

24 The Board of Review, its files  
25 are held by its own executive counsel,

1                   who keeps all those files. They are  
2                   not -- There aren't any files at 2805.

3                   BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

4                   If one of us has to go in there  
5                   --

6                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

7                   We would ensure that all --  
8                   Currently, all Board of Review files  
9                   are kept with the executive counsel  
10                   and the Board of Review.

11                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

12                   Next topic, BOE website  
13                   updates, the Division of  
14                   Administration and BOE.

15                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

16                   That was just more about --  
17                   Obviously, with the new change in  
18                   administration, we had to make some  
19                   adjustments to the website, to the  
20                   Division of Administration, and the  
21                   BOE. It was just strictly  
22                   housekeeping things that I wanted to  
23                   bring it to the attention of the  
24                   members that everything is up to  
25                   speed.

1 All names, contact information  
2 has been adjusted. So, anywhere you  
3 go, whether it's on our BOE website or  
4 on Division of Administration or the  
5 Legislature, we -- all those things  
6 have been adjusted to reflect the true  
7 board as it stands today.

8 BY MR. RICK WARD:

9 G, BOE appointed physician.

10 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

11 That's just more information.

12 We all know Dr. Boudreax continues to  
13 be the physician for the Board of  
14 Examiners. It's just there, again,  
15 continuing that relationship, so  
16 nothing new changing there. It's  
17 still the same. I think he is  
18 starting to tail back a little bit.

19 He's been around a long time.

20 BY MR. RICK WARD:

21 H, Board of Examiners appointed  
22 drug-testing facility.

23 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

24 As I'm sure -- Probably there's  
25 a few pilots in the audience, these

1           guys here. We have been dealing with  
2           Premier, and sometimes it's been less  
3           than professional. Pilots have gone  
4           to the facility. No one is there.  
5           Signs on the door, "See you in two  
6           hours." Post-incident, they are  
7           nowhere to be found.

8           This last week, I had a meeting  
9           with Alicia, who everyone knows. We  
10          talked about what's a good path  
11          forward from a location standpoint.  
12          She has -- She has mentioned to us  
13          that there is a location that she is  
14          currently looking at. That location  
15          seems to be -- it's a different  
16          entity, but it falls under the global  
17          safety network. It's out of Harahan.

18          The reputation thus far with  
19          this group is pretty professional,  
20          pretty good. They are reliable.  
21          She's to give me a report back by the  
22          end of this week that, basically, lays  
23          out whether or not they can service  
24          us. And to be quite frank, I've asked  
25          her for some specifics, like VIP

1                   services.

2                   If a pilot comes in, let's get  
3                   them in and get them out quickly. If  
4                   it's a post-incident, no matter what  
5                   time it is, make sure someone is there  
6                   to handle it and get it done  
7                   professionally. What we are trying to  
8                   see is if we can carve out a little  
9                   niche-type place for us that we can go  
10                  and ensure it will deliver the needs  
11                  that the pilots need, whether it be  
12                  random or post-incident.

13                  BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

14                  Is there a timeline from the  
15                  week that she gives us the go-ahead?

16                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

17                  As soon as we can get a report  
18                  back from her, what it would look like  
19                  and whether they can do it or not, at  
20                  that point, I would share that with  
21                  the balance of the board. Obviously,  
22                  there's going to be some transition to  
23                  get there.

24                  But what I've found and what  
25                  I've seen is that -- I know we are

1 going to probably have some grief with  
2 that. It goes along with the next  
3 section. That is, although I like the  
4 idea of having multiple locations to  
5 do drug tests, I just find that chain  
6 of custody, things of that nature, you  
7 get into these quagmires where  
8 something falls through the cracks.

19 So, if you got one standard,  
20 one way of doing things, there's no  
21 way you can find deficiencies; if  
22 there are, you can fix them quickly.  
23 That's one of the other things we are  
24 going to need to look at and see how  
25 to approach that.

1                   BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

2                   That drug test offsite is just  
3                   for hair? It's not a dispatch?

4                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

5                   It will be random too.

6                   BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

7                   What I'm saying is, the hair  
8                   test was the only place you could go  
9                   to offsite; whereas, post-accident,  
10                  random, you went to this Premier.

11                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

12                  Yes. They -- It's -- I've been  
13                  hearing horror stories about it. I  
14                  think, Shirah, you had one recently.  
15                  I think the previous president was in  
16                  the midst of having a conversation on  
17                  how we can make that adjustment.

18                  Now we really need to dive into  
19                  it and look to see how we can change.  
20                  Alicia has been in this business for  
21                  umpteen amount of years. We are kind  
22                  of leaning on her to give us guidance  
23                  on how we can get to a better place.

24                  BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

25                  Is it a possibility to have

1                   sample collection come to the office?

2                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

3                   I've engaged the counsel with  
4                   NOBRA on that. There is a liability  
5                   question for them that they would  
6                   rather not broach. So, that did come  
7                   up in my discussions last week. It  
8                   was a pretty strong no. That was to  
9                   your point. I also think the previous  
10                   president had asked that very same  
11                   question. It probably would be  
12                   convenient, but --

13                   BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

14                   For now, we are still using  
15                   Premier?

16                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

17                   For now, until we can get a  
18                   report from Alicia on the location and  
19                   what particular criteria they are  
20                   going to set out for us. I think we  
21                   laid out -- I would think the path  
22                   that was laid out to her was one that  
23                   seemed achievable for this  
24                   organization. And, also, it created a  
25                   certain level of efficiency for the

1                   pilot.

2                   I went to the Westbank location  
3                   to do a drug test. I will tell you  
4                   they got people doing industrial  
5                   physicals. All I needed to do was a  
6                   pee test, and I'm sitting there for  
7                   three hours. It's about changing that  
8                   so that we can get in and out and it's  
9                   done.

10                  She will report back out, and  
11                  no decision will be made until we get  
12                  that report in. Then I can kind of  
13                  massage it with the balance of the --  
14                  BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

15                  The urine test Should only be  
16                  done on Veterans Highway, the way she  
17                  had it set up. The hair test is where  
18                  you went to Westbank, Slidell,  
19                  Covington, Baton Rouge.

20                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

21                  When I went to the Westbank, I  
22                  did urine and hair. Maybe that was --  
23                  That's basically the way it works. I  
24                  will keep the board kind of in tune on  
25                  that as we get the information back.

1                   Again, it kind of follows Item I on  
2                   the agenda as well. It's encompassing  
3                   all that.

4                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

5                   I think we sort of discussed  
6                   both of those in one. Item I is drug  
7                   and alcohol policy. Item J, Board of  
8                   Examiners administrative designation  
9                   for state commissioner's business.

10                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

11                  This was put on the agenda for  
12                  a discussion amongst the examiners. I  
13                  don't want to get into much detail to  
14                  discuss much about it. There is some  
15                  legal situations happening around this  
16                  whole designation.

17                  I'm just asking this board now,  
18                  when we look at any of the other two  
19                  commissioners going on business, let's  
20                  have a discussion and create some  
21                  transparency so we will know -- Let's  
22                  have a discussion of what's needed.

23                  The designation is there. It's there  
24                  to be used. It's there because it's  
25                  necessary to be used.

1                   I think with a little  
2                   transparency and communication, I  
3                   think often times it solves a lot of  
4                   problems. I would ask that when  
5                   either one of the other two  
6                   commissioners feel like there's a need  
7                   for this designation, that we would  
8                   have a conversation about it and talk  
9                   amongst ourselves.

10                  BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

11                  Seems fair.

12                  BY MR. RICK WARD:

13                  Act 393 of the 2023 legislative  
14                  session, the changes to open meetings  
15                  law, as well as ADA compliance.

16                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

17                  In your packet, you will see --  
18                  Again, I had an email from the Couhig  
19                  firm. They were also working on this.  
20                  This was something that was passed in  
21                  the last legislative session where all  
22                  state entities have to be ADA  
23                  compliant.

24                  All that basically means is  
25                  individuals with disabilities have to

1                   be catered to, not just -- not just  
2                   prior to, but in the process of. So,  
3                   there are so many things that you need  
4                   to do. We have done some -- We have  
5                   looked at our website. We created an  
6                   icon on the website.

7                   If you go to the Board of  
8                   Examiners website, you'll see "ADA" on  
9                   the top line. If you click on it,  
10                  it's under construction. We are going  
11                  to create that. This will require --  
12                  At some point, we will have to open up  
13                  our rule book to actually address this  
14                  issue.

15                  Every last state entity is  
16                  going to have to do this. This is the  
17                  way the rule is set. I think a lot of  
18                  legislatures are saying, "You got to  
19                  be kidding me." That's what you  
20                  agreed.

21                  BY MR. RICK WARD:

22                  I wasn't there.

23                  BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

24                  The reality is, every  
25                  legislative -- every entity is going

1                   to have to do it. If you post the  
2                   meeting, if someone tells you they  
3                   have a disability, you are going to  
4                   have to accommodate them in some form  
5                   or fashion, whether it be by Zoom or  
6                   any other -- Whatever their disability  
7                   is, you're going to have to adjust.

8                   But all the state entities are  
9                   going to have to change their rules,  
10                   ratify their rule changes. That's  
11                   just part of the process. I wanted to  
12                   bring the board up to date on that.  
13                   We have done some stop-gap things to  
14                   kind of show that we are moving, but  
15                   there's more work to be done. It's  
16                   going to be required that we open our  
17                   rules to make that adjustment.

18                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

19                   That ends new business. Old  
20                   business. There is no old business to  
21                   address. Then the next section, we  
22                   are going to go into executive  
23                   session.

24                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

25                   I will present a motion to go

1                   into executive session.

2                   BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

3                   Second the motion.

4                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

5                   All in favor?

6                   COLLECTIVELY:

7                   Aye.

8                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

9                   That motion is adopted. We  
10                   will head into executive session.

11                   (WHEREUPON THE EXECUTIVE SESSION  
12                   WAS HELD OFF THE RECORD)

13                   BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

14                   I make the motion to return  
15                   back to regular session.

16                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

17                   There was a motion to return to  
18                   regular session that was approved, so  
19                   we are now back in regular session.

20                   We will go down to Section 8,  
21                   any necessary votes arising from  
22                   executive session.

23                   BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

24                   I would like to make a motion  
25                   for reorientation for Captain Casey

1                   Erica Clayton. The motion would be  
2                   for her to complete five observer  
3                   trips with at least two in the New  
4                   Orleans Harbor and two above Burnside  
5                   Anchorage with a minimum of those  
6                   five, two at night involving docking,  
7                   undocking, or involving maneuvering  
8                   with anchors.

9                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

10                   I second.

11                   BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

12                   I third.

13                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

14                   All in favor?

15                   COLLECTIVELY:

16                   Aye.

17                   BY MR. RICK WARD:

18                   That motion stands adopted.

19                   There were also two more things  
20                   that needed to be ratified in the  
21                   regular session. The first one is the  
22                   new Board of Examiner general counsel.

23                   BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

24                   I would make a motion that we  
25                   ratify the contract for Rick Ward

1 Consulting.

2 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

3 I second.

4 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

5 All in favor?

6 COLLECTIVELY:

7 Aye.

8 BY MR. RICK WARD:

9 That motion stands adopted.

10 Also, the new Board of Examiner  
11 consultant contract.

12 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

13 I make a motion to bring on  
14 Atten Consulting Group, Mike Thomas.

15 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

16 Second it.

17 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

18 All in favor?

19 COLLECTIVELY:

20 Aye.

21 BY MR. RICK WARD:

22 That's it. Is there a motion  
23 to adjourn?

24 BY CAPTAIN CHRIS RITTINER:

25 I make a motion to adjourn the

1 meeting.

2 BY CAPTAIN KEVIN ALARIO:

3 Second.

4 BY CAPTAIN LEE JACKSON:

5 All in favor?

6 COLLECTIVELY:

7 Aye.

8 [ WHEREUPON THE MEETING WAS

9 CONCLUDED AT 3:00 P.M. ]

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## REPORTER'S PAGE

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3                   I, Leslie L. Nicosia, Certified Court  
4   Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the  
5   officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the Federal  
6   Rules of Civil Procedure and/or Article 1434 (B)  
7   of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, before  
8   whom this testimony was taken, do hereby state  
9   on the record;

10                  That due to the interaction and the  
11   spontaneous discourse of this proceeding, dashes  
12   (--) have been used to indicate pauses, changes  
13   in thought, and/or talk-overs; that same is the  
14   proper method for a court reporter's  
15   transcription of proceeding, and that the dashes  
16   (--) do not indicate that words or phrases have  
17   been left out of this transcript; that any words  
18   and/or names which could not be verified through  
19   reference material have been denoted with the  
20   phrase "phonetically spelled."

21

22

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Leslie L. Nicosia, C.C.R.

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25

# C E R T I F I C A T E

This certification is valid only for a transcript with my original signature and original required seal on this page.

I, LESLIE L. NICOSIA, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, the "Officer" before whom this testimony was taken, do hereby certify:

That this proceeding and testimony was reported by me in stenotype method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding;

That this transcript has been prepared in compliance with transcript format guidelines required by statute or rules of the Board, and I am informed about the complete arrangement, financial or otherwise, with the person or entity making arrangements for deposition services;

That I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the Board;

That I have no actual knowledge of any prohibited employment or contractual relationship, direct or indirect, between a court reporting firm and any party litigant in this matter, nor is there any such relationship between myself and a party litigant in this matter;

That I am not related to counsel or to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

LESLIE L. NICOSIA, CCR  
Cert. No. 95004